

# QUALITY ASSURANCE

## CHECK FOUR AREAS OF PRACTICE



### DATA COLLECTION AND OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

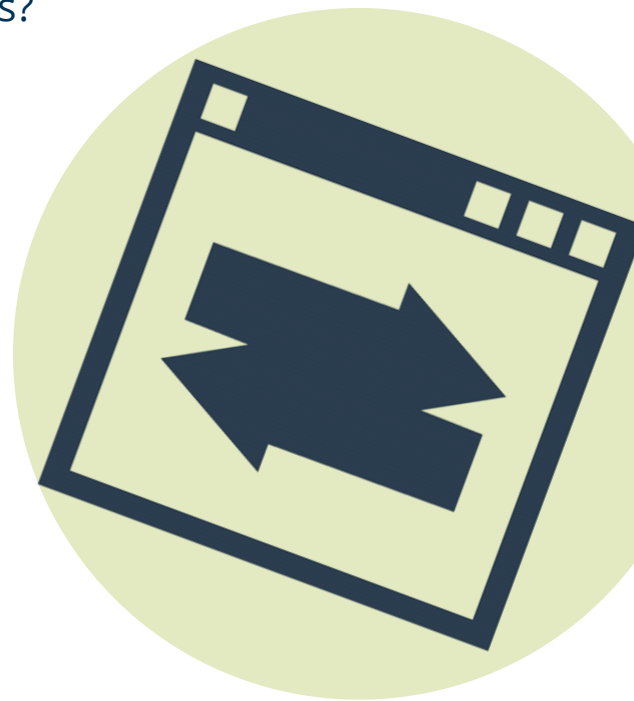
Gain an understanding about the data sources and the nature of the collection processes.

- What factors might risk the quality of the data?
- Are targets or performance management regimes used?
- How many data collector and supplier bodies are there?
- What are the information governance arrangements?

### COMMUNICATION WITH SUPPLY PARTNERS

Effective relationships with suppliers stem from a common understanding.

- Is there a service level agreement or memorandum of understanding?
- How do they manage changes to processes and systems?
- Are data needs thought about?
- Do the partners meet up often?



### DATA SUPPLIERS' QUALITY ASSURANCE

Gain an understanding of the validation checks conducted by suppliers and other partners, and find out the results of the checks. For example,

- Have there been operational inspections of the data records?
- Are independent audits conducted? What have checks shown?

### STATISTICAL PRODUCERS' OWN CHECKS

Consistency and sense checks help show whether the data is meaningful.

- Can you explain changes in trends and discontinuities?
- Why are you confident of the data?
- Do you explain to your users about any important implications stemming from data quality issues?

