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Leicestershire County Council Updates

Annual uplifts for 2026/27

Leicestershire County Council's 2026/27 annual inflationary fee uplifts for home care, care homes, supported living, and community life choices have now been issued to providers of Council managed services by emailed letter.

Please contact enquirylinequality&contracts@leics.gov.uk if you think you should have received a letter but have not.

Guidance and good practice

Add your service to CareFind

[CareFind](#) is a DHSC service that offers a single, trusted place for the public to view Care Home and Home Care services and availability. All profile information added via your existing Capacity Tracker login is automatically pulled through into

CareFind, ensuring easy and consistent updates. Please go to <https://www.carefind.com/> to review your listing.

Infection, Prevention and Control

Providers are reminded that if you have a suspected infection outbreak in your service, you should inform UKHSA via 0344 225 4524 option 1 (available 24/7) and the Community IPC Service via infection@leics.gov.uk in order that we can provide ongoing support and monitor the outbreak.

Learning and development

Inspired to Care website

The new Inspired to Care website offers a wide range of practical resources designed specifically to support adult social care employers. With over 60 fully sector-focused resources available, providers can access guidance, tools and ideas to help with recruitment, retention and workforce development. This includes our Future Workforce Toolkit, which helps organisations engage with schools, colleges and new talent, and our Marketing Toolkit, packed with tips on promoting roles, improving recruitment campaigns and strengthening your organisation's online presence.

All resources are completely free and can be accessed by visiting www.inspiretocare.co.uk/employer-members.

If you are not yet a member, you can sign up for free on the same page. If you need any support accessing the resources, please contact inspiretocare@leics.gov.uk and we will be happy to help.

15-Week Go Learn Programme – Starting 14th April

Forever Savvy, in partnership with Go Learn, is launching a brand-new free 15-week learning programme designed to help people build confidence, develop practical skills, and prepare for future opportunities.

This course is ideal for anyone who would like to explore moving into paid employment. Go Learn will be teaching and supporting you with:

- Work skills and understanding the workplace
- Interview preparation and confidence
- CV writing and showcasing strengths

Location: Bagworth Community Centre, Station Road, Bagworth, LE67 1BH

Start Date: 14th April

Time: 10:00am – 12:00pm

Day: Every Tuesday for 15 weeks

If you'd like to join or would like more information, please contact **Stacey Bedford** to book your place: staceybedford@foreversavvy.co.uk or 07710 092412

Publications

Trading Standards Spring Newsletter

The latest news of [Trading Standards](#) work and advice on scams and consumer issues.

Opportunities

Are you Hiring International Recruits? Displaced Recruit Talent Pool

With many international recruits unexpectedly left without a sponsor through no fault of their own, East Midlands International Recruitment (EMIR) are actively supporting them in securing new sponsorship. EMIR have a database of international recruits who are ready, and waiting to continue their care career with the right sponsor.

EMIR search a pool of displaced recruits and share your roles with potential candidates who may be an excellent addition to your Team. For further details please contact 01522 303308 employersupport@eastmidscare.co.uk

Tender Opportunity - Community Life Choices 2026 Framework

The tender opportunity for the [Community Life Choices 2026 Framework](#) has gone live and will close on 15th April 2026 at 2PM.

Please note that providers will need to register themselves on the portal to access the tender documents.

To submit bids and be considered for a place on the framework, tenderers must be registered on the [Central Digital Platform \(CDP\)](#). Suppliers are encouraged to register on the CDP at the earliest opportunity.

Any questions regarding the tender opportunity must be submitted via the portal as a clarification.

Health and wellbeing

Report an Outbreak Tool

A reminder about the online 'Report an Outbreak' tool for Adult Social Care settings which launched across the East Midlands this year.

Please use the tool to report new outbreaks of acute respiratory infection (ARI), including COVID-19, influenza (flu), unidentified ARI (for example chest infections) and single cases of influenza

Why use the tool?

The tool is designed to help you report ARI outbreaks directly online without needing to call/ email UKHSA's Health Protection Team first. After submitting, you will receive a copy of what you submitted and an initial advice email based on the information provided.

The following link will take you to the new web-based Report an Outbreak Tool:
<https://forms.ukhsa.gov.uk/ReportAnOutbreak>

You should also notify the local authority Infection Prevention and Control Team as well by emailing: infection@leics.gov.uk

Thank you for your continued support in protecting residents, staff and visitors.

Vaccination Update

Flu vaccination – ends 31 March 2026

The flu vaccination programme runs until 31 March 2026.

Action: Please encourage any eligible residents and staff who have not yet had their flu vaccination this season to come forward via their usual routes

RSV programme – expansion from 1 April 2026 (older adults & care homes)

From 1 April 2026, eligibility for the NHS RSV vaccination programme expands to include:

- All adults aged 80 years and over, and
- All residents in care homes for older adults, regardless of age.

Additionally:

- The programme continues to use Abrysvo® as a single-dose schedule.
- RSV vaccination is not seasonal and offers the offer will continue year-round (i.e., beyond spring campaigns).

- The timing of the expansion is intended to enable co-administration with the COVID-19 vaccine during the spring 2026 campaign for people eligible for both, and JCVI advice supports co-administration.

Please liaise with your usual GP practice teams about local arrangements for RSV vaccination for eligible residents once the expanded eligibility begins.

COVID-19 spring booster – starts mid-April 2026

The spring 2026 COVID-19 vaccination programme (England) is scheduled to run from 13 April 2026 to 30 June 2026.

Eligibility remains focused on those at highest risk:

- Adults aged 75 years and over
- Residents in a care home for older adults
- Individuals aged 6 months and over who are immunosuppressed

Consultations and research

Supporting the future direction of residential care for adults of working age - provider survey

Leicestershire County Council's Adults and Communities Department provide a range of services and support for working age adults, 18-65 to promote and maximise their independence, health and wellbeing. This includes adults with a learning disability, autism, physical and sensory disability, and people with a mental health condition.

We are currently engaging with our local working age adult residential care providers to support and shape the further direction of our residential provision in Leicestershire. We would greatly appreciate your support in completing a questionnaire which will be sent out shortly via email to you. If you have any queries or require further information or would rather complete the questionnaire via a Teams meeting or telephone call the please contact me directly via Email: Sue.Eato@leics.gov.uk or Telephone: Sue Eato Commissioning Officer on 01162 3050379.

Events

Learning What Works: Embedding Research in Care Homes and Home Care (LiLaC)

A free event is being hosted by Loughborough University to explore the benefits of research in home care and care homes to improve quality of life on 27th March 2026 1030-230 at Loughborough University. Please you're your place via [Eventbrite](#).

Awards

Care Professional of the Year Awards 2026

The Care Professional of the Year Awards 2026 are now open for nominations, and this is your chance to recognise the incredible people who make a difference in adult social care every single day. Across the sector there are dedicated care professionals who go above and beyond to support others with compassion, dignity and kindness.

These awards celebrate those individuals and teams who truly stand out. If you know someone who deserves to be recognised for their hard work and commitment, don't miss the opportunity to shine a spotlight on them. Submit your nomination today at www.inspiretocare.co.uk/awards and help us celebrate the very best in care.

Reminders

Next edition

The next edition of Provider News will be published during week commencing 20 April 2026. 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 Leicestershire County Council Provider News](#)
- [Leicestershire County Council adult social care provider conference calls](#)
- [LLR Providing Care – resources, advice, signposting](#)
- [Leicestershire and Leicester Inspired to Care – recruitment and retention support](#)
- [Leicestershire Social Care Development Group \(LSCDG\)](#)