

Information

for adult social care providers

CORONAVIRUS

PROTECT
YOURSELF
& OTHERS



Issue 6:

Dear Colleague,

I just wanted to update you on some of the latest developments around access to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and to the process of getting potential employees DBS checked.

PPE update

We know that supplies of personal protective equipment (PPE) to the care sector is fundamental for the good care of individuals with suspected symptoms of Covid-19.

Colleagues in the sector are asked to following the national guidance in respect of their use. Guidance on the use of PPE, including a video on the safe donning and doffing is available [here](#), and can also be accessed via our coronavirus [provider resources](#) area.

On Friday, we received further clarification from PHE and the NHS regarding recommended usage of PPE which confirms that health and social care workers working within one metre of a patient/service user with possible or confirmed COVID-19 (including staff working in hospitals, primary care, ambulance trusts, community care settings and care homes) should use:

- fluid repellent facemask
- apron
- gloves
- eye protection if there is a risk of splashing or exposure to respiratory droplets

New guidance has been received from the DHSC identifying 4 designated PPE suppliers for CQC registered social care providers (residential, domiciliary care and hospices).

Careshop	steven.lenihan@careshop.co.uk steve.deakin@careshop.co.uk
Blueleaf	info@blueleafcare.com
Delivernet	Lee.Morris@delivernet.co.uk
Countrywide Healthcare	sales@countrywidehealthcare.co.uk

Stock remains tight but we have been told that deliveries are expected. Registered providers will need to contact these suppliers individually. Orders will need to be by email providing contact person, address, contact telephone and work email.

Please be assured we will continue to work with the sector locally and nationally to further progress matters regarding supplies and will provide updates when we have received any updates.

Infection, Prevention and Control helpline

We are also hoping that an Infection, Prevention and Control helpline will be up and running again by the end of this week and combined with additional information on the website will provide you with the support you need at this time.

DBS checks support

I would also like to reassure providers that the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) has confirmed they are fully prepared to ensure that you can recruit safely and quickly as you respond to the national crisis.

In recognition of the work that we are all doing to recruit vast numbers of staff and volunteers into the sector, the DBS recognise that they have a vital role to play in ensuring that they can support us to meet this demand.

The Home Office and the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) have put temporary arrangements in place to provide DBS checks and fast-track emergency checks of the adults' and children's barred lists free-of-charge* to healthcare and social care workers being recruited in connection with the care and treatment of COVID 19 in England and Wales (*please note the admin charges ranging from £4-7 will still need to be paid).

These arrangements will provide employers with the option to appoint new recruits into regulated activity with adults and/or children, as long as the individuals are not barred, and appropriate measures are put in place to manage the individual until the full DBS check is received.

Guidance has been developed for organisations who need to carry out these checks, setting out who can have them and how to complete the applications so that they can easily identify them and make sure the right level of information is provided as quickly as possible. This guidance can be viewed [here](#).

Thank you for your continued support during this challenging time.

Yours sincerely

Jon Wilson

Director of Adults & Communities