

Covid-19 Testing – Provider Forum 21 May 2020 Key Discussion Points

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Key Discussion Points

- National testing framework and links to national and local processes
- Known challenges and current thinking
- Staff Testing Marley Fields – Retesting Programme
- Is this enough? What additional support is required?

NATIONAL & LOCAL TESTING FRAMEWORK

RESIDENTS

Do they have symptoms?

Yes



Request Test via
HPT (Michael
Horsley)

No



Whole Home
Testing – available
via National Care
Home Portal

Staff or Household Member

Do they have symptoms
requiring worker to isolate?

Yes



Manager Requests
Symptomatic
Worker Test via
Council Managed
Service for next day
testing at Marley
Fields

Or

Self referral via
National Portal for
National Test Site or
Home Kit Deliver

No



Manager Requests
Whole- Home Staff
Testing via Council
Managed Service for
collection of kits from
Marley Fields

Or

Manager Requests
Whole-Home testing
via National Care
Portal for direct
delivery



KNOWN CHALLENGES

- Delays in receiving kits via National portals – prioritisation by CQC may be impacting timing of requests e.g. protecting homes that are covid free, over 50 beds etc. (Further detail available). National issue being raised at relevant national forums.
- Delays in receiving results from tests – National lab services overwhelmed and some tests lost in the system – National issue being raised at relevant national forums.
- Staff do not want test for fear of resorting to SSP payments – How are care homes approaching this?
- Care home does not want staff tests for fear of impact on workforce where positive results are returned. How can LA support? Access to staff banks etc.
- Timing for testing of residents and staff at the same time due to different processes. – Pushing for local level residents testing arrangements without compromising national supply levels
- Keeping records of all staff and residents who have been tested – where referrals are made via Council central team all records maintained centrally. National referrals will rely on managers maintaining records locally.
- One off testing not sufficient – Plans being developed for re-testing for staff on 2/3 week cycle
- Any other challenges?

Marley Fields Satellite Test Centre – current use and plans for re-testing.

- 342 key workers or family members with SYMPTOMS tested since 12 April 2020
- 1300 care home staff without symptoms tested since 3 May 2020
- Circa 1% positive results return of those tested (data reliant on return of results to central team by managers)
- Positive feedback on process from circa 40 care homes currently using the Care Home test pick up process. Overall time from request to receipt of kit can be within 24 hours where required.
- Re-test programme now being developed for participating care homes e.g. current 1300 staff tested will be offered a re-test within next 2 weeks – supporting plans to keep homes virus free
- Capacity for 220 tests per day – increased capacity may be available based on evidenced local need and where this does not compromise national supply levels.

OPEN QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

- Is this enough?
- Where are the gaps?
- How else can the Council support you?
- Keeping you updated – How?