

COVID 19 : Provider Engagement Webinar

Friday 7th August 2020

Welcome and Introductions

(Tony Pounder)

Welcome and Introductions

- Purpose of today's webinar:
 - Key messages and updates
 - **Fortnightly webinar** for providers, usually held on Fridays, 1-2/2.30pm

Reminders:

- A lot has happened over the past week...
- **Provider portal:** <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/practitioners/health-and-social-care/care-service-provider-engagement/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-care-providers/>
- **Fortnightly newsletter to providers:** sent out by Contract Management via email (Friday or Monday); summary of key messages

Today's Agenda

1-2.30pm

- Key updates include:
 - Visiting Guidance for Care Homes
 - Testing (care homes and other settings)
 - MCA and COVID
- Regular updates

Testing Update

Lisa Slack

**Head of Service - Quality, Contracts
and Safeguarding Adults Service**

National Testing Programme Updates from the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC)

Repeat Whole Home Testing Timeline

- Regular whole home retesting was announced for care home staff and residents in homes for over 65s and those with dementia and went live on 6 July; staff to be tested weekly and residents to be tested every 28 days.
- Repeat testing was planned to be extended to include all care homes for working age adults in August.
- DHSC sent a request to local authorities for data on supported living and extra care schemes; timescales for roll out were not communicated at the time.

Department of Health and Social Care Testing Update (email, 4 August)

- Testing update email sent to all care homes by DHSC on 4 August

National Testing Programme Progress:

- DHSC has had a positive response to the roll-out of regular whole home testing with most care homes having now registered.
- As a result of several factors, including unexpected delays, the DHSC has not been able to reach all care homes for older people and people with dementia as quickly as they had hoped.
- DHSC is taking all possible steps to increase their supply, but this does mean that they now have to revise the previously advised timelines for rolling out regular testing in care homes, but will deliver kits sooner if able to do so.

DHSC Testing Programme Revised Timescales

- DHSC will now reach all care homes for older people and people with dementia by 7 September 2020
- If homes have already started regular testing, there may be a wait for their second month's order to be fulfilled until they have reached all care homes for older people and people with dementia
- All other adult care homes will be able to start to place orders for test kits from 31 August 2020

DHSC Testing Programme Revised Timescales

- In the period up to 7 September, DHSC will also take the following steps to target testing capacity where it is most needed:
- Prioritise providing test kits to care homes in areas on the Contain Framework Local Authority Watchlist as set out in the Weekly PHE Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Surveillance Report (found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-covid-19-surveillance-reports>)
- All care homes that have symptomatic residents will continue to be able to access testing through their local PHE Health Protection Team
- Continue to look for options that can reduce delays, such as encouraging testing throughout the whole week, especially on weekends where this is possible. This will enable the DHSC to increase the amount of testing they can do and make full use of the available lab capacity.

DHSC Testing Programme Revised Timescales

- Care home testing has not stopped.
- DHSC is issuing over 50,000 tests a day to care homes across the country, with the majority of these in high priority outbreak areas.
- Any symptomatic person is still able to get a test and care homes with suspected positive cases will be able to access whole home testing via their local Health Protection Team (these are the established pathways that are in place and details are on the provider portal)

LCC Tracker - Update

- In light of this week's DHSC testing update, Care Capacity Tracker Team callers will not be asking questions of homes around whole home testing wef 6 August.
- We will be also pausing the tracker pages which relate to home testing presently until we receive a further update re: progress/timescales for the national testing programme.

DHSC: update on rapid testing

LampORE rapid testing

- You may have seen in the media yesterday reports of encouraging progress with the LampORE rapid tests. The new rapid LampORE test has been found to detect the presence of COVID-19 in under 90 minutes.
- There will be a validation programme over the next few weeks at regional laboratories. Should the results be as expected, the DHSC will look to roll out this technology more widely.

DHSC: Coming soon: Bulk registration

- As part of efforts to make the testing process more accessible, DHSC have listened to the sector and through user experience research, have heard clearly that registering tests individually is unnecessarily burdensome.
- Therefore pleased to inform care homes that soon, they will be able to bulk register tests, which will speed up the process and alleviate the administrative burden.
- Thank you to all care home staff who have provided invaluable feedback on their experiences, as this is constantly helping the DHSC to improve the testing process and better meet care home needs.
- Guidance will be issued to care homes explaining the bulk registration process and the DHSC will host a series of webinars to introduce the new bulk registration process and Unique Organisation Numbers; look out for invites coming soon.

DHSC: Coming soon: Unique Organisation Numbers

- Soon all care homes will receive an email from DHSC, informing them of their new Unique Organisation Number (UON).
- Please look out for this email and take note of your Unique Organisation Number.
- When launched, you will need to use your UON to access services across all of the DHSC care home testing programme portals. This includes the following portals:
 - Order new test kits (<https://request-testing.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk>)
 - Register completed test kits for results (<https://gov.uk/register-organisation-test>)
 - Book a courier to collect completed kits (<https://carehomecollect.co.uk>)
 - Contact the national testing programme helpdesk (call 119)
- Across these portals, you will no longer need your care home ID, your UON will be how the DHSC identifies you going forward.
- Unique Organisation Numbers, along with the new bulk upload process will be covered in the upcoming webinar series; look out for invites coming soon.

Reminder: Randox Pause

- On 6 July, DHSC contacted all care homes who had received Randox test kits, informing them to immediately pause their use of these test kits, subject to further investigation.
- If you have Randox test kits in your care home, please do not dispose of them. DHSC ask that you retain them and continue to store them in a safe place so that they are not used or mixed with other test kits.
- This pause only applies to Randox test kits and does not affect the validity of any results.
- DHSC has identified all care homes who require replacement kits to complete regular retesting or complete their first round of whole home testing. Replacement kits have been delivered to the majority of these homes, with the remaining receiving theirs this week.
- To see the full government statement please visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/update-on-randox-test-kits>.

Test and Trace

- An update on test and trace will be shared (via email) next week by Abdul Razaq, Public Health Consultant

Visiting Guidance for Care Homes

Lisa Slack

**Head of Service - Quality, Contracts and
Safeguarding Adults Service**

Lancashire Resilience Forum letter re: Visitors to Care Homes (31 July)

Background:

9 June 2020:

- The LRF initially issued a guidance note on 9 June 2020, in light of the government announcement on 1st June re: the easing of lockdown measures allowing more than one household to meet one other person. At the time, a maximum number of six people could meet outdoors, provided social distancing could be maintained; the LRF guidance for care homes at the time suggested that this should be restricted to no more than two individuals outdoors (and in exceptional circumstances indoors, one person with appropriate social distancing and PPE as appropriate).
- The LRF guidance note and accompanying documentation issued was to support providers to facilitate visits to care home residents and those living in supported living services from families and friends.
- The guidance included a sample risk assessment and checklist questionnaire. It was also suggested that providers communicate with residents and their families about the changes to the care setting's Visiting Policy in light of the requirements to reduce the spread of the virus.

New government guidance re: visiting care homes was then published on 22 July

[Visiting care homes during Coronavirus \(link\)](#)

- This guidance is for directors of public health, care providers and others who will be involved in planning to enable visits to care homes. It sets out:
 - the principles of a local approach to visiting arrangements and dynamic risk assessment;
 - guidance for providers establishing their visiting policy;
 - guidance for providers taking decisions on visiting for particular residents or groups of residents;
 - infection control precautions;
 - communicating with relatives and others about the visiting policy and visiting decisions.

New government guidance re: visiting care homes was published on 22 July

- The guidance states that from 1 August, the government has introduced new guidance for visits to residents living in care homes from families and friends.
- The guidance will continue to be updated as the risk posed by coronavirus continues to change.
- The process of considering visitors should be led by the relevant local director of public health, who should give a regular professional assessment of whether visiting is likely to be appropriate within their local authority, taking into account the wider risk environment.

The government guidance re: visiting care homes was then updated on 31 July

[Update on policies for visiting arrangements in care homes during Coronavirus](#) (link)

Two updates were made to the guidance:

- No one should be allowed to enter a care home if they are currently experiencing or first experienced coronavirus symptoms in the last 10 days.
- Visitors should be encouraged to walk or cycle to the care home if they can.

New Restrictions from 31 July 2020 affecting North West England

[North West of England local restrictions: what you can and cannot do \(link\)](#)

- From 31st July, new restrictions were implemented in parts of the North West
- The restrictions mean that there are additional infection control and protections measure in place in the following areas/districts in Lancashire:
 - Blackburn with Darwen
- East Lancashire:
 - Burnley
 - Pendle
 - Rossendale
 - Hyndburn
- From 31 July 2020. Care Homes in these affected areas **should not** facilitate visits to residents from friends or family in care homes, other than in exceptional circumstances (care homes should restrict visits in these circumstances).

- Blackpool Care homes and Lancashire Care homes (excluding those in the identified areas of East Lancashire) can now continue to follow the government's guidance re: visiting care home with effect from 1 August (i.e. the guidance first published on 22nd July and then updated on 31 July):
 - [Update on policies for visiting arrangements in care homes during Coronavirus](#)

Actions for Care Home Providers (in LRF letter)

In light of the updated government guidance and the announcement of local restrictions in parts of Lancashire, a letter was issued by the LRF on 31 July to all care homes in Lancashire, stating that care homes should:

- Update their Visiting Policy and risk assessments
- When updating your Visiting Policy, you will need to consider the legal, decision making framework offered by the Mental Capacity Act, individually for each of these residents
- Consider the advice from the Alzheimer's Society short briefing which sets out some key considerations for people living with dementia
- Communicate this to residents/families and friends via a Newsletter of similar
- Remain vigilant to prevent infection spread , continue to promote hand hygiene, social distancing, correct PPE and maintain high standards of infection prevention
- Have plans in place to respond quickly and effectively to restrict visitors if required to do so by the Director of Public Health

Local restrictions

Individual district/ locality or communities across Lancashire, Blackpool and Blackburn

- If and as required, taking into account relevant infection and growth rates in a particular area, Directors of Public Health may at any time implement additional control measures and restrictions in that area. Care settings affected will be informed at that time.
- Be Prepared: all care settings should be ready to respond quickly and effectively to restrict visitors when required to do so by the Director of Public Health.

Coronavirus (COVID-19): admission and care of people in care homes was updated on 31 July

Coronavirus Covid-19 admission and care of people in care homes

- This national guidance (first published on 2 April) on how to protect care home residents and staff during the coronavirus outbreak has been updated to reflect that self-isolation period for people with symptoms of coronavirus has changed from 7 days to 10 days and the link to recent updated guidance on visiting care homes during coronavirus was added in.
- Please be mindful of the implications of any local restrictions in place.

ASC Cell: Care Setting Admissions Policy Statement

- The Lancashire Resilience Forum has agreed a revised Care Settings Admissions Policy Statement (this is revised from the 24 June version which has previously been shared with providers).
- The aim of the statement is to support and enable safe admissions into residential care and support living settings during the pandemic and will be kept under review and updated as required.
- Updated to reflect national guidance re: end of an outbreak being declared over.
- Will be shared on the portal.

Further letter to care home providers

A letter from LCC has been sent to care home providers today (7 August).

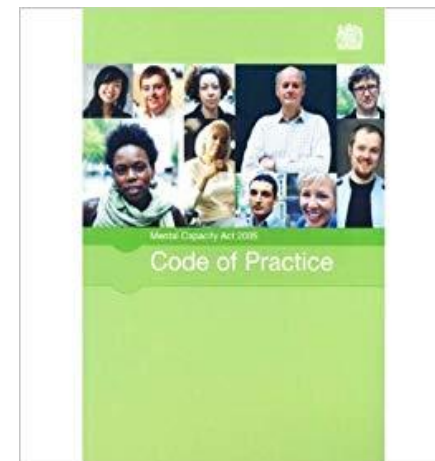
The letter recaps on updates re:

- Testing;
- Swabbing;
- Visiting Guidance;
- Revised Admissions Policy;
- NHS 111



Mental Capacity Act 2005

- 1, 2 & 3 are all about me
- 4 & 5 you do with me if I lack capacity.



MCA & COVID-19

Update

Cate Short

LCC COP Coordinator

cate.short@lancashire.gov.uk



Mr Justice Hayden Vice President of the Court Of Protection

“The protection afforded to this group of people by the Mental Capacity Act 2005 is constructed in a way which promotes autonomy, guards liberty and seeks to identify best interests.

It requires to be said, in terms which permit of no ambiguity, that these principles have, if anything, enhanced importance in times of national emergency.”



Back to MCA basics!



- **MCA & DoLS** continue to apply
- Statutory regard for **MCA Code of Practice**
- **What is the decision** being proposed?
- What are the **choices /options** ? Salient **information**?
- Seek **consent!** Presumption of capacity
- **Support people** to make decisions
- **Assess capacity** if there is doubt
- Apply **best interests** if lacking capacity
- **Aim to achieve outcome in least restrictive way**



Specific decisions during COVID pandemic

- **Family / friends visiting** their loved ones in
 - Care Homes, Hospitals , Supported Living
- **People visiting** / meeting own family & friends
- **Accessing the community safely** - social distancing, mask –wearing, no gatherings
- **COVID Testing** - routine, symptomatic, admission
- **Self isolating & shielding**
- **Professionals visiting** individuals
- Going to **hospital / health appointments**
- **Holidays /travelling abroad**

General approach

- **What is current national & localised COVID guidance / law?**
- How does it apply to **this individual** in this particular set of **circumstances** at this **time**?
- How can the salient **information** be **tailored** to their **communication** needs?
- **Who is best** placed to **explain** it?
- If the person **lacks capacity**, who has **authority** to **make the decision** in their **best interests**?
- **Who** needs to be **consulted** ?

Government Guidance

- Main page [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- Coronavirus (COVID-19): adult social care guidance [Collection](#) now includes
- **NEW for Supported Living** [COVID-19: guidance for supported living](#)
- Mental Capacity & DOLS [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): looking after people who lack mental capacity](#)

NEW Guidance for Supported Living

COVID-19: guidance for supported living

This guidance sets out:

- key messages to assist with planning and preparation in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic so that local procedures can be put in place to minimise risk and provide the best possible support to people in supported living settings;
- safe systems of working including, social distancing, respiratory and hand hygiene and enhanced cleaning;
- how infection prevention and control (IPC) and personal protective equipment (PPE) applies to supported living settings

Local guidance / support

- Main page [Lancashire County Council](#)
- Provider portal [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) information for care providers](#)
- LRF Guidance on social visiting
- Provider Safeguarding & MCA Champions
- IPC
- Task & Finish group for managing COVID restrictions - in progress

Guidance can be confusing!

News....

Next weeks leaked COVID guidance. You cant meet with another person from outside your family with an A or an R in their name unless it's a Wednesday. family members are ok unless its the third Monday after pancake Tuesday. people under 5 foot 11 aren't allowed to go to a pub unless they have brown hair. cat owners are exempt from the above unless the cat is ginger. obviously.

11:22 AM

BREAKING NEWS

Task & Finish group: To inform guidance for managing COVID restrictions

Main purpose is to:

- Inform local guidance to support people to manage government & local restrictions under COVID-19
- Share first-hand experience to inform guidance
- Make recommendations about supporting people with disabilities, their families and friends in ways that uphold their human rights, and prevent discrimination

Task & Finish group

- Membership: Multi – agency & people with lived experience
- Scope: COVID restrictions across range of settings / themes
- 6 Work streams:
 1. People: self-advocates, families, friends, carers & 1.2 reps
 2. Supported living, domiciliary care & personal assistants (PAs)
 3. Inpatient services, Section17 leave
 4. Transitions: discharge planning & accommodation moves
 5. Residential care settings
 6. Attended community services: day services, CMHTs, etc

If you want to be involved please contact

cate.short@lancashire.gov.uk

IPC Update

NW STAC advice regarding exclusion and repeated positive results in care home residents and staff.

Uploaded to the portal.

Issued 31st July.

Guidance Includes:

- Detailed advice re the interpretation of results.
- Advises re repeated positive results and results where positive results have negative results between them.

Guidance Includes:

- There are tables to aid the interpretation of test results.
- Can also be applied for non care home residents.
- Please read and familiarise yourself with the full update – it is lengthy.

10 days isolation

The self-isolation period has been extended to 10 days for those in the community who have COVID symptoms or a positive test result.

(relevant for staff)

Announced 30th July.

Supported Living

- Updated Guidance – published 6th August

Guidance

COVID-19: guidance for supported living

Published 6 August 2020

Supported Living

- Guidance designed to update and build on the previous guidance which was withdrawn on 13th May.
- Useful guidance on how to manage outbreaks in supported living settings.
- Safe systems of working – advice about social distancing and enhanced cleaning (where the SU does own cleaning).

End of Outbreak

Direction for LRF:

Day 14-28 – Recovery phase

Outbreak will be closed following Day 28.

Please still send the End of Outbreak Cleaning Checklist back to:
infectionprevention@lancashire.gov.uk

PPE

- You should continue to wear facemasks sessionally even if the residents have no symptoms.
- Please ensure that all staff are updated once again with the correct donning and doffing technique – **these technique are there to protect you from self contamination.**

- Recommend watching don and doff video and record staff – good practice and helpful reminder.
- If you are challenged from other health care professionals, knowing the latest guidance will empower you. Also please challenge them as they should be following the same principles.






How to work safely in care homes

Putting on personal protective equipment (PPE)

Before putting on your PPE:

- make sure you drink some fluids before putting on your PPE
- tie hair back
- remove jewellery
- check PPE in the correct size is available

<p>1 Clean your hands using alcohol hand rub/gel or use soap and water.</p> 	<p>2 Put on apron and tie at waist.</p> 	<p>3 Put on facemask – position upper straps on the crown of your head, lower strap at nape of neck.</p> 
<p>4 With both hands, mould the metal strap over the bridge of your nose.</p> 	<p>5 Don or put on your eye protection, if required due to the risk of splashing.</p> 	<p>6 Put on gloves.</p> 

Please see the Putting on and taking off PPE – a guide for care homes video here: <https://youtu.be/ozY50PPmsvE>

© Crown copyright 2020. Public Health England Gateway Number: 2020009, V1, 23-04-2020



How to work safely in care homes

Taking off personal protective equipment (PPE)

- PPE should be removed in an order that minimises the risk of self-contamination
- Gloves, aprons (and eye protection if used) should be taken off in the resident's room or cohort area
- This is the type of PPE is needed when providing personal care which requires you to be in direct contact with the resident(s) (e.g. touching) or within 2 metres of a resident who is coughing

<p>1 Remove gloves. Grasp the outside of glove with the opposite gloved hand, peel off. Hold the removed glove in the remaining gloved hand.</p> 	<p>Slide the fingers of the un-gloved hand under the remaining glove at the wrist. Peel the remaining glove off over the first glove and discard.</p> 
<p>2 Clean hands.</p> 	<p>3 Apron. Unfasten or break apron ties at the neck and let the apron fold down on itself. Break ties at waist and fold apron in on itself – do not touch the outside – this will be contaminated. Discard.</p>  
<p>4 Remove eye protection if worn due to risk of splashing. Use both hands to handle the straps by pulling away from face and discard or disinfect before using again.</p> 	<p>5 Clean hands.</p> 
<p>6 Remove your facemask once your care task is completed and before you take a break, eat a snack or change activities. Untie or break bottom ties, followed by top ties or elastic, and remove by handling the ties only because the front of the face mask may be contaminated. Lean forward slightly. Discard. DO NOT reuse once removed.</p>  	<p>7 Clean hands with soap and water.</p> 

Please see the guide and instruction video here: www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-how-to-work-safely-in-care-homes

© Crown copyright 2020. Public Health England Gateway Number: 2020009, V1, 23-04-2020

To safely put on and take off your PPE refer to this guide from Public Health England <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ozY50PPmsvE&feature=youtu.be>



1



Pinch and hold the **outside** of the glove near the wrist area.

2



Peel downwards, away from the wrist, turning the glove inside-out.

3



Pull the glove away until it is removed from the hand, holding the inside-out glove with the gloved hand.

4



With your un-gloved hand, slide your finger/s under the wrist of the remaining glove. **Do not touch** the outer surface of the glove.

5



Peel downwards, away from the wrist, turning the glove inside out.

6



Continue to pull the glove down and over the inside-out glove being held in your gloved hand.

Finance Update (Tony Pounder)

- Homes should shortly be receiving their second allocation of the Infection Control Fund
- Daytime supports providers should be receiving their allocation in the next week, if they haven't done so already - £230 per place
- Reminder of the return to on submission payments dates and the changes to the permissible frustrated visits.

Adult Social Care Funding Arrangements

Return to 'On Submission' Payments

The timetable for returning payments from the 'Pay-on-Plan' process is as per below:

With effect from	Service Type	Final 'Pay on Plan' Period	First 'Pay on Submission' Period
20 July 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Framework Homecare • Meals on Wheels 	22/06/2020 – 19/07/2020	20/07/2020 – 16/08/2020
17 August 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-Framework Homecare • Shared Lives Day Support 	20/07/2020 – 16/08/2020	17/08/2020 – 13/09/2020
14 September 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day Support Services • Supported Living • Extra Care • Mental Health Rehabilitation • Substance Abuse Rehabilitation 	17/08/2020 – 13/09/2020	14/09/2020 – 11/10/2020

Adult Social Care Funding Arrangements

Changes to Permissible Frustrated Visits

With effect from 17 August 2020 the current permissible submission of Frustrated visits for visits not provided as a direct result of Covid-19 will cease. From this date, the only Frustrated visits which will be approved will be those that satisfy the definition given below:

Frustrated Visits: where a Service User has cancelled an individual visit (not the whole Care and Support Plan) with less than 24 hours' notice to the Service Provider's office or where the Service User has unreasonably, at the determination of the Authority, refused access to the Service Provider.

Where a service user (or their representative) requests that services not be delivered as a result of Covid-19 where it is otherwise safe to do so, the package of care should be suspended and the a referral issued to Adults Social Care for the package of care to be reviewed.

Where this occurs, your contractual right to claim the appropriate notice period is not affected.

Policy Statement on Day Services

- Day Services can continue to re-open across the county, including areas with local restrictions, e.g. East Lancs
- Day services are planning for re-opening in context of Covid-19 so are:
 - controlled, closed environments, arguably safer than home visits
 - Aware of and using necessary safeguards
- Not opening the would leave people at risk
- Decision will be reviewed on a daily basis
- Providers should continue to look out for updates nationally and locally
- Allocation of Infection Prevention Control Grant mentioned above to help preparations for opening
- Continuing to develop the financial model to ensure reopening is viable alternative

PPE - LCC phonenumber/mailbox reminder

- A reminder that both the Care Provider PPE team mailbox and telephone helpline are now only manned between 9am - 5pm, Monday through Friday
- Any requests received after lunchtime on Friday are unlikely to be delivered until Monday morning
- Tel: 0300 123 6786
- CareProviderPPE@lancashire.gov.uk
- The future options...

LCC PPE

- Whilst the Care Provider PPE team may not be able to allocate the quantities that are being requested, this is to ensure that our supplies are available for all providers that require our support.
- Although we will do our best to answer any specific queries providers raise, we cannot routinely confirm that orders have been processed and have been scheduled for delivery, due to the volume of requests that we continue to process. However, providers can support us in delivering an efficient service by identifying emergency supplies required for the week ahead rather than raising multiple requests over the course of the week, and by ensuring that the most up to date version of the logging template is used.

DHSC PPE Portal Update

- The national PPE Portal has acted as a temporary top-up system for GPs and small adult social care providers where normal supply routes have been unable to meet PPE requirements.
- With effect from 3rd August, we have been notified that all remaining residential and domiciliary care providers will be invited to register, regardless of size.
- When sectors are invited, they will receive an invitation from the PPE Portal team outlining the relevant order limits and guidance regarding the process to follow is available through the following link:
- <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ppe-portal-how-to-order-emergency-personal-protective-equipment>

Lancashire Temporary Staffing Agency

- Currently only taking up residential providers on their offer of shadowing placements; please get in touch if you want to offer a shadowing placement within your home
- Continuing to deploy the workforce appropriately; undertaking a variety of tasks (personal care, lighter duties)
- Looking at how we can support homes in a more preventative way, e.g. support to cold homes, homes embarking on retesting programmes, homes with staff shortages
- Looking at current staff resource available (e.g. some staff may have returned to work from Furlough) to inform future planning
- Analysing survey results to clarify transport situation/geographical radius, etc willing to cover to inform planning
- Agreement for Contract Management's Provider Escalation Team to contact homes to discuss potential deployment of LTSA staff

National Guidance:

- New Guidance
- Updated Guidance

[North West of England: local restrictions: what you can and cannot do \(link\)](#)

- An outbreak of coronavirus (COVID-19) has been identified in parts of Greater Manchester, East Lancashire, and West Yorkshire. The government and relevant local authorities are acting together to control the spread of the virus. This guidance covers what you can and cannot do if you live, work or travel in areas of the north of England from 31st July 2020. The Lancashire areas affected are:
 - Blackburn with Darwen
 - Burnley
 - Hyndburn
 - Pendle
 - Rossendale

Published 31st July and update on 6th August to the section 'Changes to Restrictions'.

[Flu immunisation training recommendations](#) (link)

- Guidance on flu immunisation training to support healthcare professionals during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- This document and appendices contain information on:
 - the importance of flu immunisation training
 - flu immunisation training during the pandemic
 - supervision and assessment
 - currently available training
 - recommended training requirements by workforce group for flu vaccination
 - suggested content to be covered in flu immunisation training
 - flu vaccinator competency assessment tool

Published 5th August

[Coronavirus Covid 19: guidance for people receiving direct payments](#) (link)

- The guidance provides advice for people who buy care and support through a direct payment, as well as local authorities, clinical commissioning groups and those who provide care and support. Three attachments have been updated: 'Guidance for commissioners, people receiving direct payments and care providers', 'Guidance for commissioners, people receiving direct payments and care providers (easy read)' and 'Using direct payments during the coronavirus outbreak: full guidance for people receiving direct payments and personal assistants'. The updates reflect that the self-isolation period for people with coronavirus symptoms has changed to 10 days rather than 7 days.

Updated 31st July.

[Coronavirus outbreak FAQs: what you can and cannot do \(link\)](#)

- The FAQs on what you can and cannot do during the coronavirus outbreak have been updated to reflect the latest government guidance following the announcement on 31st July. *Updated 31st July.*

[Staying alert and safe social distancing \(link\)](#)

- The guidance on staying alert and safe social distancing during the coronavirus outbreak has been updated to reflect the latest government guidance following the announcement on 31st July. *Updated 31st July.*

Local guidance/updates

Safeguarding Team Update

- Share with providers two resources produced by the Lancs Safeguarding Adults Board and Lancs Fire and Rescue Service:
 - Emollients and smoking
 - Caring for people who use paraffin-based creams, airflow or oxygen equipment
- Have been some recent safeguarding incidents linked to these areas

Coming out of shielding and care homes

- LRF looking to produce some guidance to support providers

Training and resources

NW ADASS - Resources

Care Home Infection Control Top Tips

- The guide highlights some of the ways in which residential and nursing homes have responded to the current Covid-19 pandemic in order to ensure that residents are safe during what are very challenging and difficult circumstances.
- Clear, informative document filled with practical examples of best practice.
- Will be uploaded to the portal.

Health Education England Coronavirus Programme

- <https://www.e-lfh.org.uk/programmes/coronavirus/>
- Resources
- Training

CQC updates

- E-bulletin: sign up for the “COVID-19: CQC update for adult social care providers”
- Website: <https://www.cqc.org.uk/guidance-providers/all-services/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-information-providers>
- Twitter
- **Infection, prevention and control in care homes**
- We [previously](#) introduced how we are looking at infection prevention and control (IPC) in care homes and have now published our new [IPC inspection tool on our website](#).
- As we increase [targeted and focused inspections](#) of high risk services, this tool will be used to look at how well staff and people who live in the care home are protected by the prevention and control of infection (Key Line of Enquiry S5). Over time, we will look to improve and adapt the tool for other types of services.
- The tool will help us to gather information about the strengths of a service and to understand if there are any gaps or concerns around IPC where we can signpost to resources which could help.
- As we all plan to manage any risk of a second wave of the coronavirus and the impact of winter pressures this helpful tool is something you can use to prepare.

DHSC adult social care CARE workforce app

- The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) have launched a new dedicated app for the adult social care workforce. It aims to support staff through the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic: [link](#)

DHSC adult social care CARE workforce app

- All staff working in social care, including volunteers, can have free access (until 31 December 2020) to the following two apps via the Care Workforce App ([link](#)):
 - **Daylight** is a smartphone-based app that provides help you if you are experiencing symptoms of worry and anxiety using evidence-based cognitive behavioural techniques, voice, and animation.
 - **Sleepio** is a clinically-evidenced sleep improvement programme that is fully automated and highly personalised, using cognitive behavioural techniques to help improve poor sleep.

Wellbeing Support for Social Care Staff

- DHSC CARE – 1 page profile with quick links
- [link](#)

Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) Resources

- Sign up for e-bulletin
- Online COVID-specific resources for health and social care:
[link](#) in Care Homes: [link](#)
- **Webinars**
- **Blogs**
- **Guidance**

- **Coronavirus (COVID-19): health and wellbeing of the adult social care workforce** - This guidance is for anyone who works in adult social care. It also provides adult social care employers with guidance, tools and advice on how to take care of the wellbeing of staff at work – [link](#).

Wellbeing Support

- Our Provider Portal details of a variety of evidence-based resources, helplines and guidance to steer people through the vast range of offers of psychological assistance that have been developed in recent weeks: [link](#)

Provider Input into Webinars

- Provider input to share best practice, tops tips, good news stories etc., via a slot on the webinar
- Please express your interest via the portal online query form
- Any questions

Next Steps

- Regular Portal Updates
- Fortnightly webinar (usually Friday): the next webinar is Friday 21th August, 1pm (joining instructions to follow)
- Fortnightly newsletter