

Adult Social Care Provider Webinar

Friday 8th April 2022

Welcome and Introductions

Ian Crabtree

Purpose of webinar: Key messages and national and local updates

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 Update (Ian Crabtree)
- Future proposals for Provider Engagement – This is the final “Covid-19” webinar in the current format and we will be moving towards a new engagement structure in future (Ian Crabtree)
- Finance Update (Ian Crabtree)
- Vaccination Update (Ian Crabtree)
- Managing Covid Guidance Task and Finish Group Update (Cate Short)

Today's Agenda

- IPC Update (Tanya Shaw)
- Malcolm Ions (UCLAN) Medicines Optimisation Tool for Care Homes
- AOB (Kieran Curran)
- Wrap-up

National Update

Ian Crabtree

Care Settings Update – Testing

Eligibility for free testing applies to:

- Care homes and homecare organisations if they are regulated by the CQC.
- Extra care and supported living settings if they meet one of the following criteria:
 - The setting is a closed community with substantial facilities shared between multiple people
 - Is a setting where the majority of residents (more than 50%) receive the kind of personal care that is CQC-regulated (rather than help with cooking, cleaning and shopping)
 - If a setting meets both criteria above, it is classified as a 'high-risk extra care and supported living setting'.
- Day care centres if they are run by paid care staff. Services must be for adults over 18 and must be provided within non-residential care settings that support the health and wellbeing of adults.

Care Settings Update – Testing

Asymptomatic staff testing

- Staff should conduct 2 LFD tests per week, taking them before they begin work, spaced 3 to 4 days apart.
- This also applies to staff who provide care and support to the individual they live with, for example, live-in carers.
- Care homes enrolled in the Vivaldi study may be asked to undertake additional asymptomatic testing to support ongoing research and surveillance in the sector.

Care Settings Update – Testing

Symptomatic testing for staff and residents

- If an individual experiences any of the main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), they should immediately take a LFD test as soon as they develop symptoms and take another LFD test 48 hours after the first test.
- Symptomatic staff should stay away from work and conduct the LFD test at home. Staff can come into work if both LFD test results are negative and medically fit to do so.
- Symptomatic residents should be isolated immediately and tested, as above, with LFDs. Residents can stop self-isolating if both LFD tests are negative.
- Please note: From Monday 4th April, the main symptoms have been widened. Information [available here](#).

Care Settings Update – Testing

Rapid response testing in care homes and high-risk extra care and supported living

- If an individual (staff or resident) receives a positive result (from any test) in a care home, adult day care centre, or high-risk extra care and supported living setting, all staff should conduct daily rapid LFD testing every day that they are working, for 5 days.
- Only staff working in the setting over the rapid response testing period need to be tested; those not working during this period do not need to be tested.
- Staff should not go into work to get tested on their non-working days.

Care Settings Update – Testing

Outbreak testing in care homes

- An outbreak consists of two or more positive (or clinically suspected) linked cases of COVID-19 that occur in the same setting within a 14-day period. This applies to both staff and residents, and includes PCR and LFD results.
- If an outbreak is suspected, the manager should contact the IPC team, who will conduct a risk assessment, including establishing whether cases are likely to be linked.
- If the setting is advised to initiate whole home outbreak testing, then:
 - All staff and residents should conduct both an LFD test and a PCR test on day 1 of the outbreak, and another LFD test and PCR test between days 4 and 7.
 - The LFD test will enable staff to identify and isolate the most infectious cases whilst awaiting PCR results, reducing the risk of the virus spreading.

Care Settings Update – Testing

- The LFD test will allow you to identify and isolate the most infectious cases immediately whilst awaiting PCR results, therefore reducing the risk of the virus spreading.
- Most visitors to adult social care settings will no longer require a test.
- Tests will continue to be provided to a small number of visitors (Essential Care Givers) to care homes and hospices who are providing personal care.
- Essential Care Givers will be asked to test up to twice weekly when Covid prevalence is high and will receive free tests to do this. When Covid prevalence is low, they will not be expected to test.
- Visits by people with symptoms may still be allowed in exceptional circumstances, such as end of life visits.
- Everyone should follow the [simple steps to keep themselves and others safe](#) as outlined in the 'Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19' guidance.

Care Settings Update

Staff Movement

- There is no longer a requirement to restrict the movement of care staff between settings from 4th April.
- Staff movement still carries a risk and there may be circumstances where providers are asked to limit staff movement by the local Director of Public Health or the IPC team – for example, if there is high prevalence of COVID-19 locally or in the event of an outbreak.
- Staff are advised to continue to take part in their service's regular testing regime to minimise the spread of COVID-19 and to receive COVID-19 vaccines and boosters as soon as they become eligible.

Care Settings

Links to relevant guidance

- [COVID-19 supplement to the infection prevention and control resource for adult social care - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-supplement-to-the-infection-prevention-and-control-resource-for-adult-social-care)
- [COVID-19 testing in adult social care - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-testing-in-adult-social-care)
- [Infection prevention and control in adult social care settings - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/infection-prevention-and-control-in-adult-social-care-settings)
- <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/main-symptoms/>
- <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-coronavirus-restrictions-what-you-can-and-cannot-do>

Care Settings

- If you have any queries regarding the latest guidance please contact the Care Settings Intervention Team via the contract management mailbox:
- contractmgmt.care@lancashire.gov.uk

Provider Engagement Future Proposals

- This is the final “Covid-19” webinar (the first was held on March 20th 2020).
- The webinars will now be replaced by our new engagement structure which will consist of more sector-led forums.
- Communications will be sent out about this in the near future.

During our consultation with providers on 'Engagement' during 2021 they said:

Covid webinar seen as useful but sometimes content not relevant to all sectors

More co-production needed. Treat as partners.

Need to discuss a fair cost of care

Regular provider forums that outline and consult on commissioning priorities so that providers can keep pace with any service models required locally.

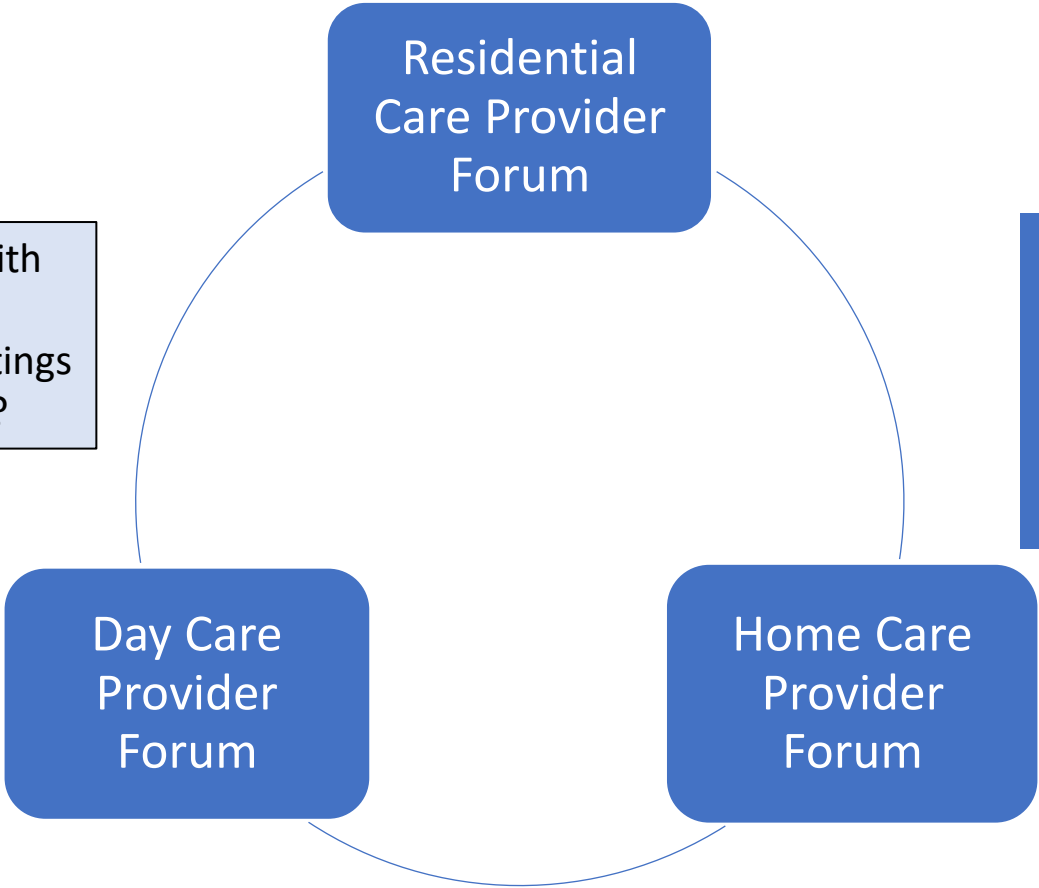
More engagement and interaction via webinars; meaningful and regular discussion re: market shaping and development

General engagement and information sharing, but also regular topic/service-specific forums where we can all talk to each other

Provider Webinar

To meet once per year or every 6 months – ‘State of the Nation’

Further discussion with NHS colleagues re Regulated Care Meetings to join this structure?



Quarterly meetings with Commissioners / Contract managers. Standard Agenda plus add-ins e.g. Assistive Tech, Sector related issues

Finance Update

Ian Crabtree

Grant Funding

The grant funding period ended on 31 March 2022, for all of the funding streams. There has been no further funding announced.

Grant Funding – Infection Control, Testing and Vaccinations

- The final reports are due now, showing the total spend between 1 October 2021 and 31 March 2022
- Reporting is due 11 April 2022 AT THE ABSOLUTE LATEST
- A report is needed for each of the funding streams, so if you have accepted Infection Control, Testing and Vaccination we will need three reports, which can all be accessed on the same e-from
- There were some technical issues with the e-from last week but these have now been resolved

Grant Funding – Omicron

- Omicron funding was announced in January. We are required to submit a report to government which confirms the funding has been fully utilised in line with the grant conditions
- If you spent your full allocation in line with the conditions, please tick the box at the bottom of the infection control e-form to confirm. *You only need to submit this once*
- We expect that this grant will have been fully utilised as it was provided to further support the sector at a time when cases were high
- However, if you have not spent the funding in full please contact Contract Management and repayment can be arranged

Grant Funding – Workforce Recruitment and Retention Round 1

- This funding was allocated to CQC registered care homes and to CQC registered homecare framework providers
- The final reports are due now, showing the total spend between 10 December 2021 and 31 March 2022
- Reporting is due 22 April 2022 **AT THE ABSOLUTE LATEST**
- Select the 'Workforce Recruitment and Retention Fund – Round 1' form from the drop down selection at the top of the page

Grant Funding – Workforce Recruitment and Retention Round 2

- This funding was applied as an uplift and should have been used to provide an increase to staff wages
- The final reports are due now, showing the total spend between 3 January and 31 March 2022 (6 December 2021 and 31 March 2022 for homecare framework providers)
- The total allocation is not included on the report, please complete the form with your total spend
- Select the 'Workforce Recruitment and Retention Fund – Round 2' form from the drop down selection at the top of the page
- If you have any queries about the uplifts please email carehomefinance@lancashire.gov.uk
- Care home providers have received the funding as a separate payment and this will not have shown on your remittance. Payment reference starts WRK FC

Grant Funding – Reminders

- If you have previously submitted reports showing you have spent your full allocation, you are still required to submit a final report
- It is possible to report spend above your allocation on the e-forms. Please ensure you report your actual spend
- Any reported underspend will need to be repaid in line with the grant conditions. Invoices will be issued from 1 May 2022
- You have only successfully submitted a return when you receive the submission reference. Once you press submit you will be automatically taken to the screen that confirms the submission has been successful and the reference number is provided. You will also receive a copy of this reference via email
- Links to all the reporting forms are available from contractmgmt.care@lancashire.gov.uk

If you have any queries about the funding or require support completing the forms, please contact Sarah Latham at contractmgmt.care@lancashire.gov.uk

Grant Funding – Paying Staff for Isolating

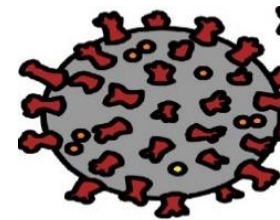
- We have received questions from providers about this issue so it's worth mentioning that:
- As there is no funding now available to support providers to pay staff their full salary when required to isolate, the only requirement is to pay statutory sick pay

Vaccination Update

Ian Crabtree

Vaccination Care Settings Update

- Vaccination as a condition of deployment (VCOD) is no longer a legal requirement for health and social care settings. To minimise risk to people who receive care and support, health and social care providers should:
- Continue to encourage and support staff to get a COVID-19 vaccine and a booster dose when they are eligible, as well a vaccine for seasonal influenza. Putting in place arrangements to facilitate staff access to vaccinations, and regularly reviewing the immunisation status of their workforce in line with immunisation against infectious disease ('the Green Book').
- Undertake risk assessments taking into account the COVID-19 vaccination status of staff and the people they care for.
- All eligible staff can continue to book a COVID-19 vaccination online via the national booking service or a walk-in centre.



Managing COVID -19 Guidance Task & Finish Group

Multiagency group informing local guidance

Feedback from
meeting held
April 5th 2022





HM Government



Main issues & outcomes

Government COVID Guidance

- Guidance on Care Home Visiting, Supported Living and People Clinically Extremely Vulnerable. Most of the guidance has been withdrawn and replaced with [Infection prevention and control: resource for adult social care](#) & [Infection prevention and control in adult social care: COVID-19 supplement](#). Next meeting on 12th April to look in more detail at these



Local COVID guidance

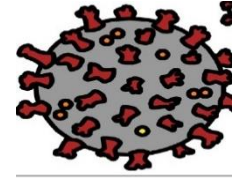
- Guidance on accompanying people admitted to hospital & restrictions on visiting is inconsistent between hospitals and wards Further examples have been brought to the group. Contact has been made with LeDeR rep and issues will be raised at the Lancashire & South Cumbria LeDeR Steering Group. Please examples send to cate.short@lancashire.gov.uk



Recruitment issues

- Ongoing concern. ICS planning recruitment event 5th July. ADASS looking at international recruitment, and Skills for Care to do one-day sessions. Matthew Errington NW Skills for Care very helpful. Have been events in Blackpool and Manchester, and Job Centres doing sessions.





Managing COVID -19 Guidance Task & Finish Group

- Thank you to members of the group for your contributions and commitment



Next meeting

Tues 12th April 3.00 pm

- Contact cate.short@lancashire.gov.uk for joining instructions & to submit agenda items

IPC Update

Tanya Shaw

Admissions

- Residents admitted from the community or another care setting should take a PCR test within the 72 hours before they're admitted (or a lateral flow test if they have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 90 days) and a lateral flow test on the day of admission (day 0).
- These tests should be provided by the care home. If an individual tests positive on either of these tests and continues to be admitted to the care home, they should be isolated on arrival.

Discharge

- PCR within 48 hours prior to discharge. If positive in previous 90 days then an LFD will be taken.
- Test result will be shared.
- If the test is positive, they can still be admitted to the home IF the home is satisfied they can be cared for safely.
- Isolate for 10 days and follow the guidance below on care home residents who are symptomatic or positive.
- New government guidance published March 31st:

[COVID-19 supplement to the infection prevention and control resource for adult social care - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/covid-19-supplement-to-the-infection-prevention-and-control-resource-for-adult-social-care)

Discharge

- Care home residents should not be required to self-isolate when discharged back to the care home following an admission into hospital, subject to a negative PCR or lateral flow test.
- Residents will still need to self-isolate for 10 days if they have been discharged from a part of hospital where there is an active outbreak.

PPE

- Guidance changes since 1st April.
- In relation to PPE, please follow this guidance:

[Infection Prevention and Control in Adult Social Care Covid-19 Supplement](#) which states that face masks should be worn by all care workers and visitors in care settings and when providing care in people's own homes, irrespective of whether the person being cared for is known or suspected to have COVID-19 or not.

Visitors

- Every care home resident should have one visitor who can visit in all circumstances (including during periods of isolation and outbreak). End-of-life visits should always be facilitated.
- Only visitors providing personal care should test before visiting. They will not need to test more than twice a week.

Visiting professionals

- NHS staff should provide evidence of a negative test within the last 72 hours.
- CQC inspectors should test before their inspection, up to a maximum of twice a week if they are in care settings 2 times or more a week.
- Other professionals should be tested with tests provided by the care home if they are providing personal care as per guidance for visitors providing personal care.

Booster Vaccination

The IPC team have been made aware of difficulties in health care professionals entering care homes to administer the COVID-19 spring booster vaccinations. Although during outbreaks care homes are encouraged to minimise non-essential footfall, in line with the guidance these visits are classed as essential and anyone eligible to receive the fourth vaccine should be assisted to receive this in a timely manner.

[A guide to the spring booster for those aged 75 years and older and older residents in care homes - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/spring-boosters-for-care-homes)

IPC Update

- [Summary of Changes](#)
- If you have any queries, please email the IPC Team:
infectionprevention@lancashire.gov.uk



University of
Central Lancashire
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Medicines Optimisation Tool for Care Homes (MOT-CH) - Update 1

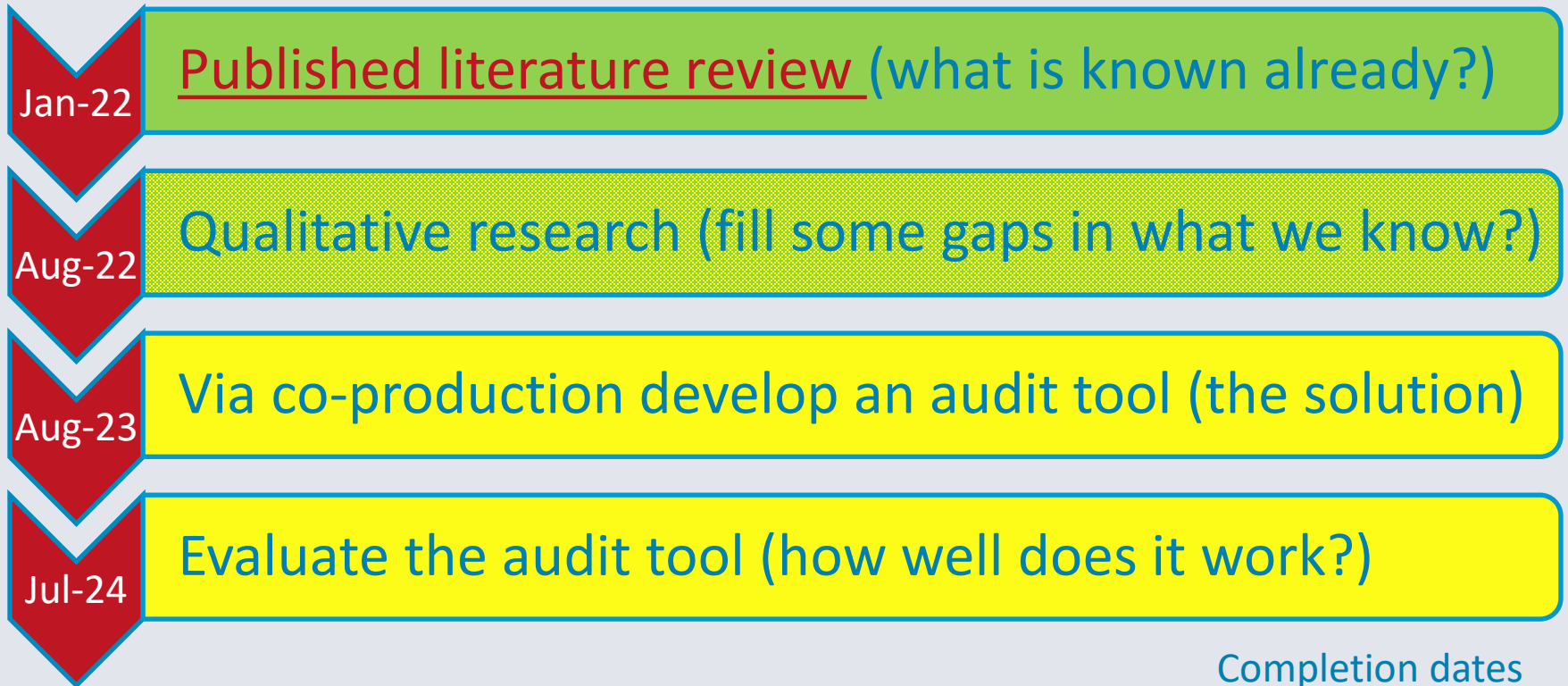
Malcolm Irons

Part-time PhD student

CQC Pharmacist Specialist

Where opportunity creates success

Overall study plan



Progress to date

- **General** Following stakeholder feedback a few amendments were made to the study documents and approved through the research and ethics processes
- **Locality 1** Study launched 23 March 2022, to date services contacted (x6)
 - Declined (x2)
 - Provided contact details & no further contact (x2)
 - Provided study pack, response by Friday 8th (x2)
- **Locality 2** Stakeholder engagement completed, briefings for newsletters provided, loose ends to finalise, delayed due to leave & sickness
- **Locality 3** Stakeholder engagement underway, delayed due to leave & sickness.

Next steps

- **Locality 1** Continue to contact care homes in clusters, to schedule calls to explain the research, following agreement to participate obtain consent from care home owners and registered managers to schedule and undertake phase one interviews
- **Locality 2** Apply the learning from locality one, phase one participant identification centre agreements circulated and agreed. Anticipating contacting first cluster of care homes late April 2022
- **Locality 3** Conclude stakeholder engagement, apply the learning from localities one and two. Anticipating contacting first cluster of care homes late April 2022 / early May.

Question for managers?

Best way to contact the manager, explain the study and invite them to participate?

Thank you for your time

Any questions? Please email

Mr Malcolm Irons

Prof Andrea Manfrin

mwirons@uclan.ac.uk amanfrin@uclan.ac.uk

AOB

Kieran Curran

Update for all Capacity Tracker users

- Department of Health and Social Care's (DHSC) Capacity Tracker data collection will continue in 2022/23. Following a review with provider groups, Care Quality Commission and local government there will be the following changes:
 - Removing many infection control fund and flu vaccination questions
 - Reducing frequency of workforce and COVID-19 vaccination questions to weekly
 - Adding a field for second booster where relevant
- Further reviews will focus on improving questions on workforce, visiting and maximising its value to providers. Relevant users should have received more detail direct, already. If you haven't, please [email the CT team](#).

CQC Social Care Webinars now online

- The Care Quality Commission have posted the recordings from their recent social care webinars on their new regulatory and inspections model
- Videos are posted on CQC's YouTube channel
- Watch [part one](#) and [part two](#) which includes the CQC's Q&A with attendees

#CelebratingSocial Care

- Throughout April, [Skills for Care will be celebrating](#) the dedicated and skilled work of everyone in the sector
- Use [#CelebratingSocialCare](#) to get involved online
- Skills for Care will be posting blogs and articles across their website and other communications channels, sharing good news stories from the sector as well as stories of innovation and learning and development through the pandemic.
- More information on the campaign and how to get involved can be found at: www.skillsforcare.org.uk/CelebratingSocialCare

Thank You

- [The recording from today will be shared on the portal](#)
- We will review and respond to any queries/questions, as appropriate