

# COVID 19 : Provider Engagement Webinar (part 2)

## Infection Control Fund

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2020

# Infection Control Fund 2020

- An overview of the purpose of the Care Home Support Package of which the Infection Control Fund forms a part is at <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/care-home-support-package-backed-by-600-million-to-help-reduce-coronavirus-infections>.
- The Adult Social Care Infection Control Fund Ring-fenced Grant 2020 – containing the national conditions and the allocation for Lancashire ('the Grant document')- are at [https://mcusercontent.com/83b2aa68490f97e9418043993/files/e7a489c7-0469-4e65-94a9-obeocbae8bce/26\\_05\\_Adult\\_Social\\_Care\\_Infection\\_Control\\_Fund\\_Grant\\_Circular.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/83b2aa68490f97e9418043993/files/e7a489c7-0469-4e65-94a9-obeocbae8bce/26_05_Adult_Social_Care_Infection_Control_Fund_Grant_Circular.pdf)
- Some DHSC FAQs at <https://www.nationalcareforum.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Infection-Control-Fund-Question-and-Answer.pdf>

# Shared frustrations ....

- **Minister Response to ADASS Infection Control Fund Letter**
  - ResponseS from the Minister of Care, Helen Whately, to James Bullion, ADASS President, letter sent on the 29 May [regarding the Infection Control Fund](#).
- <https://www.adass.org.uk/media/7909/200529-adass-letter-to-minister-of-state-re-infection-control-fund.pdf>
- [https://mcusercontent.com/83b2aa68490f97e9418043993/files/1453fc73-9083-4f2b-b7a7-a4ae2ce51867/Reponse\\_to\\_Letter\\_.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/83b2aa68490f97e9418043993/files/1453fc73-9083-4f2b-b7a7-a4ae2ce51867/Reponse_to_Letter_.pdf)

# ADULTS SOCIAL CARE INFECTION CONTROL FUND RINGFENCED GRANT 2020

- **Primary purpose** – to support Adult Social Care providers with infection control
- **Allocation** - £16,197,303 of which £12,619,000 (75%) to be allocated within 10 working days of receipt on 'per beds' basis.
- **Target** - remaining 25% to care homes or domiciliary care and to support wider workforce resilience
- **Determination**- paid in 2 instalments (May & July) contingent on
  - 1) being used on infection control
  - 2) care home support plan submitted by local authority by 29 May
- **Grant conditions** - completed capacity tracker , none of funding not to used for any other than the specified infection control measures . Recovery or return of unspent allocation
- **Reporting** -2 returns (26 June & 30 September) certified by Chief Executive and Director of Adult Services
- **Secretary of State** may reduce spend or withhold grant payment or require repayment of the whole or any part of the grant monies paid.

# Funding for your Care Home

It is based on the following calculation:

- 12,619 care home beds in Lancashire in total
- £16,197,303 allocation for Lancashire from Government as part of the national Infection Control Fund
- Of which 75% is to be directly disbursed to care homes = £12,147,977
- £ 12,147,977 divided by 12,619 beds = £ 962- 67 per bed
- Two payments of 50%, each worth £481-34 per care home bed
- **If your bed numbers are incorrect, make formal contact with CQC and ensure they have, acknowledge and publish the right figures**
- **Then contact us with the documentary evidence**

# Payment Arrangements

- The first instalment will equal 50% of the allocation to your organisation.
- The payment had to be made to organisations by the 10th June 2020. (LCC payments should have been received by 9<sup>th</sup> June)
- The first instalment is being paid to your organisation on the proviso that you have submitted data for the Lancashire Capacity Tracker (or NECS: (the national tracker run by the NHS / CQC)) at least once since the Pandemic started, and that you remain committed to complete the Tracker on a regular basis from now on.
- Our current expectations are that the Tracker will be completed daily.

# Payment Arrangements

- Please assure yourself that your own care home is completing the Tracker and confirm that in your email response to LCC (as detailed in the letter).
- It remains our firm advice to you as a care home provider to continue to complete the Lancashire Tracker (in response to phone calls or directly on-line) and the Council will then take responsibility for uploading those details onto NECS.

# Payment Arrangements

- The remaining 50% of your grant allocation will be paid in July / early August 2020 and within 10 working days of the second tranche of the Grant having been received by the Council from Government.
- Payment will also be contingent on the first instalment having been used fully and solely for infection control measures and also your continued use of the Lancashire Tracker.



# Measures to be Funded

- **Annex C of the Grant document sets out what care homes must use this money for:**
- Ensuring that staff who are isolating in line with government guidance receive their normal wages while doing so. At the time of issuing this grant determination this included staff with suspected symptoms of Covid 19 awaiting a test, or any staff member for a period following a positive test;
- Ensuring, so far as possible, that members of staff work in only one care home. This includes staff who work for one provider across several homes or staff that work on a part time basis for multiple employers and includes agency staff (the principle being that the fewer locations that members of staff work the better);
- Limiting or cohorting staff to individual groups of residents or floors/wings, including segregation of COVID-19 positive residents;

# Measures to be Funded

- To support active recruitment of additional staff if they are needed to enable staff to work in only one care home or to work only with an assigned group of residents or only in specified areas of a care home, including by using and paying for staff who have chosen to temporarily return to practice, including those returning through the NHS returners programme. These staff can provide vital additional support to homes and underpin effective infection control while permanent staff are isolating or recovering from Covid-19;
- Steps to limit the use of public transport by members of staff. Where they do not have their own private vehicles this could include encouraging walking and cycling to and from work and supporting this with the provision of changing facilities and rooms and secure bike storage or use of local taxi firms;
- Providing accommodation for staff who proactively choose to stay separately from their families in order to limit social interaction outside work. This may be provision on site or in partnership with local hotels.

# Infection control fund - principles proposed

Not to be spent on items/aspects explicitly prohibited in the grant conditions

Can be spent where :

- the rationale for expenditure is made with reference to the six measures identified in the grant conditions; and
- the main objective of the spend is for Infection

# Infection control measures

1. Ensuring that staff who are isolating in line with government guidance receive their normal wages while doing so. At the time of issuing this grant determination this included staff with suspected symptoms of Covid 19 awaiting a test, or any staff member for a period following a positive test.
2. Ensuring, so far as possible, that members of staff work in only one care home. This includes staff who work for one provider across several homes or staff that work on a part time basis for multiple employers and includes agency staff (the principle being that the fewer locations that members of staff work the better;
3. Limiting or cohorting staff to individual groups of residents or floors/wings, including segregation of COVID-19 positive residents;

# Infection control measures..

## continued

4. To support active recruitment of additional staff if they are needed to enable staff to work in only one care home or to work only with an assigned group of residents or only in specified areas of a care home, including by using and paying for staff who have chosen to temporarily return to practice, including those returning through the NHS returners programme. These staff can provide vital additional support to homes and underpin effective infection control while permanent staff are isolating or recovering from Covid-19.
5. Steps to limit the use of public transport by members of staff. Where they do not have their own private vehicles this could include encouraging walking and cycling to and from work and supporting this with the provision of changing facilities and rooms and secure bike storage or use of local taxi firms .
6. Providing accommodation for staff who proactively choose to stay separately from their families in order to limit social interaction outside work. This may be provision on site or in partnership with local hotels

# Questions and Answer