



Information

for adult social care providers

CORONAVIRUS
**PROTECT
YOURSELF
& OTHERS**



Issue 53 – 13 November 2020

Dear colleague,

We are committed to supporting the care sector as much as we can during these challenging times. A number of updates are contained in the bulletin below to inform the work of your teams.

Care home 'designated settings' for discharge of COVID-positive patients

We have been working closely with providers across the county to identify 'designated settings' for people being discharged into a care home and who are COVID-positive.

Leicester City Council has agreed that Leicestershire residents testing COVID-positive on discharge from hospital can access a separate part of a care home in the city, which has been CQC-approved as the first designated setting for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. We are continuing to work with providers and partners to identify further suitable capacity.

If your care home wishes to become a designated setting and hasn't already notified the Council's Quality and Contracts Team, we would strongly advise that you contact enquirylinequality&contracts@leics.gov.uk as soon as possible to be considered as a designated setting.

This will trigger contact and any necessary support from the Council's Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) team, followed by an inspection from CQC to ensure that the IPC standards for designated COVID-positive settings will be met.

Infection Control Fund – Round 2 (ICF2)

We have recently emailed care homes and community providers to ask you to complete the first monthly ICF2 return – the deadline for completion is Sunday 15 November. Completion will be via an online survey, which you received a link to in the email. You will see that providers are required to give a summary, by measure, of the actual expenditure for October and an estimate of expected expenditure (including actual expenditure to date) for the ICF2 grant period - 1 Oct 2020 to 31

March 2021. The reporting format is similar to that used for the final report for ICF – Round 1 (ICF1). Please note that monthly reporting is one of the grant conditions.

Connected to this, the DHSC recently updated its guidance and provided examples of the nature and types of costs that can be claimed in respect of each measure. That guidance, alongside all the grant conditions, should be consulted before completing the monthly return and can be found [on the Government website](#).

If you fail to report, or to comply with any of the grant conditions, you risk not receiving the second ICF2 payment and having to return the initial payment. If you have any questions, please contact Dave Pruden at dave.pruden@leics.gov.uk

Coronavirus (COVID-19): admission and care of people in care homes guidance

This guidance is being reviewed following the implementation of new national restrictions from 5 November and is due to be updated soon. We hope to provide an update on this in a future bulletin once the updated guidance is available. The current guidance is [available here](#).

Clinically Extremely Vulnerable people guidance

Updated guidance on shielding and protecting people who are clinically extremely vulnerable from COVID-19 (referred to in section 2 and annex A of this 'Admission and care of people in care homes' guidance) is now available on [the Government website](#).

Test results for people discharged to home care

We are seeking clarity with health colleagues on whether a home care agency is entitled to know the COVID-19 status of someone being discharged home from hospital with a care and support package, and hope to be able to update you in a future bulletin.

Seasonal flu vaccination programme

In bulletin 48 on 8 October

https://resources.leicestershire.gov.uk/sites/resource/files/field/pdf/2020/10/8/Issue-48-coronavirus-ASC-provider-bulletin_0.pdf we outlined the importance of people who use services and staff receiving a seasonal flu vaccination. The latest data shows good take up amongst people using adult social care services, but low for the workforce.

You will be aware of the national media coverage of the emerging COVID-19 vaccines, and the hope that they will be rolled out from December. We will be engaging with you on this as soon as we are able – however, we know now that a time gap will be required between doses of flu vaccine, and of COVID vaccine. With this in mind, you are urged to encourage your staff to take up their free flu vaccine as soon as possible. We are aware of localised shortages of flu vaccine doses; please persevere with pharmacies if you are not initially able to book your staff in.

Yours sincerely

Jon Wilson

Director of Adults and Communities

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Director of Public Health