

Adult Social Care Provider Webinar

Friday 16th July 2021

Welcome and Introductions

Ian Crabtree

Welcome and introductions

Purpose of webinar: key messages and updates, both national and local

Reminders:

- Webinars are delivered every three weeks, Fridays, 1-2/2.30 p.m. Potentially schedule in weekly, dependent on developments and the need to quickly share key messages.
- Provider portal: <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/practitioners/health-and-social-care/care-service-provider-engagement/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-care-providers/>

Today's Agenda

1-2.30pm

- National Updates (Ian Crabtree)
- Care Settings Visiting Guidance (Ellen Smith)
- Finance Update (Ian Crabtree)
- Vaccination Update (Nichola Morris)
- MCA and Vaccinations/ Task and Finish Group update (Cate Short)
- Care Capacity Tracker Update (Ian Crabtree)
- IPC Update and Testing (Ellen Smith)
- AOB (Ellen Smith)

National Updates

Ian Crabtree

Letter from Secretary of State

- As we lift more restrictions in the weeks ahead, I can't think of any group that has borne these restrictions so heavily as those who work in our care sector. Throughout this pandemic, you've taken on so many extra responsibilities, and done so with dedication and compassion.
- You've helped us through this pandemic; now you're helping us vaccinate our way out of it.
- I've been impressed by how you worked so closely with NHS colleagues to offer COVID19 jabs to all older residents in those few short weeks after we began vaccinating.
- It was an astonishing pace, and I'm so grateful. I now ask that those working in care who are yet to get the jab make it their top priority. It's a step that we know saves lives.

Letter from Secretary of State

- As Health and Social Care Secretary, it's now my job to help put social care on a sustainable footing for the future.
- Any proposal we bring forward will build on the spirit of integrated working you've embraced so enthusiastically, because we know we're at our best when we work as one.
- This past 18 months, you've all moved mountains to keep people safe. You don't only have my gratitude, but my word that I will now do everything I can to look out for you.
- The full letter was sent out to all care providers and will be uploaded onto the portal.

National Updates

- **England moves to Step 4 from 19 July**
- While cases are high and rising, everybody needs to continue to act carefully and remain cautious. This is why we are keeping in place key protections at step 4 from 19 July:
 - testing when you have symptoms and targeted asymptomatic testing in education, high risk workplaces and to help people manage their personal risk.
 - isolating when positive or when contacted by NHS Test and Trace.
 - border quarantine: for all arriving from red list countries and for those people not fully vaccinated arriving from amber list countries.

National Updates

- cautious guidance for individuals, businesses and the vulnerable whilst prevalence is high including:
 - whilst Government is no longer instructing people to work from home if they can, Government would expect and recommend a gradual return over the summer
 - Government expects and recommends that people wear face coverings in crowded areas such as public transport;
 - being outside or letting fresh air in
 - minimising the number, proximity and duration of social contacts.
 - encouraging and supporting businesses and large events to use the NHS Covid Pass in high risk settings. The Government will work with organisations where people are likely to be in close proximity to others outside their household to encourage the use of this. If sufficient measures are not taken to limit infection, the Government will consider mandating certification in certain venues at a later date.

16th August – Self Isolating Changes

- On 16 August, the rules on self-isolating as a contact will change for people who are fully vaccinated, and for under 18s.
- Those not fully vaccinated will still need to isolate if they are contacts, and everyone will still have to isolate if they test positive, to protect themselves and others.
- There is a proposal to bring this forward for NHS staff and it has been recommended by the care sector that it is to be brought forward for social care staff due to staff shortages.

Care Home Visiting Update

Ellen Smith

Care Home Visiting Update

Visits into care homes

- Residents are able to nominate five named visitors each, with two visitors being able to visit each day; subject to the visiting arrangements specific to each care home or any local guidance issued by Directors of Public Health.
- For visits into care homes, all care home residents will be able to nominate an essential care giver. These essential care givers will be able to visit the care home resident, even if the resident is isolating.
- Visitors are required to show proof of a negative COVID-19 test before a visit can take place, and visitors should follow local care home guidance on infection and prevention control measures when visiting a care home.
- There is additional [guidance on care home visiting](#).

Care Home Visiting Update

Visits out of care homes

- In most cases, residents who go on a visit out of a care home will no longer need to isolate for 14 days when they return. Residents returning from high risk visits out of the care home, such as an overnight stay in hospital, will still be required to isolate. Decisions on risk will be made following a risk assessment by the care home for each visit out.
- There is additional [guidance on care home visiting](#).
Last updated 21st June

Care Home Visiting – 19th July

- How will the care home rules change in England?
- As part of [the move to stage four of the roadmap out of lockdown](#), the government says there will be no limits on social contact in England after 19 July, subject a review of the latest Covid health data on 12 July.
- As part of this, the current rules limiting care home visitors will be lifted.
- More guidance will be published, setting out how to make visits as normal as possible while keeping residents and staff safe.
- Care homes will also need to keep some health and safety measures in place.

Finance Updates

Ian Crabtree

ASC Extension to Infection Control and Testing Funding

- [Adult social care extension to Infection Control and Testing Fund 2021](#) - sets out the measures that the extension to the Infection Control and Testing Fund supports, including distribution of funds, conditions and reporting requirements. We've extended the fund until 30 September 2021. Published on 2nd July

Details

Covid Grant Continuation

- End June provider webinar no news on any extension or continuation of the infection control or testing grants for providers
- We asked you to assume there would be no new money from end June 2021
- Days later Government announced there would be a further Grant – from 1 July to 30 Sept 2021
- Good news but not great to get the information so late...

Details

- Broadly similar to previous round of Grants
 - in size of allocation for LCC based providers
 - grant conditions
 - reporting arrangements
- but there are subtle differences which were highlighted only a day or so
- Currently drafting letters which will contain what you need to know

Provision Allocations

Provision allocations Mandatory element

- INFECTION CONTROL
 - Care Homes + D&A Settings: £205.41 per bed
 - Community CQC registered providers: £65.59 per service user
- TESTING
 - Care Homes + D&A Settings: £163.78 per bed
- DISCRETIONARY ELEMENTS
 - On infection control we have used 65% to "top up" the mandated elements and a further 18% to support providers that are not CQC registered
 - We are still looking at the best way to target discretionary testing funding.
- As per previous Grant rounds the letters we will send you will detail the amounts

Discretionary Element

Discretionary element

- Infection Control Grant – we are likely to 'top up' allocations on same basis as the mandatory grant formula works
- Testing Grant
 - Need your feedback!
 - Are supported living and domiciliary care providers facing costs associated with their staff administering and recording Lateral flow or PCR tests
 - If so email us (contracts email box address, title of email provider testing costs) – by close of play Tuesday 20 July

Vaccination Updates

Nichola Morris

Vaccination Update

- Really encouraging data on vaccine uptake across L&SC
- Age 50+ 1st dose 97%, 94% 2nd dose
- Overall for all adults age 18+ 84% 1st dose, 67% 2nd dose
- Figures continue to rise as younger people come forward and 2nd doses continue
- New guidance for all 2nd doses is 8 weeks (reduced from 12 weeks)
- Lots of options and availability across Lancashire, many sites are walk in

Vaccination Update

- Regulations now laid before Parliament regarding mandatory vaccination for staff in CQC registered settings
- Detail was provided on our last webinar and to date no further update on when the Regulations will apply from but expect late Autumn
- Advice is to be making plans now in anticipation of legislation being passed imminently
- Our contracts team is working closely with you and NHS colleagues to continue to provide support for any hesitant staff
- There is another offer of mobile vaccination clinics to go out to care homes – the COST and contracts teams will be in contact with individual homes about this

Vaccination Update

- If you are employing agency staff, please make sure you are checking their vaccination status.
- Please keep NECS data around vaccination rates as up to date as possible as there is extra scrutiny around this.

Vaccination Records

- The contracts team have created a vaccination and support form for your vaccination records.
- This form is not a requirement and we expect that many providers will have arrangements in place already to record the support and discussions that you are providing to your staff regarding the take up of the vaccination.
- However, given the demands on you at present, we expect that many of you will not have had an opportunity to develop your own recording tool and this is where this form will be helpful.
- This will be distributed to you all by the contracts team and will be uploaded onto the portal.

Covid-19 Vaccine Booster

- The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation have now published their interim guidance on booster vaccinations which states: JCVI advises that any potential booster programme should begin in September 2021, in order to maximise protection in those who are most vulnerable to serious COVID-19 ahead of the winter months.
- Influenza vaccines are also delivered in autumn.

Covid-19 Vaccine Booster Con't

Any potential COVID-19 booster programme should be offered in two stages:

Stage 1:

The following persons should be offered a third dose COVID-19 booster vaccine and the annual influenza vaccine, as soon as possible from September 2021:

- adults aged 16 years and over who are immunosuppressed;
- those living in residential care homes for older adults;
- all adults aged 70 years or over;
- adults aged 16 years and over who are considered clinically extremely vulnerable;
- frontline health and social care workers

Covid-19 Vaccine Booster Con't

Stage 2:

The following persons should be offered a third dose COVID-19 booster vaccine as soon as practicable after Stage 1, with equal emphasis on deployment of the influenza vaccine where eligible:

- all adults aged 50 years and over
- adults aged 16 – 49 years who are in an influenza or COVID-19 at-risk group. (please refer to the Green Book for details of at-risk groups)
- adult household contacts of immunosuppressed individuals'

We still expect readouts from several clinical trials over the course of the summer and, therefore, plans will need to flex as new information becomes available.

Covid-19 Vaccine Booster Con't

Vaccinating healthcare and social care workers:

- As in Phase 1, we are expecting trusts to lead on vaccinating their staff with COVID-19 boosters through Hospital Hubs, as well as supporting the delivery of vaccinations to primary and social care staff as needed in the local system.
- The Government is shortly to consult on mandatory COVID-19 vaccination for all patient facing health and care staff

Updated Vaccination Guidance

- [COVID-19 vaccination: guide for employers](#) – provides information and resources for employers to help support their staff and promote the coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination programme. Published on 12th July

**Key Messages for Care
Providers:
COVID-19 vaccination &
mental capacity**

**Cate Short, Court of Protection
Coordinator, LCC**

Key Messages for Care Providers: COVID-19 vaccination & mental capacity

- **Please continue to let people you support know that they can have the Covid-19 vaccination** free of charge, and how they can get it
- **Sign post / support people** to access reliable sources of information, relevant to their communication needs
- **Reassure people** that the vaccine can only be given to a person who has mental capacity with their informed consent
- **Support people to get vaccinated** - see [Healthier Lancs and South Cumbria :: Getting my vaccine \(healthierlsc.co.uk\)](https://healthierlsc.co.uk)
- **Consider what person-centred measures** need to be put in place to support the person through the vaccination process

Key Messages for Care Providers: COVID-19 vaccination & mental capacity

- **Identify people who may lack mental capacity to consent to a Covid-19 vaccination. Do you know if the person has**
 - A personal welfare **deputy** or **lasting power of attorney** ?
 - A valid and applicable **advanced decision to refuse medical treatment (ADRT)** ?
 - **Expressed wishes, views and preferences** in relation to the vaccine, or vaccines in general? Or past wishes and views etc?
- **This information and your understanding of the person will support the health professional to assess capacity**
- **The health professional should record the capacity assessment**
- **If you think the health professional has got it wrong don't be afraid to say so and explain why – Remember, in most cases you / your staff will know the person for better than they do**

Key Messages for Care Providers: COVID-19 vaccination & mental capacity

- **If the person lacks capacity : who is the decision maker?**
 - **A personal welfare deputy or LPA**, provided it is **within the scope of their authority** - check the Deputyship Order or LPA or
 - **The health professional proposing the vaccine** by making a best interests decision in consultation with family and others with an interest in the person's welfare or
 - **The person themselves refusing it under a valid and applicable ADRT** - check with the GP or
 - **A Court of Protection Judge** in some cases

Deputies & LPAs

Office of the Public Guardian

- Check if someone has an LPA or Deputy - [Find out if someone has an attorney, deputy or guardian acting for them - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/find-out-if-someone-has-an-attorney-deputy-or-guardian-acting-for-them)
- View an LPA (you will need an access code from the donor or attorney) - [View a lasting power of attorney - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/view-a-lasting-power-of-attorney)
- Urgent enquiries: [Urgent enquiries: check if someone has an attorney or deputy - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/urgent-enquiries-check-if-someone-has-an-attorney-or-deputy)
- Report a concern about an LPA, EPA or Deputy [Report a concern about an attorney, deputy or guardian - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/report-a-concern-about-an-attorney-deputy-or-guardian)

Challenges

The following challenges are likely to need a GP-led MDT approach:

- The person would be highly distressed by having an injection and cannot tolerate it.
- Family objecting - insisting the person should not be vaccinated or influencing them to refuse
- Court appointed deputy or LPA refusing the vaccine on behalf of the person
- People who would need physical restraint to be vaccinated

Legal advice should be sought if

- matters cannot be resolved
- physical restraint would be needed or
- the best interests decision is not to vaccinate

Support for Lancashire Care homes

- Lancashire County Council's outbreak support team will be reviewing the details of providers where the resident vaccination levels re care homes fall below the SAGE requirements (90%)
- Providers identified can expect to be contacted to discuss the measures that have been put in place to support with the vaccination process, and the MCA process that has been followed for those residents who lack capacity.

Recommended reading

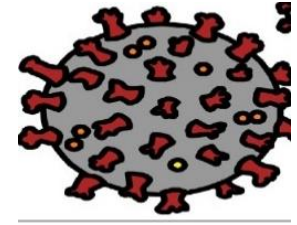
- Essex Chambers' *Rapid Response Guidance Note: Vaccination and Mental Capacity* [39 Essex Chambers | Rapid Response Guidance Note: Vaccination and Mental Capacity | 39 Essex Chambers | Barristers' Chambers](#)
- [COVID-19: the green book, chapter 14a - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)"
- " It is increasingly clear that being vaccinated serves to lower the risk of onward transmission, even if, in most cases, the primary benefit is to the person themselves. The picture continues to evolve and professionals should keep themselves abreast of the developments via Chapter 14 of the Green book "
- [Government Guidance Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): looking after people who lack mental capacity](#)
- [Mental Capacity Act Code of Practice - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Key messages from Judge Hayden, Vice President of the Court of Protection

“Evaluating capacity on this single and entirely fact specific issue is unlikely to be a complex or overly sophisticated process when undertaken, for example, by experienced GPs and with the assistance of family members or care staff who know P well”

“there is a strong draw towards vaccination as likely to be in the best interests of [the person]. However, this will not always be the case, nor even presumptively so”

“When an issue arises as to whether a care home resident should receive the vaccination, the matter should be brought before the court expeditiously, if it is not capable of speedy resolution by agreement. This is not only a question of risk assessment, it is an obligation to protect P's autonomy.”



Managing Restrictions under COVID -19 Task & Finish Group

Multiagency group informing local guidance

Feedback from meeting held 14th July



Mandatory vaccination of care home staff (& other care staff)

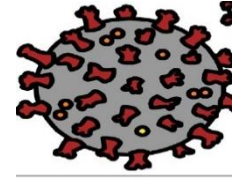
- Questions about the human rights
- Varying levels of uptake of the vaccination by staff . Not about 'educating' staff, more about personal views .
- Staff already resigning or expected to - concner about the impact,
- People who use services concerned if staff refuse to be vaccinated

Vaccination of people who use services

- Concern raised about parental influence
- Nasal spray version of the vaccination can't come soon enough
- Clinically vulnerable unvaccinated people at risk as restrictions lifted

Testing

- Need national guidance updated for staff in care settings
- Harder to motivate staff to carry out regular testing
- Dom care providers communicating with families s about testing



Managing COVID -19 Guidance Task & Finish Group - New name!

- **Next meeting – TBC** depending on publication of updated guidance
- **Contact** cate.short@lancashire.gov.uk for joining instructions & to submit agenda items

Care Capacity Tracker Update

Ian Crabtree

Transition update

- Started on 17th June for Residential Providers
- The process has run smoothly so far and that is down to your support and co-operation.
- If you are still yet to transition please try to make yourself available for the timeslots agreed, you can have more than one person registered as a back up!

Progress:

Residential Providers

- We have contacted 388 of the 392 providers on our call rota, of those...
 - 337 have transitioned to in put in to NECS
 - 21 have appointments booked with an advisor to walk them through the process and answer questions, one appointment can pick up a number of providers under the same organisation.
 - 12 are not ready to move to self inputting into NECS and will be offered the opportunity to transition in the next couple of months.

Transition update

- Those Provider that have transitioned can you please remember to:
 - Update NECS daily
 - If you data has not changed please still go in to NECS and press 'save' to register your update

Please note that our Customer Access Team will be reviewing the up take frequency and contacting provider who have not up dated for 3 days or more to offer support if needed.

ICF Grant – as with previous grant funding, in order to be eligible for the grant you need to be regularly updating NECS

Transition update

- **Community Providers:**

- All providers are either updating Oracle themselves or receiving a call on an Monday or Thursday.
- The Customer Access Team continue to monitor the returns and contact providers on Tuesdays and Fridays to offer support.
- We are continuing to work with NECS to determine how we might support community providers to only input to NECS in the future and will keep you informed of any progress on this

Thank You

This transition has happened quickly and smoothly, so far, and that is thanks to you and your commitment to keep information and data flowing.

IPC/ Testing Update

Ellen Smith

IPC Update

- Incident/single case update
- July 19 easing of restrictions.

Single Case/Incident Update

- 1) The resident or staff member should isolate immediately. If identified via LFD test alone, a PCR test should also be undertaken.
- 2) Identified contacts should isolate in line with existing guidance.
- 3) Outbreak measures (including restricted visiting) are not necessarily needed unless indicated by risk assessment.
- 4) Daily staff LFD testing for 7 days should be started.
- 5) *There is no longer a requirement for whole home PCR testing at day 0 or for recovery PCR testing on day 14 for incidents (unless a local risk assessment states otherwise)*

July 19 – Easing of restrictions

- In care homes, the Government will lift restrictions that limit each resident to five named visitors.
- Specific guidance will advise how visits should be conducted to keep care homes safe whilst also making visits as normal as possible - awaiting guidance.
- Care homes will need to retain infection prevention and control measures essential to protecting residents from the risk of infection.

Reference

- [COVID-19 Response: Summer 2021 - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk)
(www.gov.uk)

Testing Updates

- [COVID-19 testing available for adult social care in England: a summary \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) testing for adult social care settings - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Testing in Adult Care Homes

- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) testing in adult care homes](#)
- 'Care home COVID-19 testing guidance for regular and outbreak testing of staff and residents' and 'COVID-19 testing schedule for a suspected or confirmed outbreak in a care home' have been updated to reflect that policy for responding to the Delta variant (first identified in India) in care homes has now changed. As has been the case for the Alpha variant (first identified in Kent) cases since May 2021, for outbreaks involving the Delta variant, end of outbreak testing can now be undertaken 14 days (previously 28) after the most recent positive case. All positive cases should be treated as the Delta variant, unless proven otherwise. Updated on 7th July

AOB

Ellen Smith

Provider Forum Dates

Learning Disability and Autism Provider Forum

- Next meeting will be arranged for early September

Mental Health Provider Forum

- Next meeting will be arranged for early August

Lancashire Care Provider Forum

- Thursday 14th October 2-4pm

Homecare Market

- As part of the Commissioning Team's Engagement and Market Shaping role we want to start conversations with our Homecare market about the current challenges that they are facing.
- The plan is to send a questionnaire/ survey out to relevant providers as a starting point.
- Further details to follow.

Commissioning Engagement Strategy

- Work is ongoing re developing our stakeholder engagement approach to inform commissioning activity and market shaping.
- Internal survey complete.
- NHS survey live.
- Care provider survey in development; likely to go on end of July.

Staffing Contingency Planning

- Community transmission in Lancashire is still relatively high, especially in education settings, therefore this is impacting on staffing numbers due to staff having to isolate.
- Now would be a good time to relook at your staffing contingency plans to plan for staff shortages, especially over the summer months due to staff annual leave.
- Staff socialising together is also resulting in significant numbers of staff isolating at once, reducing staffing numbers.
- It would be beneficial to raise this with staff

Next steps

- The next webinar will take place on Friday 6th August at 1pm, we are now delivering the webinar every three weeks.
- We now have a permanent joining link for our webinars
- The recording from today will be shared on the portal – [link](#)
- Review and respond to any queries/questions, as appropriate

Thank you!