



Information

for adult social care providers

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& OTHERS**



Issue 52 – 4 November 2020

Dear colleague

As we enter a new period of national restrictions to curb the spread of COVID-19, here are a number of articles that we hope will be useful for you and your teams.

Impact of new national restrictions on care home visiting policy

Leicestershire County Council's Public Health department has been working in collaboration with local and regional partners to develop a care home visiting policy for Leicestershire that better aligns with that of Leicester City Council and enables friends and family to visit their loved ones safely. In the light of the national restrictions coming into force from Thursday 5th November, implementation of the visiting policy has had to be put on hold while we consider national guidance on care home visits which has been announced this week.

Supporting hospital discharges

Thank you for all the effort you have made in supporting timely discharges from hospital.

The hospitals continue to be very busy – and this is increasing - so we are asking you to continue to put support into place for people being discharged as soon as you can. This includes people being able to move to care homes, or packages of care starting over the weekend where possible. We ask you to consider how you can support this and measures you can put in place to allow people to be discharged from hospital seven days a week.

If you have any suggestions on what would enable you to support people being discharged from hospital even more effectively, please let us know by emailing the Provider Communication Line on enquirylinequality&contracts@leics.gov.uk with your ideas. We would like to work with you to understand how we can support you with this process.

Testing is being discussed for people who are going to their own home with a package of care. We ask all providers to continue to work in line with national guidance and use PPE appropriately.

The home care 'Snap' survey allows us to focus our support where providers need it, so it's really important that home care providers please continue to complete the survey and provide any comments.

Please also remember to respond to our brokers with offers on packages of care.

Updated guidance on the use of gloves in home care

The government guidance on the use of gloves in home care has been updated and can be found here: [COVID-19: how to work safely in domiciliary care in England](#).

Services can use nitrile, vinyl or latex gloves as appropriate. Providers will need to consider the characteristics of the different gloves available for the duties the care workers are doing, including duration of time worn and in relation to cleaning products. A specific activity risk assessment would best define the level of PPE worn.

- **Vinyl gloves** provide sufficient protection for the majority of duties in the care environment, providing the correct size of glove is chosen according to the wearer's hand size.
- Better fitting gloves, including **nitrile gloves** should be considered if there is a risk of gloves tearing, or the task requires a high level of dexterity, or requires an extended period of wear.

Reminder about move of provider calls to Microsoft Teams

Ahead of the next provider calls during week commencing Monday 9 November, we'd like to remind you that they are moving from Skype to Microsoft Teams. For more details, please see the article in the last bulletin at <https://resources.leicestershire.gov.uk/sites/resource/files/field/pdf/2020/10/30/Issue-51-coronavirus-adult-social-care-provider-bulletin.pdf>. Please allow yourself a few more minutes to access your first provider call on Teams.

Thank you once again.

Yours sincerely

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