



Issue 48 – 5 March 2024

Contents

Contents	1
The future of adult social care	2
LLR Adult Social Care Nursing Advisory Council	2
Guidance and good practice	3
Ensure you are vaccinated against measles	3
Anticipatory medication in end-of-life care	4
Stop! Think fraud	4
Dementia and LGBTQ+ people	4
Leicestershire County Council updates	4
Budget set at county council meeting	4
Service directory	5
Short-term packages of home care before reablement	5
Learning and development	5
LSCDG training plan for 2024-25	5
Skills for Care e-learning modules	5
Learning disability health training	6
Supporting people with learning disabilities through the menopause – 12 March	6

Opportunities	6
Last chance for Digital Social Care Record funding - 15 March	6
Consultations and research	7
Survey of unpaid carers on a new National Carers Strategy – deadline 7 March	7
LLR GP patient survey – final chance to have your say by 10 March	7
Care home vaccination programme survey – deadline 13 March	7
Events	8
ICB online event on end-of-life care – 13 March	8
Commemoration, celebration and awareness raising.....	9
International Women’s Day – 8 March	9
Sign Language Week 2024 - 18-24 March	9
Reminders	9
Next edition	9
Useful links	10

The future of adult social care

LLR Adult Social Care Nursing Advisory Council

“You are cordially invited to attend our monthly social care nursing advisory council meetings for LLR and make a difference within social care nursing and deliver change!

This monthly forum of likeminded, passionate health and social care colleagues act as a touchstone for our ICB chief nurse, ensuring that social care nursing and the wider workforce are included and integrated across health and care settings.

Our expanding peer advisory council brings a wealth of experience, insight and expertise to the alliance, better informing the development, transformation and sustainability of nursing practice, system wide, as described by Prof Deborah Sturdy, Chief Nurse for Social Care. We look forward to seeing you there.”

Jackie Riddett, Chair of LLR SCNAC

The next meeting will be taking place via Teams on 22 March, 13.00-14.00. To receive the joining link please contact Judi at judi.vernau@nhs.net

The agenda includes an overview of progress to date, the 5 local priorities, and exploring solutions.

Future meetings are scheduled to take place on the fourth Friday of the month from 13.00-14.00:

- 26 April
- 24 May
- 28 June
- 26 July
- 23 August
- 27 September
- 25 October
- 22 November
- 27 November

Guidance and good practice

Ensure you are vaccinated against measles

Cases of measles are rising across Leicester and Leicestershire, particularly in schools in the City. People are therefore being urged to ensure that they and their children are fully vaccinated against measles.

Measles is a highly infectious virus and spreads very easily. Anyone who hasn't had both measles vaccinations as a child, or who has children who aren't fully vaccinated, is being urged to contact their GP practice and ensure they are protected.

If you are unsure whether you or your family have been vaccinated, please check your online GP record or your child's red book in the first instance, otherwise contact your GP practice.

Two doses are needed for full protection against measles, preferably by the age of 5 years, but you can have the vaccination at any age (as long as the child is over 12 months old) and measles immunity usually lasts a lifetime.

A pork-free version of the vaccine is available.

Help stop measles spreading. If you or your child has yet to have both doses of the MMR vaccine, come to the LLR pop-up clinic this week:

- Highfields Children's Centre, 20 Barnard Close, Leicester, LE2 0UZ
- Thursday 7 March
- 8:30am-4:30pm

Anticipatory medication in end-of-life care

LOROS's [Centre for Excellence February 2024 Newsletter](#) focusses on anticipatory medication in end of life care.

View the LOROS [Centre for Excellence - Archive Newsletters](#)

Stop! Think fraud

Fraudsters aren't fussy. They'll pick on anyone. Nobody is immune from fraud. The criminals behind it target people online, at work and in their homes, often emotionally manipulating their victims before they steal money or personal data.

But there is something we can do. By staying vigilant and always taking a moment to stop, think and check whenever we're approached, we can help to protect ourselves and each other from fraud. Why not take 10 minutes over a cup of coffee to make yourself aware of the Government's new ["Stop! Think Fraud" campaign](#)

Also available is a short, 40-second [YouTube](#) clip.

Raising awareness of fraud with our colleagues, people we support, friends and family remains a key defence against it.

Dementia and LGBTQ+ people

Dementia Friends has published useful information on supporting LGBTQ+ people living with dementia, including advice and practical tips:

- [Living with dementia as a LGBTQ+ person](#)
- [Supporting an LGBTQ+ person with dementia](#)

Leicestershire County Council updates

Budget set at county council meeting

Four-year budget proposals were the focus at the full council meeting on 21 February and included investing £129m more to meet growing demand, mainly in social care, and an extra £113m to cover inflation and the National Living Wage increase.

The proposals included balancing the books next year using £6m of reserves – the first time this has been required - and forecast a budget gap of £83m by 2028 after planned savings.

A three per cent Council Tax increase for core services - and a two per cent increase in the adult social care precept – generating in total £18m more for front line services - is planned from April.

Councillor Lee Breckon, cabinet member for resources, said “Councils across the country face eye-watering challenges. Thanks to taking tough decisions, and saving

£262m since 2010, we're not at crisis point. We're proud about being open and highly efficient and we'll continue to work with Government ministers on the reform needed to help us do more for our residents.

Major service redesigns are already underway but our focus is on challenging how we deliver each and every area so we can pinpoint options for bridging the longer term £83m budget gap."

Find out more about the [agreed budget proposals](#).

Service directory

The Council has a [directory of services](#) available on its website to enable people to look for information and support. We are asking providers if they are aware of local groups who could contribute and list their services on the directory to make it a richer resource for all.

Organisations can read [the conditions](#) and then [request to be included](#) in the directory.

Short-term packages of home care before reablement

As you know, packages of home care may sometimes be available to providers for short periods when the Council's reablement service HART has no capacity. HART then work with the person to deliver reablement when capacity becomes available. Please see Provider News issues [33](#), [37](#) and [46](#) for more details.

Please do not telephone the HART service to ask why support to a person is being moved from a home care provider to the reablement service, as this approach is consistent with the arrangements previously communicated.

Learning and development

LSCDG training plan for 2024-25

The [LSCDG Training Plan 2024-2025](#) is live.

Skills for Care e-learning modules

Skills for Care has developed a [range of eLearning modules](#) to support the development of knowledge and skills in different areas hosted on their virtual learning environment.

The eLearning topics currently available are:

- Creating an inclusive organisation
- eLearning to support CQC inspection
- Introductory modules for managers
- Learning from events

Learning disability health training

LPT is running 2-hour learning disability health training sessions for provider services, support workers and healthcare supports.

Each session will cover the role of social care staff in relation to the health needs of people with learning disabilities as well as:

- Expectations of a learning disability 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 - who to contact and when

The sessions are running via Teams on:

- Wednesday 3 April 2024, 13.00-15.00
- Wednesday 5 June 2024, 10.00-12.00

To book a place or to discuss the training content please email lpt.pcln@nhs.net

Supporting people with learning disabilities through the menopause – 12 March

BiLD are hosting a [free webinar](#) on 12 March, 12.30, on supporting people with learning disabilities through the menopause.

Dr Louise Newson will be talking about hormones, perimenopause and menopause. She will cover common symptoms and health risks of the menopause. In addition, she will discuss treatments including HRT. Louise will share information resources and where to find them, for people who have learning disabilities.

Inspired to Care topic conference – 21 March

Inspired to Care are pleased to invite you to their upcoming Flexible Working Topic Conference, on 21 March, 12:30-14:30 via Microsoft Teams. This event will cover new laws coming into place as well as discussions on the dynamics of flexible working and its impact on our professional lives.

Join Inspired to Care and ACAS in exploring best practices that could enhance work-life balance. To participate, please email inspiredtocare@leics.gov.uk.

Opportunities

Last chance for Digital Social Care Record funding - 15 March

Please note that the window for grant applications for Digital Social Care Record funding for next financial year will close on 15 March 2024.

In order to have grants paid within this financial year the minimum requirements must have been met and submitted by close of business on the 15 March 2024:

- Fully approved grant application form
- Providers must have chosen a supplier from the [assured provider list](#)
- Provision of supporting evidence in the form of an approved supplier quotation, invoice or supplier contract.
- DSPT 'Standards Met' Accreditation or higher

Please do not miss out on this opportunity, as the availability of future funding is not known. Please see [Provider News 46](#) for more details.

If you need any assistance in completing your grant application, please contact lpt.lhidscradmin@nhs.net who are available to support.

Consultations and research

Survey of unpaid carers on a new National Carers Strategy – deadline 7 March

A cross-party group of MPs and Peers have launched a [survey](#) to gather the views of unpaid carers and organisations who represent them on their proposal for the UK Government to develop a new National Carers Strategy.

The survey is open to current and former unpaid carers, as well as to organisations who support and represent them, including local and national carers' organisations, other voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) organisations, academics, employers, local government stakeholders, NHS England, and social care providers.

The deadline to complete the survey is 7 March 2024.

LLR GP patient survey – final chance to have your say by 10 March

People registered with a GP practice in Leicester, Leicestershire or Rutland aged 16 or over are invited to share their recent experiences of healthcare provided by their GP practice, in a local survey.

The survey asks about experiences of contacting the practice, making an appointment and the care received, and it will help practices to understand how services could be improved.

You can [fill in the questionnaire online](#). The closing date for completed questionnaires is 23.59pm on Sunday 10 March 2024.

Care home vaccination programme survey – deadline 13 March

Planning for the spring 2024 COVID-19 booster programme is underway. Public Health is asking for feedback from care home providers on what worked well or areas for improvement from the winter 2023 vaccination programme.

Care home providers are asked to please complete [this short 5-minute survey](#) by the extended deadline of 13 March. Thank you for your input.

Events

ICB online event on end-of-life care – 13 March

You are invited to join the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland ICB for a conversation on end-of-life care.

Good care at the end of life places the individual at the centre of their care. The wishes and choices of the person who is dying are paramount because what is important to each individual in the last phase of their life will be different.

Death is marked in many ways across different communities and cultures and the expression of grief differs so much.

The 'A conversation on' event is for everyone with an interest in end-of-life care – health and care professionals (including primary and secondary care, care homes, social care providers), voluntary and community sector organisations, patient groups, carers and individuals.

Sir Mayur Lakhani CBE, local GP and a champion for the provision of high-quality care at end of life, will lead the event, which also brings together a range of other guest speakers who will talk about end of life from a range of perspectives, addressing some of the most important and current topical issues in palliative and end-of-life care.

Key areas of the agenda will include:

- working together to achieve a different ending
- delivering compassionate care across cultural boundaries
- historical and cultural variants on the good death
- open panel and participant discussion.

We hope that attendees will come along and share their insights and views of death and dying, particularly the nuances of different cultures and the different beliefs, experiences and values of patients and their families. The learning will be used to inform our NHS strategy for end-of-life services.

- [The event will be held online \(Zoom\)](#)
- Meeting ID: 839 4695 6137
- Passcode: 784647
- Wednesday 13 March 2024, 6.30pm – 8pm

To give an indication of numbers, please register by emailing llricb-llr.corporatecomms@nhs.net. Alternatively, join the event on the day using the Zoom link.

Commemoration, celebration and awareness raising

International Women's Day – 8 March

The Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland ICS and Integrated Care Northamptonshire have partnered to bring you fantastic 30-minute virtual webinars supporting and celebrating women within our workforce this [International Women's Day, 8 March 2024](#).

The theme this year is [Inspire Inclusion](#) and they have lined up some great 30-minute webinars. Webinars are open to all colleagues working within the LLR ICS and Northants ICN, including adult social care staff.

By registering you will be added to the mailing list to receive the full schedule of webinars taking place on Friday 8 March 2024 including the joining links allowing you access. You will also have the option to opt in to receiving other resources to support women at work, recordings of the sessions following the event and news of any future similar events. You can register by completing [this form](#).

Sign Language Week 2024 - 18-24 March

[Sign Language Week](#) this year is 18-24 March. It is a flagship awareness week for British Sign Language (BSL) and Irish Sign Language (ISL), celebrated annually in March to commemorate 18 March 2003, the first time BSL was recognised as a language in its own right in the UK. On 28 April 2022, now known as 'National BSL Day', BSL was legally recognised in the UK.

Organised annually by the [British Deaf Association](#) (BDA), this year's Sign Language Week's theme is 'Promoting BSL and ISL as indigenous languages of the UK', with the campaign aiming to celebrate and educate about BSL and ISL, encourage more people to start learning these sign languages and preserve them (BSL and ISL) for future generations.

Max Sandhu from Leicestershire Partnership Trust and a sign language user is running a Teams session on Wednesday 20 March, 10.00-10:45. To register for this virtual session, use this [link](#) or simply [click here to join the session](#). Alternatively, you can use Meeting ID: 382 402 731 607 with Passcode: yCxyVn.

Useful information is also available on the [RNID website](#).

Reminders

Next edition

The next edition of Provider News will be published during week commencing 18 March 2024. 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.

Useful links

- [Current and past editions of Provider News](#)
- [Provider conference calls](#)