

Enforcement policy

This policy sets out how we will use our enforcement powers under the Health and Social Care Act 2008, as amended by the Care Act 2014.

Updates to this policy

This policy was first published in 2015. It has since been updated to refer to our current assessment methods and terminology. Recent changes include:

- Noting change of term from Requirement Notices to Action Plans, as previous terminology will be present in inspection reports.
- Under 'Protecting people using services by requiring improvement':
 - we removed the reference to 'enforcement' from the first paragraph, as not all actions referenced constitute enforcement
 - the section on 'Action plan requests' notes that these do not constitute enforcement action and CQC may decide not to accept an action plan
 - the section on Warning Notices notes these are a provision under the Health and Social Care Act 2008.

- Under 'Publication and notification of enforcement action':
 - we note that enforcement actions are no longer included in assessment reports
 - we note that enforcement actions are currently published at location level on our website (not at provider level).