

For more information on the Council's current position, in respect of Covid 19 please use this website: [CLICK HERE](#) Please ensure any information you consult is from a reliable source, including the NHS, or Public Health England.

PROVIDER BULLETIN

Tuesday 4 August 2020



Infection
Control

FUTURE PLANNING OF PPE SUPPLY JULY 2020

In order to urgently build a better picture of PPE use and expenditure, and a more robust supply network for the future, DHSC have asked that we circulate a document and template (see the **Provider Zone**), with a request for urgent response. DHSC have acknowledged and apologised for the extremely short return date of **Friday 7 August**.

NEW ILLUSTRATED GUIDE TO PPE FOR COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL CARE SETTINGS

Public Health England have produced a new illustrated guide to PPE for care workers which is [available here](#).

This is a useful resource for helping to interpret and communicate the existing guidance.

This guidance is relevant to Home Support staff and those working in extra-care and supported living settings and should be read in conjunction with any local policies.

Live-in carers, who only provide care to the person that they live with, are considered to be a member of the household and should, therefore, follow [publicly available](#) guidance and use PPE as per standard infection prevention and control guidance (see question 26 of the [domiciliary care PPE guidance](#)).



NATIONAL GUIDANCE UPDATES

- **COVID-19: management of staff and exposed patients and residents in health and social care settings:** Guidance on the management of staff, patients and residents who have been exposed to COVID-19.
- **COVID-19: guidance for stepdown of infection control precautions within hospitals and discharging COVID-19 patients from hospital to home settings:** Advice on appropriate infection prevention and control (IPC) precautions for stepdown in hospital or discharge to home or residential settings.
- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) illustrated guide for community and social care settings:** This resource outlines personal protective equipment (PPE) advice for health and social care workers working in the community.
- **Visiting care homes during coronavirus:** Guidance for making arrangements for limited visits for care homes with the support of their director of public health.

Press Release: Health and care workers to self-isolate on return to England from high-risk countries:

Registered health and care professionals travelling to the England from high-risk countries will be required to self-isolate for 14 days, the government has confirmed.



URGENT UPDATE ON TESTING

See the [Provider Zone](#) for attachments.



Please note that this is an update of the information outlined in the Provider bulletin on 30 July

Please find attached letter from DHSC which sets out some further details explaining that there are delays with accessing testing kits to support the continuation of routine testing (weekly for staff and every 28 days for residents) for eligible care homes (Over 65's and those with dementia). The update states that the government is hopeful that all care homes who are eligible will have a sufficient supply of kits delivered to them by 7 September. If you have already registered for re-testing then DHSC will contact you directly to update you on the changes to any delivery dates and you should therefore regularly check your emails or updates via the care portal.

If you do not already have a sufficient supply of testing kits on site to continue to undertake your regular testing regime until 7 September then additional capacity has been agreed locally and the Marley Stadium supply will be re-directed to bridge any gaps in the numbers you require until you receive your next delivery via the national portal. The referral form for a "bulk collection" of kits is attached for your information and you should complete this and send it back to the central team at covid19.stafftesting@bradford.gov.uk. This should be completed in advance of you "running out" of your supply of kits and the earlier the better to avoid any spike's in demand that cannot be accommodated. E.g. if you have sufficient supply to last until week commencing 17 August and you will then need to continue to undertake weekly testing of staff from the week after then we need to know that now so that we can allocate your tests in advance. You should complete the form stating how many tests you need to complete your staff testing each week and then complete a separate form for residents to include date next test is due and number of tests required. We will continue to provide you with the weekly and monthly allocations until you confirm that you have received confirmation of a delivery date for your next tranche of testing via the national care portal.

It is the responsibility of each care home to ensure that they are able to maintain their regular testing regimes in accordance with government policy and you are therefore encouraged to use the local facility for testing to help keep your home Covid free and continue to provide assurances for staff, residents and family members during these challenging circumstances.

If you meet the eligibility criteria but have not had any success in accessing tests via the national portal then you should discuss this as a matter of urgency with your dedicated liaison officer so that we can support you with on-going capacity until your issue is fully resolved and you are able to access the national supply.

OTHER ADULT CARE HOMES

If you are classified as "other adult care home" e.g. Mental health, Learning Disability or Physical Disability then please note that the attached letter provides some positive news confirming that you will be able to register to access the national regular testing programme from 31 August. As a result of needing to direct local testing capacity to our care homes with over 65's & dementia (priority 1 cohort) we may not have sufficient capacity to offer the same regular testing arrangement during the next 4 to 6 weeks until the national picture is more stable. If we are currently supporting your care home with regular testing arrangements at Marley Stadium then we are aiming to continue with this commitment wherever we can, however this will be subject to weekly demands from the priority 1 cohort and we may have to get in touch with you to make alternative arrangements. If you have a specific need as a result of an outbreak in your care home then you should continue to manage this through notification to our local health protection team as per the fact sheet attached.

If you have not yet accessed the local testing arrangement for regular testing and believe you have an urgent need ahead of the planned rollout of supply via the national arrangements from 31 August, the team will be happy to discuss your requirements with you in further detail and will seek to offer solutions where possible in line with the national testing framework and the capacity we have available to us at a local level and you can't speak to a member of the team on 01274 437070.

DHSC CARE HOME TESTING UPDATES



DHSC are pleased to share their regular coronavirus testing update for care home managers.

This regular update will keep you informed of important announcements and updated guidance from the National Testing Programme.

To view, see the **Provider Zone**.



COVID-19 SUPPORT WEBINARS

Tuesday 11 August 2020. 11:30 – 12:00

GROWING YOUR STAFF TO EASE YOUR WORKLOAD

This webinar looks at how staff have stepped up to support managers in response to COVID-19 and how this has helped. It will also look at how to identify and develop your emerging talent to support new challenges, as well as what opportunities are there to develop your future managers. We will draw on examples from other managers and provide practical checklists and recommendations helping you to share the work and succession plan for the future.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6261314508466643213>

If you have any questions on a topic that you'd like to see raised during the webinar, please email events@skillsforcare.org.uk

These webinars are part of a series of recorded webinars on a variety of topics to assist managers to respond to the additional pressures of COVID-19. You can find all our recorded webinars on our www.skillsforcare.org.uk/COVID-19webinars

LINK CHAMPIONS TELEMEDS TRAINING

The next bite size training 'Basic Microbiology' will be on;

Tuesday 11 August at 1pm.



Joining details as follows:

1. Open Google Chrome (must be Google Chrome, not Google).
2. Enter <https://meet.medio.link> in to the address bar.
3. Enter BAWCTrainingRoom@medio.link in to the 'Person or conference to call' box.
4. When prompted, each individual who enters the "room" should enter their own name, and connect the call.
5. You are now in the Bradford, Airedale, Wharfedale and Craven virtual training room.

STATEMENT FROM THE UK CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICERS ON EXTENSION OF SELF-ISOLATION PERIOD: 30 JULY 2020:

The self-isolation period has been extended to 10 days for those in the community who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms or a positive test result.

BOOK FREE PLACES FOR YOUR CHILDREN TODAY!



Horton Community Farm are inviting local children to book up to 2 x FREE 1-off outdoor learning and play sessions on their site.

If your child/ren would like to come and join them on their site on Cecil Avenue allotments for some outdoor play and learning please complete the form by following the link below and they will book in places for them ASAP!

Sessions run from Mon 3rd August until Mon August 24th and run with 1 on Friday 14th August . Please see the Google form booking **link** here for more details!