



**Issue 19 – 26 January 2023**

**Contents**

Contents..... 1

The future of adult social care ..... 2

    Digitisation in adult social care settings ..... 2

Guidance and good practice ..... 2

    Importance of ventilation as a means of infection control in care homes ..... 2

    Provider contingency plans for possible power outages ..... 2

    Vaccination clinics for people with a learning disability ..... 2

Leicestershire County Council updates ..... 3

    Industrial action by National Education Union ..... 3

    New service levels - first party top up and full cost residential ..... 3

    May 2023 provider conference calls for care home and home care providers ..... 3

Learning and development opportunities ..... 3

    Learning disability health training ..... 3

    Skills for Care and Health Education England workforce planning training – bookings now open ..... 4

Data tracking ..... 4

    Reminder to keep updating the Capacity Tracker ..... 4

Adult Social Care Survey 2023 .....	5
Opportunities .....	5
Winter retention payment for Home Care for Leicestershire workers – scheme now closed .....	5
Consultations and research.....	5
Provide your views on long-term effect of COVID-19 .....	5
Next edition .....	6

## **The future of adult social care**

### **Digitisation in adult social care settings**

Please watch this [short video](#) from Mark Sutton, Chief Digital Officer at CQC on the importance of digitisation in care provider settings.

### **Guidance and good practice**

#### **Importance of ventilation as a means of infection control in care homes**

Getting ventilation right is important to ensure good infection prevention and control, not just for COVID-19 but for other common infectious diseases that can spread rapidly through care settings, including flu and norovirus. [This article](#) contains suggestions on how to identify rooms with insufficient ventilation as well as some tips on balancing ventilation with the need to maintain a comfortable temperature.

#### **Provider contingency plans for possible power outages**

The Council will shortly be issuing guidance for providers relating to possible future power outages via this newsletter.

#### **Vaccination clinics for people with a learning disability**

Please promote the forthcoming LLR COVID-19 vaccination clinics for people with a learning disability, who need a first, second or booster vaccination:

- Wednesday 8 February, 10.00-17.30 at Loughborough Hospital Vaccination Centre, Hospital Way, Loughborough LE11 5JY
- Friday 10 February, 10.00-15.30 at The Agnes Unit, 400 Anstey Lane, Leicester LE7 7GL

These clinics replace the one previously publicised for Friday 17 February in Loughborough, which has now been cancelled – please advise anyone who you know was considering attending.

Bookings for both clinics can be made by emailing [lpt.covidcampaign@nhs.net](mailto:lpt.covidcampaign@nhs.net).

The clinic is run by specially trained nurses who are very friendly and experienced, and adjustments can be made.

## **Leicestershire County Council updates**

### **Industrial action by National Education Union**

You will be aware that the National Education Union is to call a one-day strike on Wednesday 1 February as part of national industrial action, and that further strikes are possible.

Schools are considering provision for key workers' children but will not have an accurate understanding of staff availability until the day. Adult social care providers should consider now how you will provide safe staffing levels for your services, enacting your business continuity plans where necessary.

### **New service levels - first party top up and full cost residential**

You may notice, where applicable, a new description of Residents First Party Top Up and Residential Full Cost on the remittance advice. This is for Council reporting purposes only and does not affect payments to providers.

### **May 2023 provider conference calls for care home and home care providers**

The May monthly provider call for care home and home care provider organisations have been rescheduled to avoid the King's coronation bank holiday. The dates and times of the meetings are now confirmed as:

- Care homes: Tuesday 9 May 2023, 11.00-12.00
- Home care: Tuesday 9 May 2023, 13.00-14.00

All future dates and times, together with the dial in details, can be found at [provider-teleconferences](#).

A communication with guidance on service provision on the exceptional bank holiday of Monday 8 May will follow in February.

## **Learning and development opportunities**

### **Learning disability health training**

A virtual training session on Wednesday 8 February 2023, 10:00-13.00, is being run for provider services, support workers and healthcare support. It will cover the role of social care staff in relation to the health needs of people with learning disabilities as well as:

- Expectations of an LD annual health check
- Supporting access to cancer and non-cancer screening programmes
- STOMP (stopping the over prescribing of medication for people with learning disabilities and or autism)
- The role of specialist learning disability health services, including who to contact and when

To book a place or to discuss the training content please contact [lpt.pcln@nhs.net](mailto:lpt.pcln@nhs.net).

## **Skills for Care and Health Education England workforce planning training – bookings now open**

[Provider News 18](#) announced a free Skills for Care and Health Education England hosted face-to-face workshop on effective workforce planning for adult social care providers in LLR.

It will:

- help you understand market trends in your area and how commissioners are shaping the local market
- help you assess where you are now with workforce planning
- give you the tools you need to develop an effective staff plan for your service

It will take place on Wednesday 8 March at Leicestershire County Hall and lunch will be provided.

Further information, including how to book, is available at [Skillsforcare](#). Registration is now open - book early, as limited places are available.

## **Data tracking**

### **Reminder to keep updating the Capacity Tracker**

The [Adult Social Care Information \(Enforcement\) Regulations 2022](#) began on 1 December 2022. [Enforcement guidance](#) has been published, setting out what happens if providers do not update their data monthly via the Capacity Tracker, as outlined in previous Provider News issues.

The [formal notice of a mandate](#) has also been updated to reflect the current list of mandated data items. The enforcement process will focus on supporting providers to comply with the information requirements, with financial penalties normally a last resort.

## **Adult Social Care Survey 2023**

All local authorities are required to undertake an annual survey of people who use adult social care services, and this will be carried out in Leicestershire over the next few weeks. People who may potentially receive a questionnaire are those aged 18 or over and who receive services such as home care, community life choices, or have a direct payment. It also includes people in permanent residential or nursing care. Around 2,000 people have been randomly sampled from the Council's records and will be sent a questionnaire on 1 February.

The questions are set nationally and completion is voluntary, although a reminder is sent three weeks after the original questionnaire where individuals haven't responded, which is required by the national guidance.

Findings from the survey are the source for eight indicators in the national adult social care outcomes framework (ASCOF), and cover topics such as people's quality of life, social contact, finding information and feeling safe.

You can see an example of the report and the questionnaire on the [NHS Digital publication page](#).

## **Opportunities**

### **Winter retention payment for Home Care for Leicestershire workers – scheme now closed**

The winter retention scheme for workers of home care providers contracted to the authority under the Home Care for Leicestershire framework is now closed to applicant organisations.

We are currently processing the applications and will be in touch shortly with those participating.

If you have any questions please contact Dave Pruden, Lead Commissioner, at [dave.pruden@leics.gov.uk](mailto:dave.pruden@leics.gov.uk).

## **Consultations and research**

### **Provide your views on long-term effect of COVID-19**

The Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Integrated Care Board (LLR ICB) has developed a survey to establish the awareness of the long-term effects of COVID-19 amongst local residents. This includes questions about support and services related to COVID-19. The information collected will be used to help make decisions about what can be done to improve services in LLR.

A report of findings will be published - feedback included will not contain any

personally identifiable information.

If you have any questions about the survey and need assistance with completing the survey, please email [LLRICB-LLR.beinvolved@nhs.net](mailto:LLRICB-LLR.beinvolved@nhs.net)

The survey closes on 19 February 2023.

### **Next edition**

The next edition of Provider News will be published during week commencing 30 January 2023. 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](mailto:enquirylinequality&contracts@leics.gov.uk).