

THE SINGLE ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK AND WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

The Single Assessment Framework (SAF) is the revised way that the Care Quality Commission (CQC) will be inspecting health and social care providers. This has also changed the content and depth of the registration process.

Providers must be assessment ready at all times as this framework follows an ongoing, risk-based approach. This means that the CQC will respond to concerns raised by patients, stakeholders and via other intelligence they receive as well as routine, planned assessments or inspections. The Key Questions remain as Safe, Well Led, Responsive, Effective and Caring with 34 Quality Statements being measured within those questions. The Quality Statements are statements that providers live up to and will be assessed via six evidence categories selected appropriately against the quality statements.

What do I need to do?

It is important that providers know and understand the 34 Quality Statements and the evidence they will be asked to produce to meet those statements. As a provider of regulated activity, policies and procedures are essential as are audits to ensure policies are being adhered to.

You should read all about the 5 Key Questions and the 34 Quality Statements and carry out a baseline assessment, creating an action plan for those areas you are not compliant.