



Issue 14 – 1 December 2022

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The future of adult social care

Social care reform update

In the Autumn Budget Statement the Chancellor confirmed that the social care charging reforms due to be implemented in October 2023 will be delayed for two years. The £86,000 ‘Care Cap’ and metering towards this will not be implemented until October 2025.

Detail is yet to emerge regarding the future of other parts of the wider social care reform proposals. Leicestershire County Council continues to prepare to have a finalised Market Sustainability Plan ready for submission in February 2023 and is awaiting feedback from the Department of Health and Social Care on the interim plan and the Fair Cost of Care submission made in October this year.

It is anticipated that the CQC will commence its new duty to inspect Local Authority Social Care services from April 2023.

We will update you as further clarifications are released from Department of Health and Social Care.

Discharge Fund

The DHSC recently published details of the £500 million [Adult Social Care Discharge Fund](#), which was announced as part of [Our plan for patients](#) on 22 September.

The fund is designed to be used flexibly on the interventions that best enable the discharge of patients from hospital to the most appropriate location for their ongoing care. Funding will prioritise those approaches that are most effective in freeing up the maximum number of hospital beds and reducing bed days lost within the funding available, including from mental health inpatient settings. Discharge to Assess (D2A) and provision of home care is recognised as an effective option for discharging more people in a safe and timely manner. Funding can also be used to boost general adult social care workforce capacity, through staff recruitment and retention, where that will contribute to reducing delayed discharges.

More information will follow in the coming weeks.

Shared decision-making councils for social care nurses

The Chief Nurse for Adult Social Care, Deborah Sturdy, is working with colleagues at NHS England and across all 42 local Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) in England, to establish Shared Decision Making Councils (SDMCs).

The purpose of these councils is to help provide a better understanding of nursing in adult social care, as well as insight into the wider adult social care sector, to Directors of Nursing in ICBs.

Deborah Sturdy is seeking [expressions of interest from individuals](#) with an active nursing registration working in adult social care to become chairs of these new SDMCs. This is an exciting opportunity to inform local understanding and recognition of their profession and the wider sector.

Guidance and good practice

Reminder about pause of asymptomatic testing for staff and visitors to care homes

It is understood that some health care professionals are being refused access to care homes without a negative LFT. The [latest guidance](#) states that asymptomatic testing for staff and all visitors has been paused. Public Health confirms that there is no requirement for visitors including health professionals to show a proof of a negative LFT result.

Reminder of Safeguarding Matters live – 7 December

An online safeguarding briefing is taking place on 7 December, 9.30-12.00.

The aim of the briefing is to share information in relation to the Safeguarding of Children and Adults including procedure and guidance updates, resources to support practice and reflection on learning from reviews and audits.

There is no need to register – just join on the day [here](#).

Learning disability specialist training – error in Provider News 13

In [Provider News 13](#) an article was included about training for epilepsy medication and enteral feeding for staff working with adults who have a learning disability.

Please note that the changes stated are not related to the new Framework for Integrated Personalised Care (FIPC) and the training referred to is unrelated to training for delegated healthcare tasks currently provided through LPT.

LPT will be providing an update on training for administration of epilepsy medication or the provision of enteral feeding for staff working with adults who have a learning disability.

Controlled Drug Reporting website upgrade

The Controlled Drug Reporting website – www.cdreporting.co.uk - will undergo changes on 1 December 2022.

From this date, you will need to register as a new user before completing reports. If you use the same registration email address, you will have access to reports you have previously submitted. If you need to change your registration email address, but still require access to previous reports, please email the technical helpdesk team your current email registration email address and the updated email address.

When registering from 1 December 2022, reporters can add multiple organisations, in different regions, that they work for to their profile. This can be done once they have registered. When registering, only the details for one organisation are required. Reporters will also be able to amend their details at any time and add or remove organisations.

Further information regarding the upcoming changes can be found [here](#).

Please complete the registration process to access your Controlled Drug Website account at your soonest convenience from 1 December 2022.

In the meantime, please share this information with your colleagues, and continue to report as normal. Or if you have any queries, please contact us or the Controlled Drug Reporting help desk team at england.cdreportingtechnicalhelpdesk@nhs.net.

Leicestershire County Council updates

Home Care for Leicestershire

Additional home care providers joined the home care framework in early November and as a result people are receiving care with very little delay. This is good news for people who are in receipt of care and support and is a strong footing going into the winter months. We expect to see an increase in demand for home care over winter.

Some providers have been in touch to express concern that they are not receiving new work. Whilst there is no guarantee of work, we understand your concerns and are actively working on plans to sustain the market.

We would like to hear your views on the allocation process so that we can make an informed decision about the fairest way to allocate packages. Please use [this link](#) to complete a short survey - the closing date is 8 December 2022.

If you would like to discuss the allocations process in more detail, please contact Katie, Lead Commissioner for Home Care and Hospital Discharge on katie.joondan@leics.gov.uk

Trans and non-binary service user policy and guidance

Leicestershire County Council has a strong commitment to equality, diversity, and inclusion in the services it delivers and the support it provides to the people of Leicestershire.

Its trans and non-binary service user policy and guidance aims to:

- protect trans and non-binary people who use its services from discriminatory treatment or practices
- support trans people and enable them to be always treated with dignity and respect
- enable a trans person's personal data and records (such as change of title, name, gender) to be treated with due confidentiality
- comply with the broader legal requirements in relation to the protected characteristic of gender reassignment
- raise awareness and promote understanding of trans and non-binary identities among employees and communities

[Read and have your say on the draft version of the policy.](#)

Inspired To Care

As Inspired to Care reflects on last week's [Care Professional of the Year Awards 2022](#) and starts to look forward to planning next year's programme of work it is a good opportunity to look back at what the team have achieved since April 2022.

On our website on the [news page](#) we have posted about our full programme of activities this year. We are especially mindful of the difficult times you, as providers of adult social care, have had and have been very grateful for the wonderful feedback you have given us about our support. We have also posted a reflection of our year on our [LinkedIn](#) page.

Learning and development opportunities

Personalised end of life care Advance Care Planning and ReSPECT

A virtual session for care home staff in Advance Care Planning and ReSPECT process is taking place on Thursday 23 February 2023, 13:30–16:00.

This is a 2.5-hour virtual workshop to raise awareness of how advance care planning and ReSPECT process fit with personalised care and support planning for all health and social care staff across Leicester, Leicestershire, and Rutland.

Aims:

- To explore Advance Care Planning and how it integrates with Personalised Care Planning.
- To increase awareness of the importance of communication skills and behaviours that underpin personalised end of life conversations.
- To improve confidence in approaching personalised Advance Care Plan discussions.
- To learn about the ReSPECT process, its aims and rationale in relation to personalised care planning.

[Book your place here.](#)

Health and wellbeing

World AIDS Day

World AIDS Day takes place on 1 December each year. It's an opportunity for people worldwide to unite in the fight against HIV, to show support for people living with HIV, and to commemorate those who have died from an AIDS-related illness.

Over 105,000 people are living with HIV in the UK. Globally, there are an estimated 38 million people who have the virus. Despite the virus only being identified in 1984, more than 35 million people have died of HIV or AIDS related illnesses, making it one of the most destructive pandemics in history.

World AIDS Day is important because it reminds the public and government that HIV has not gone away – there is still a vital need to raise money, increase awareness, fight prejudice and improve education.

More information can be found on the following links:

- [World AIDS Day](#)
- [World Health Organisation](#)

Consultations and research

FluCare

Every year flu, caught from staff and visitors, causes serious illness and death in care home residents. In the UK less than half of care home staff are vaccinated which means that residents are put at higher risk. Initial studies suggest three main reasons why staff do or do not get vaccinated against flu:

- How easily they can access flu vaccines
- How important their manager sees staff vaccination
- Attitudes and beliefs around vaccination

The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) are looking to recruit care homes to participate in an intervention called 'FluCare' which aims to improve flu vaccination uptake by care home staff. They are inviting older people's care homes in England

with 10 or more members of staff to take part. Those care homes must have low staff flu vaccination rates (less than 40%).

Recruitment is open now - click [here](#) to express your interest.

Laundry research

De Montfort University, Leicester (DMU) is conducting the largest ever survey of both care home workers and managers to establish what support the sector needs with regards to laundering of uniforms, bedding and personal clothing and how this impacts infection prevention and control.

In cooperation with the Textile Services Association (TSA), DMU researchers want to understand the current laundry practices and operating standards. The study aims to assess the situation from the perspective of both managers and workers. The survey asks healthcare workers whether they have enough resources, do they understand their role in infection prevention and control (IPC) and how it is managed in their facility. As an incentive, all staff who complete the survey will have the chance to win a £50 'one4all' shopping voucher.

Participation in this survey will help inform this academic research, enabling improved laundry standards and procedures for residents and care workers.

All the surveys are completely confidential and are only being used for the DMU research. To obtain a full picture it is vital to gain the views of both managers and workers. A survey for each staff group is contained within these links:

- [Manager](#)
- [Worker / carer](#)

The deadline for completing the survey is 16 December 2022.

To encourage maximum participation, they have provided sample email wording to use:

Email Subject: Fill in a laundry research survey and win a £50 one4all voucher!

Dear...,

We have been asked to send you the following link to a healthcare worker survey which is being conducted by De Montfort University and the Textile Services Association. They want to know your opinion on hygiene and risk management on issues relating to laundry. The two organisations want to understand how to improve the standards and safety of how we keep textiles, bedding, uniforms, and personal clothing clean.

The anonymous survey only takes five minutes to complete. It hopes to find out the role you play in infection control, whether you feel you have enough resources and how it is managed in general. Everyone who completes the survey will have a chance to win a £50 voucher from one4all.

Don't miss out on the chance to let your voice be heard on this important issue!

Healthcare worker (Carer):

https://dmupsy.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0vzuyJfWX5fXEKG

Next edition

The next edition of Provider News will be published during week commencing 12th December 2022. If you are interested in contributing by writing about a topic of your choice, perhaps something that is particularly important to you, please contact us at enquirylinequality&contracts@leics.gov.uk.