

# **Adult Social Care: Sector led improvement and Financial Sustainability**

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# **Sector Led Improvement: where did it come from?**

# Getting rid of unnecessary oversight?

- 2010 Coalition Government made it clear that they wanted to get rid of inspection and performance regimes
- As a result most of local government saw the end of Audit Commission inspections and specified performance measures
- However, Children's saw very little – if any – change with regular inspections from a powerful inspector (Ofsted) and prescriptive national performance measures

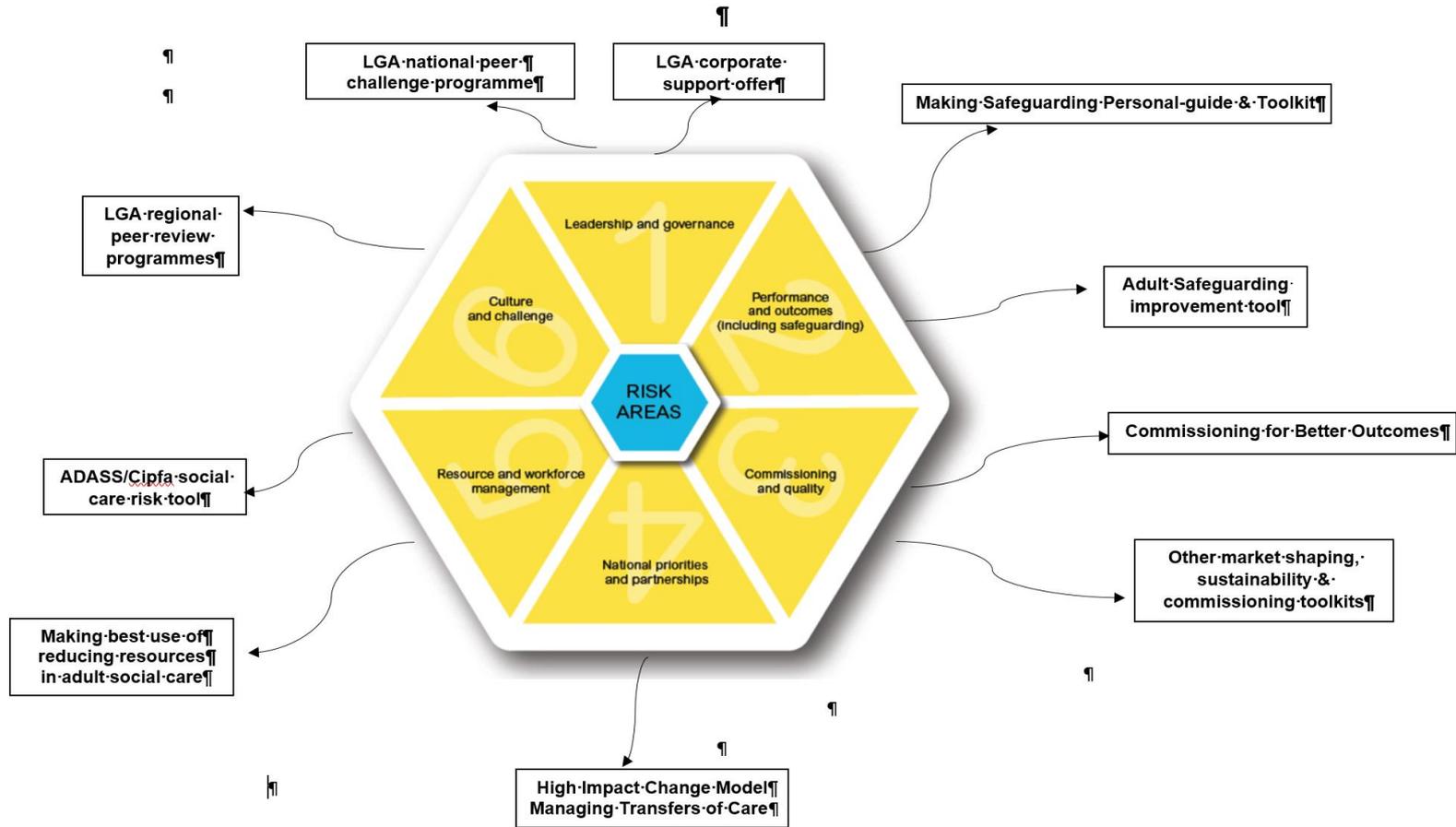
# Adult Social Care was a compromise

- Adult social care services continue to be inspected by their regulator – the Care Quality Commission. This includes registered services provided by local authorities
- (Prescribed) National performance measures are specified by the Department of Health although they were developed with local government and the rest of the sector
- Local authorities would not be inspected on the commissioning of adult social care but were inspected to be accountable to the local population (“The Local Account”) and practice Sector Led Improvement
- Some Ministers have expressed interest in an approach similar to that for Children’s

# Sector Led Improvement: key features

- National Board set up to provide leadership: “Towards Excellence in Adult Social Care” – jointly chaired by Department of Health and ADASS. The Board is no longer in existence.
- Risk tool developed under their leadership which looked at risks over 6 domains – this risk tool will be published in a slightly revised version shortly
- Regions have used the risk tool collectively to understand the challenges they face at both the individual authority level and regionally
- As well as each authority producing their own local account, regions have produced their own regional account
- Most Directors are broadly positive about this work which feels proportionate and appropriate. It has helped them to identify improvements which result in better outcomes for service users and carers and/or use resources better

# Managing Risks: Navigating the risk tools



**How do we know if we are  
unsustainable?**

**Using the ADASS CIPFA Social Care Risk  
Tool**

# Origins of the ADASS CIPFA Risk Tool

- The tool was developed by Simon Williams and I as ADASS Resources Policy Leads
- We wanted to produce something which local authorities could use to establish whether their adult social care functions were at risk of becoming financially unsustainable
- Directors welcomed this work but were keen to get sign up from CIPFA. CIPFA have strongly supported this initiative
- The tool is qualitative not quantitative – it is part of self-assessment

# ADASS CIPFA Financial Risk Tool

- Second version now available  
<http://www.cipfa.org/services/risk-tool/survey>
- Can be completed online to allow comparison with other authorities (anonymously)
- Three key aspects:
  - a) Savings
  - b) Local pressures
  - c) Culture and relationships
- Best completed collectively (DASS and CFO together?)

# ADASS CIPFA Financial Risk Tool

New risks:

- Speculative savings
- Provider failure
- NHS purchasing impacting on the care market
- Adult social care precept not being taken up
- Sustainability & Transformation Plans: 3 separate risks
- Younger adults demography
- New Director of Adult Social Services
- Relationships with and between councillors
- Relationships with District Councils

# Questions and comments