



CSCI launch: New quality ratings for care services

On 7th May, the Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI) published quality ratings, ranging from 0 – 3 stars for care services. A three star rating means ‘excellent’, two stars ‘good’, one star ‘adequate’ and zero stars ‘poor’.

The ratings can be accessed via a services directory on the CSCI website –it is the only official directory of registered care services in England, updated weekly. A search for a care home or care service will reveal:

- details of the service it offers and for how many people
- reports about the care home or care service
- a quality rating for the service making it easier to compare it with others

CSCI expects local councils to check providers’ quality ratings before purchasing care on behalf of the people they serve.

<http://www.csci.org.uk/professional/default.aspx?page=7226&csci=2418>

DCLG: Data Interchange Hub

The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) has developed a ‘reporting mechanism’ that aims to ensure data only needs to be collected once.

The Data Interchange Hub has been introduced with two main aims:

- To reduce the burden on collecting data for local authorities.
- To ensure that local authorities have all the information that they need to gauge their own performance against the National Indicators.

The hub aims to aid analysis and policy making, facilitate benchmarking and reduce unnecessary repetitive data inputting. It will gather published information from across government to provide a one-stop location for all stakeholders.

For further information please visit: <https://www.hub.info4local.gov.uk/dihweb/logon/default.aspx>

