



# Information

for adult social care providers

CORONAVIRUS  
**PROTECT  
YOURSELF  
& OTHERS**



**Issue:11**  
**Special PPE Issue**

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for your continued support during these challenging times. As we know it is often proving difficult obtaining PPE, it is hoped therefore that you find this special PPE issue helpful.

This issue outlines the process for sourcing PPE and the criterion through which you can escalate should you experience any problems. It also provides information on PPE for shielded people and examples of FAQs currently being drawn together.

We have to follow the national guidance in these matters, but of course will keep this under constant review as it develops. The most relevant information at the moment are accessed via the following links:

[Residential/Home Care/Supported Living](#)

[Government guidance on PPE](#)

[Government guidance on PPE \(Where no Covid19 suspected\)](#) (PDF)

[Government advice on Shielding](#)

## **PPE Ordering and Escalation Process**

This refresh of the process reflects changes to national guidance and to best manage what is a relatively small emergency stock, intended to support provider services across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. Any emergency delivery will only provide 'a just enough provision' to see the provider through an urgent and service critical issue.

### **Before you can escalate any difficulties in obtaining PPE you must try:**

1. your normal suppliers
2. other local suppliers and your own wider organisation (if applicable) for mutual aid
3. the seven dedicated PPE suppliers as listed below:

**Dedicated Supply for Social Care Providers from the following:**

Care Shop [Coronavirus@careshop.co.uk](mailto:Coronavirus@careshop.co.uk)

Blueleaf Care [emergencystock@blueleafcare.com](mailto:emergencystock@blueleafcare.com)

Delivernet [lee.morris@delivernet.co.uk](mailto:lee.morris@delivernet.co.uk)

Countrywide Healthcare [enquiries@countrywidehealthcare.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@countrywidehealthcare.co.uk)

Gompels [www.gompels.co.uk](http://www.gompels.co.uk)

Nexon [www.nexongroup.co.uk](http://www.nexongroup.co.uk)

Wightman and Parrish [sales@w-p.co.uk](mailto:sales@w-p.co.uk)

4. Please note the following criterion for an emergency delivery:
  - a. that you have an urgent need and run a vital adult social care service, including care homes, personal assistants, home care, and supported living for Covid-19 vulnerable groups
  - b. no suppliers can help you before your current stock of any PPE item is exhausted
  - c. an order has been cancelled or delayed and your current stock will be exhausted before the delivery date
  - d. that you have been following the national guidance in your use of PPE
5. Contact the Commissioning and Quality team via telephone: 0116 305 7263 or email: [enquirylinequality&contracts@leics.gov.uk](mailto:enquirylinequality&contracts@leics.gov.uk) (available 8.30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, and 10am to noon on Saturday and Sunday) who will support you with further supplier options or mutual aid options.
6. Should the further supplier options or mutual aid options also fail please complete the form within the attached flow chart and email: [enquirylinequality&contracts@leics.gov.uk](mailto:enquirylinequality&contracts@leics.gov.uk)
7. The team will contact you between the hours of 8.30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, and 10am to noon on Saturday and Sunday to confirm your request and ensure that you meet the national criteria for emergency stock support. Once agreed your information will be forwarded for an interim emergency stock delivery.
8. The Emergency stock controller will contact you and will agree delivery or collection arrangements where stock is available. This contact should occur within the next 12 to 24 hours (possibly up to 48) from receipt.
9. Should the emergency stock not have the equipment you request, organisations can further escalate to the National Supply Disruption Response (NSDR) who will

pick up emergency needs and supply small kits (e.g. 100-200 units of each type of PPE). Call the 24/7 helpline on: 0800 915 9964 (UK freephone number).

You can [download this PPE guidance as a single page flowchart](#) for ease (PDF).

## **Frequently Asked Questions on wearing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

Fuller more detailed FAQs are being drawn together but the following may be of interest:

### **Should I remove my uniform or workwear before going home?**

It is best practice to change into your uniform when you arrive at work and out of it before you leave. You shouldn't wear your uniform when travelling. If you wear your own clothes, then you should change when you get home.

This does not apply to domiciliary care staff who are required to travel between service users in the same uniform.

Wash uniforms and clothing worn at work at the hottest temperature suitable for the fabric. A wash for 10 minutes at 60°C removes almost all micro-organisms. Washing with detergent at lower temperatures – down to 30°C – eliminates MRSA and most other micro-organisms, including coronaviruses.

### **Should I shower when I get home?**

There is no requirement to routinely shower after you finish work. However, do ensure you follow recommended hand hygiene measures at work, when you are out and about, and when you are at home.

### **What personal protective equipment (PPE) should be used when caring for residents?**

The guidance on personal protective equipment is evolving extremely quickly and it is best to check the national guidance. Read the [summary of national PPE recommendations for health and social care workers](#).

## **Online resources and support**

Finally I would like remind you that we do have a [dedicated website for care providers](#) which is constantly being updated.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Jon Wilson  
Director of Adults & Communities