

Special Adult Social Care Provider Webinar

Friday 25th September 2020

Welcome and Introductions (Ian Crabtree)

- Welcome everyone!
- Special provider webinar today in addition to the scheduled fortnightly Friday webinars
- **Purpose:** to share updates on some key areas, both locally and nationally, building on content from last Friday's webinar and developments over the past week

Agenda

- Finance: including the Infection Control Fund (Ian Crabtree)
- PPE Update (Ian Crabtree)
- Local restrictions in Lancashire (except Blackpool)-(Ian Crabtree)
- Adult Social Care Winter Plan (Kieran Curran)
- Testing Update (Lisa Slack)
- Care home visiting Update (Lisa Slack)
- Service users accessing more than one setting (Ellen Smith)
- Reminders (Ellen Smith)

Positive feedback from Care Capacity Tracker Team

“Please can you feed back how positive a lot of the providers are when they answer the phone. I appreciate how difficult their days can be and they have to deliver often difficult messages about not being able to visit to residents’ families. I have found the last few weeks in particular the contacts I phone (which are different every day) are extremely upbeat and it makes a difference to our day too. I think feedback (particular positive) is a very positive thing in these difficult times.”

Finance and PPE Updates

Ian Crabtree

Infection Prevention Control Grant

- Existing IPC Grant arrangements and spending period come to an end 30th Sept 2020
- But Government's Winter Plan announcement confirms **new IPC Grant arrangements** are being established to take providers through until 31 March 2021
 - £550M in new IPC grant – but this is 10% less than the existing IPC
 - It is to last 6 months (Oct – Mar) whereas existing IPC Grant ran for 5 months (May to Sept)
 - IPC Grant conditions for rest of year not yet issued – so we don't know if they are the same or different from the ones already in place
 - But assume major share of new IPC Grant will go to registered care homes
 - And rest to be disbursed to other sectors – eg domiciliary care, supported living, day services, PA service etc

PPE – what you may have wanted

- Local engagement with some Lancashire providers on the future arrangements for this in August
- Preference that came through from providers was
 1. Source PPE themselves but with costs reimbursed
 2. LCC to act as major back up in case of disruption of supply or shortfall
 3. National PPE Portal helpful to have but not to be relied on as main supply route
- Those views were shared forward with relevant national bodies (ADASS, DHSC etc)
- ...but this is not what has happened

PPE – new arrangements

National PPE Portal

- National PPE Portal is **the** main supply route
 - Free PPE for all CQC registered care providers
 - Providers must register but then can order what they need
 - Volumes of items issued reflect calculations based on standardised assumptions about need and usage
 - Delivery by Royal Mail

PPE – new arrangements

LCC role

- LCC no longer to be a routine supplier of PPE to registered care providers
- LCC will be the supplier to day services, PAs, social work, OT staff etc – ie non CQC registered care providers – this will be via supplies from National PPE Portal
- LCC still maintaining a strategic stockpile in case of further national / international supply chain disruption

PPE – new arrangements

Providers own supply chains

- Providers can of course continue to buy their own PPE
- **However – costs will no longer be reimbursed by LCC from 1st October 2020**
 - LCC not receiving further money from Government to cover PPE costs –
 - so can't afford to continue to meet providers costs
- Not expected IPC Grant conditions will permit its use for PPE costs

Financial Assistance Scheme

- LCC's own financial scheme to support providers since April 2020
- About £6m spent on extra costs
 - Mostly on staffing costs
 - PPE
 - Other equipment
- In light of earlier points on PPE and IPC - we will be winding this Financial Assistance scheme up completely in next fortnight
- We will write to confirm arrangements in w/c 5th October

**New COVID-19
restrictions in Lancashire
from 22 September
(excluding Blackpool)
Ian Crabtree**

Why the new measures are being introduced

- To address the significant rise in coronavirus cases in the county in recent weeks
- Our data shows an increased rate of transmission in homes, hospitality venues and through grassroots sports
- The measures are designed to protect the most vulnerable, while keeping businesses open and children in school

What are the new rules?

- You must not socialise with people outside of your household or support bubble in private homes or gardens
- You must not visit anyone's home either within or out of the restricted area except for your support bubble or for an excepted reason
- People should work from home where possible
- People can travel in or out of Lancashire for work and education purposes
- Only use public transport for essential journeys – such as travelling to school or work, or medical appointments
- A face covering must be worn on public transport unless you are exempt
- Workplaces and schools should be implementing COVID-secure measures
- Residents are urged to only visit indoor locations such as restaurants and pubs with other members of their household or support bubble

Who is allowed into homes?

There are a number of exemptions to the rules on visiting homes:

- To provide care or assistance to a vulnerable person
- To provide emergency assistance
- To visit a person who is dying
- For work, volunteering or charitable purposes
- For education or training purposes
- For the purposes of childcare provided by a registered provider
- To attend a birth at the mother's request
- To fulfil a legal obligation
- To facilitate a house move (this includes viewing a property)
- To continue existing arrangements for access to, and contact between, parents and children where the children do not live in the same household as one or more of their parents

Childcare

- Informal carers will be able to provide care for children and vulnerable adults
- Care bubbles can be formed to allow families to share caring responsibilities with another household
- Children under 14 will be able to be cared for by individuals outside of their immediate household as part of a care bubble. Arrangements must be part of a consistent childcare relationship
- You can continue to use early years and childcare settings, including childminders and providers offering before or after school clubs or other out-of-school settings for children
- Children of parents who are separated can continue to move between households

Shielding

- Clinically extremely vulnerable people in some areas of Blackburn with Darwen should continue to shield until 5 October
- From 5 October formal shielding will be paused in these areas
- [Guidance will be provided locally](#) about how to manage your risk of exposure to the virus

How long will the restrictions last?

- The measures will be monitored closely and reviewed on a weekly basis
- The next steps will depend on the impact the measures have

EDIT: What if I don't live in Lancashire?

- If a staff member *works* in Lancashire but *lives* in a non-restricted area they should nevertheless be made aware of the new Lancashire restrictions
- Increasing likelihood that similar restrictions may soon apply to other areas of the North West and even nationally
- Please act as a good citizen and consider your role in keeping people safe, adhering to the latest advice on visits, IPC and PPE

If you break the rules

- If people prevent others from self-isolating – such as employers threatening redundancy – they can be fined
- Businesses will be fined up to £10,000 and could be closed if they breach regulations
- Fine for people not wearing face coverings in shops, supermarkets, public transport, taxis and in indoor hospitality will double to £200 for a first time offence, from £100
- People with coronavirus symptoms who do not self-isolate will face fines of £1,000, rising to £10,000 for repeat offences from 28 September

For more information visit

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/coronavirus-updates/coronavirus-restrictions-in-lancashire/>

Restrictions in NW and England

- [Local restrictions across the North West](#)
- [National restrictions in England](#)

New Adult Social Care Winter Plan (Kieran Curran)

[Key points \(link\):](#)

- £546m to extend the Infection Control Fund to March 2021
- Appoint a Chief Nurse for social care to DHSC
- Designation scheme with CQC for premises safe for COVID-19 + people leaving hospital or awaiting test result
- Free PPE to care homes and home care providers via the PPE portal until end of March 2021

Actions for Providers

- Review and update continuity plans, follow guidance and support your workforce
- Use additional funding for IPC and report back
- Provide data through the Capacity Tracker
- Access testing and PPE portal as needed
- Encourage service users and staff to get flu jab
- Develop policy for limited visits

Testing Update (Lisa Slack)

- Thank you to providers for flagging your testing-related issues with LCC
- We have escalated these to our partners, including the NHS (via the Lancs and South Cumbria ICS), the LRF, PHE and the DHSC
- Please continue to share your testing-related issues with us so that we can keep feeding back your concerns to improve the national testing programme
- We've escalated the known issues re:
 - Not receiving test kits in a timely manner
 - No receiving test results back in a timely manner
 - Delays in laboratory analysis of tests and so tests are having to be repeated
 - Issues with courier services
 - Services/settings that 'fall outside' of the current testing programme
- LCC has also requested more detailed information about the delivery of test kits to care homes and on where homes are up to on their testing schedule
- We will keep you updated with any progress

Testing Update

Adult Social Care Winter Plan 20/21

- Providers should ensure that both symptomatic staff and symptomatic recipients of care are able to access COVID-19 testing, as soon as possible.
- Care homes should adhere to guidance on regular testing for all staff and care home residents

Lancashire County Council

- LCC will be monitoring care home responses to daily call questions on testing and will be contacting care homes to discuss if support is required to bring timescales for testing within the guidance parameters.

Testing Update

New DHSC care home webinars: please do book and attend; even if you have attended previously, there is always something new to be picked up and the process has changed.

To book:

https://event.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1369434&tp_key=296e54cdc9

If you are not able to attend the webinar live, please sign up and a recording of the session will be made available to you after the session

Extra Care and Supported Living Testing

- DHSC offering one single round of testing.
- Will review results from this to determine future testing strategy
- Current plans are mid-end October for national roll out
- Settings have to meet criteria of % of CQC registered care in the setting to be eligible.
- Eligible for testing includes: care provider staff on site, housing staff on site, service users - anyone who is on site daily.
- LCC are working with DHSC to initiate a small pilot in Lancashire prior to the national roll out.

Visiting Guidance (Lisa Slack)

- Display a Word document on-screen and will cover the key content
- LRF has signed off updated guidance for Visiting in Care Homes (dated 24th September 2020)
- Will be shared on the provider portal

Policy Statement on Individuals Accessing Services in More Than One Setting (Ellen Smith)

- LRF ASC Cell has agreed a policy statement on service users accessing services in more than one setting
- Policy statement can be found on the portal
- The statement provides guidance for providers to enable service users to access services in more than one setting
- The statement is particularly useful for people with a learning disability where care and support are often provided in arrange of settings including within a person's home
- It states that providers should use risk assessments to ensure that all practicable measures have been put in place to ensure safe service provision within a setting
- Local and national guidance should be followed, appropriate PPE should be used correctly and all necessary Infection Prevention and Control measures should be in place
- Providers should contact other service providers to share appropriate information and ensure that safe working practices in other settings are in place

Reminder: Outbreak definition (Ellen Smith)

- An outbreak is defined as two or more confirmed cases (staff or resident) of COVID-19 OR clinically suspected cases of COVID-19 among individuals associated with a specific setting with onset dates within 14 days.
- An incident is defined as less than 2 people with suspected Covid-19 (regardless whether staff or residents).
- No test-confirmed cases with illness onset dates in the last 28 days in that setting = end of outbreak

Next steps

- Next regular provider webinar is Friday 2nd October, 1pm (joining instructions to follow)
- Presentation and recording from today will be shared on the portal - [link](#)
- Review and respond to any queries/questions, as appropriate

Thank you!