

Social Care Visiting Guidance

Care Homes, Extra Care & Supported Living care settings reintroduction of visiting during COVID-19 pandemic

The easing of lockdown restrictions in the last few weeks by government and the reducing prevalence of COVID-19 in the community means providers can now consider how they can begin to open up to visitors in a safe way.

Care Provider Alliance have developed a useful [Visiting Protocol](#) that sets out how providers can approach the review of their visiting policy and procedures.

Key Considerations for Social Care Visiting:

- Current government guidance & restrictions- Ensure you continually review your visiting policy to ensure it takes account of the latest government guidance. [Shielding Guidance](#) is most relevant to the people supported by social care.
- Infection Prevention & Control- All policies and procedures should adhere to strict IPC measures and best practice. [Mike Horsley Links](#)
- MCA- Visiting policies and procedure should clearly state how a provider will obtain consent & approach best interest decisions.

MDT support- There maybe circumstances where complex best interest decisions may need to be made. Providers will be able to access support from the wider system to ensure a full MDT approach can be taken. Contact your Care Home Liaison Officer during office hours or Telemeds out of hours.

End of Life Visits- Providers should continue to support visiting at EoL as per current government guidance. [COVID19 Visiting at the EoL](#)

Virtual Visits- Sadly, it will not be possible for everyone to physically meet for a variety of reasons, shielding, ill health, proximity etc. Providers should continue to support virtual visits. Please see NHS Technology resources available for providers. [care@home newsletter 3/articles](#)

Family & Carer support- [Carers Resource](#) are available to provide support to friends or relatives who may be struggling at this time.

Hints & Tips- It is suggested that providers only consider implementing outdoor visits at present, in a carefully staged and managed approach. [Visiting Guidance for Adult Care Homes in Scotland](#) describes a staged approach to visiting. Every providers approach to visiting will slightly differ to take in to account the needs of the people they support and the environment. [Hints & Tips](#) document of best practice and ideas from fellow providers.

Resources- developed by Bradford Registered Managers Reference Group

[Resources – Risk Assessments](#)
[Visiting Risk Assessment](#)
[Individual Service User Risk Assessment](#)
[Resources – Standard Operating Procedures](#)
[Visiting Procedures](#)
[Manager Guidance](#)
[Staff Guidance](#)
[Flow Chart](#)
[Resources – Visitor Information](#)
[Visitors Guidance & Agreement](#)
[Easy Read Guidance](#)

