

Department of Health and Wellbeing

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Date: 12 November 2020

Dear Direct Payment/Personal Health Budget Recipient,

Staying safe and receiving safe care: things you might like to know

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

I am writing to you as you receive care in your own home. I am aware that as infection rates rise in the Bradford District you may be concerned about the risk involved in receiving care. I thought it would be helpful to set out the infection control measures you can expect from your care worker or Personal Assistant if they are within 2 metres (or 6 feet) of you and carrying out personal care tasks.

Personal care involves tasks like:

- help with washing including washing your hair
- help with going to the toilet
- help with getting dressed
- help with brushing your teeth
- applying creams or lotions

If your care worker is from a homecare agency they should come into your home already wearing PPE. This includes:

- gloves
- a face mask
- an apron

If your care worker is a Personal Assistant employed by you, they should wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water or hand sanitiser when they arrive at your home, and then put on the PPE kept in your home for them to use before they start assisting you.

If they are undertaking a care task that involves water splashing such as helping you shower or bathe then they should also wear a transparent face shield or goggles.

I have included with this letter a simple guide that tells you what your care worker or Personal Assistant should be wearing when they care for you. If they are not doing what they are supposed to do e.g. not wearing a mask then you should ask them to do so. If you have any concerns or questions about the information in this letter then you can ring Bradford Council's Support Options Team on 01274 434191 for some help and advice.

If you are receiving support from a homecare agency, then the homecare agency will supply their care workers with PPE.

If your care worker is a Personal Assistant and your health or support plan does not include the purchase of PPE and you need a supply of PPE, for Bradford Council funded Direct Payments please contact the Support Options Team who will arrange an order to be delivered to you (Tel 01274 434191 or email dp@bradford.gov.uk). If you have a Personal Health Budget please contact Bradford District and Craven CCG by email to discuss your PPE requirements (c.healthcare@nhs.net)

Flu vaccinations

Bradford District's health services are providing free flu vaccinations to protect those most at risk from flu to keep people well and ease pressure on urgent care services.

The vaccinations are particularly important this year with the added threat of Covid-19. Those people at high risk from Covid-19 are the same people at high risk from flu.

Please contact your GP surgery or community pharmacy to find out more information about how to get a flu vaccination.

Covid-19 information for Direct Payment/Personal Health Budget recipients

To ensure you have up to date information and guidance about Covid-19 and personal budgets please visit the DP Zone on Bradford and District Connect to Support website, the website can be found at: <https://bradford.connecttosupport.org/direct-payment-zone/>

Yours sincerely,



Jane Wood
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Department of Health and Wellbeing