

PROFESSIONALS VISITING CARE HOMES

Council Staff	Are they regularly tested?	Which test and how often?
Social Workers	Yes	LFTs, twice weekly
Commissioners	Only doing visits in exceptional circumstances, must take LFT prior to any visit to a care home	N/A
DOLS	Yes	LFTs, twice weekly
CCOs	Yes	LFTs, twice weekly
Safeguarding Team	Yes	LFTs, twice weekly
Best Interest Assessors	Yes	LFTs, twice weekly
Advocates (Voiceability)	Yes	LFTs, twice weekly
Moving and Handling Advisors	Yes	PCR test, weekly
BACES	Yes	PCR, weekly and LFTs, twice weekly

Health Professionals	Are they regularly tested?	Which test and how often?
Doctors	Yes (if part of NHS)	LFTs, twice weekly
Dentists	Yes (if part of NHS)	LFTs, twice weekly
Opticians	No	N/A
Community Pharmacies (Due to working week tests may be outside the 72 hours)	Yes	LFTs, twice weekly
Community/District Nurses	Yes	2 LFT and 1 PCR weekly for those nursing staff visiting care homes.
Community Physios	Yes (if part of NHS)	LFTs, twice weekly
Occupational Therapists	Yes (if part of NHS)	LFTs, twice weekly

Others	Are they regularly tested?	Which test and how often?
Police Officers	Yes	LFTs, twice weekly
Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS)	Yes	LFTs, twice weekly
Funeral Directors	Depends on each business	N/A
CQC Inspectors	Yes	PCR test, weekly

Further Information

Lateral Flow Testing advice for staff not on a testing regime

Please be aware that any local authority staff who do not receive regular Covid-19 testing and who, as part of their work, need to visit a care setting, must undertake a lateral flow test prior to their visit and not expect the care setting to undertake this.

To access a LFD test, please click here for the options:

<https://www.bradford.gov.uk/health/health-advice-and-support/coronavirus-testing-in-bradford-district/>

Community Testing is available from the two following sites:

St George's Hall, Bradford, BD1 1JY

Monday to Sunday, 9.30am to 5pm

Airedale Shopping Centre, Keighley, BD21 3QQ

Monday to Saturday, 9.15am to 4.30pm. Sundays 10am to 4.15pm.

Yorkshire Ambulance Service

In terms of this recent guidance we understand that for emergency visits such as a 999 response, it is not appropriate to ask for or provide proof of a negative lateral flow test (LFT) before entry to a care home, given the potential delay this could cause and the implications for prompt management of an emergency situation.

We request that YAS staff attending care homes, in response to a 999 call, will not be expected to provide evidence of their LFT results prior to entry to ensure the timeliness of patient care. We have informed our A&E Operations staff of the exception and we hope care homes will make their staff similarly aware. Where we are required to attend for planned care, such as non-emergency Patient Transport Service (PTS), we have advised staff of the requirements in the new national guidance and the expectation that staff will need to provide evidence of a recent negative test result, or to be tested prior to entry to the care home.

The 90-day window

Professionals who have recently tested positive for COVID-19 using a PCR test should not be retested within 90 days unless they develop new symptoms. This means that some professionals will not need to be tested regularly because they will still fall into this 90-day window.

These professionals should use evidence of their positive PCR result to show that they are currently exempt from testing until the 90-day period is over. Once the 90-day period is over, professionals should then continue to follow their relevant testing regime.