



Information

for adult social care providers

CORONAVIRUS
PROTECT
YOURSELF
& OTHERS



Issue 50 – 22 October 2020

Dear colleague

Please find below a number of updates which I hope you'll find useful and as always, thank you for your continued support.

Care Home Visiting Guidance

[An update to the county care home visiting policy](#) has now been approved which reflects the new local alert levels announced by the government last week. This means that all care homes in the county can allow visitors (subject to compliance with the usual Covid risk assessment process) except care homes in Oadby and Wigston Borough.

The local alert levels mean visiting is not allowed at care homes in 'high alert' tier areas - which include Oadby and Wigston where visits should not take place unless in exceptional circumstances. Visiting is allowed at care homes situated in areas in the 'medium alert' tier which includes the rest of Leicestershire county and Rutland.

The council's Director of Public Health has [released a statement](#) on visiting arrangements for care homes which sets out the risk assessment process.

Infection Control Fund

Care homes will have seen the first part of the ICF Round 2 (ICF2) payment arrive in their bank accounts in the last few days. The initial payment is equivalent to £339 per registered bed, an allocation of £1.7m in total.

The payment to community providers has been triggered and those organisations will see the equivalent of £159 per service user, an allocation of £735k in total.

Both payments are in line with the DHSC ICF2 instructions and individual schedules detailing the payment made, and updating the grant conditions, will be sent to each care home and community provider.

Next week we will provide more information about the reporting system that care

homes and providers will be expected to use to submit monthly reports on eligible expenditure. It will be an online survey that will be open in early November, so providers can report by the first deadline which is 16 November. That report will require providers to give details of actual eligible expenditure by measure for October 2020, and estimated expenditure for the period Nov 2020 to March 2021.

For more information on the ICF2 grant conditions and reporting timetable please see:

<https://resources.leicestershire.gov.uk/sites/resource/files/field/pdf/2020/10/13/ICF2-Grant-conditions-for-Providers.pdf>

Again, thanks to those organisations that have already returned their grant agreement and final expenditure report for the first round of ICF. Would those organisations yet to do so please return those documents as soon as possible.

Also, please ensure that you update the relevant tracker at least weekly - this is a grant condition for ICF2.

Data collected from the relevant tracker will be used to determine the overall payment to community providers.

If you have any questions, please email dave.pruden@leics.gov.uk.

Winter Contingency Planning Webinars

Skills for Care will be presenting two webinars aimed at managers who want to learn practical ways to strengthen COVID-19 Contingency Plans as we enter the period of increased winter demands. The first webinar will take place this Thursday (22nd October) and registration is required for each session.

- **Contingency Planning: Protecting your service from COVID-19 winter demands - Thursday 22nd Oct 11:00-11:30**

This webinar will focus on practical approaches to be best prepared for any resurgence of COVID-19 and winter demands. It will look at how to protect your service using service level risk assessments and aligning a COVID-19 specific contingency plan with your business continuity process. The webinar will share learning and best practice from frontline managers and also include access to new practical checklists, recommendations and guidance.

[Register here](#)

- **Contingency planning: COVID-19 Maintaining safe staffing levels - Thursday 29th Oct 10:30 – 11:00**

Following on from the first contingency planning webinar, this session is aimed at managers who want to learn practical ways to maintain safe staffing levels in response to COVID-19 and wider winter demands. Combining insight from other managers of how they have successfully managed safe staffing, staff wellbeing and consistency of care in the early stages of the pandemic,

the webinar will also share our recommendations to plan for the risk of potential reduced staffing levels as we enter the autumn and winter period.
[Register here](#)

Thank you again for your constant hard work and dedication.

Yours sincerely

Jon Wilson

Director of Adults and Communities

Mike Sandys

Director of Public Health