



Information

for adult social care providers

CORONAVIRUS
**PROTECT
YOURSELF
& OTHERS**



Issue 17

Dear Colleague,

As we enter another week, I would like to reiterate my thanks to you all for working tirelessly to support our most vulnerable residents.

I would also like to thank you for your engagement with us, enabling us to focus our attention on the support you most need at this time.

The bulletin below offers an update on testing and highlights support available from Skills for Care.

Update on COVID-19 testing in care homes

The below information testing in care homes was issued the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) on Wednesday 29 April.

Testing for care workers with COVID-19 symptoms

Care workers can be swabbed at regional or mobile testing centres, or by using home testing kits. Workers can self-refer through the [online portal](#) or be referred by their employer. Users enter their details and will then receive a text or email the same day, inviting them to either book an appointment at a regional testing site, or receive a home testing kit. Test results are usually available via text message within 48 - 72 hours.

In Leicestershire the regional test site is at:

Birstall Park & Ride Site, Loughborough Rd, Leicester, LE4 4NP.

Please note, there may also be availability at other regional test centres, and / or mobile testing units operating in Leicestershire.

The first time a care home suspects that one of its residents has COVID-19 symptoms

When a care home manager suspects for the first time that the care home has COVID-19 symptoms in a resident or residents, the care home manager should contact their [local Public Health England Health Protection Team](#) (HPT). The HPT will arrange for the testing of all symptomatic residents at this point as well as providing locally tailored infection control advice.

Subsequent testing for care home residents with or without COVID-19 symptoms

The DHSC are working to roll out further testing, covering all care home staff and residents, with or without COVID-19 symptoms. More information will be provided when this service is available.

General testing

You can apply for a test if you are:

- an essential worker with coronavirus symptoms
- aged 65 or over with coronavirus symptoms
- someone who cannot work from home and has coronavirus symptoms (for example, construction workers or delivery drivers)

Anyone with coronavirus symptoms can apply if they live with an essential worker, a person aged 65 or over, or someone who travels to work.

You can also apply for a test if you have a clinical referral from NHS 111 online.

View the latest [government guidance](#).

Carrying out CPR in line with COVID-19

A new video has been produced highlighting simple and clear instructions when carrying out CPR during the coronavirus pandemic. The video is available online on the [resus website](#).

Support for registered managers from Skills for Care

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Skills for Care has developed a [support offer](#) for registered managers in adult social care which includes:

- an [advice line](#) for registered managers and other frontline managers
- [recorded webinars](#) on COVID-19 related topics and guidance
- local [WhatsApp groups and virtual network meetings](#) for registered managers
- a [Facebook group](#) for registered and front-line managers
- guidance and funding related to [essential training](#).

Much of this offer including the advice line, webinars, training guidance and Facebook group will also be relevant to other frontline and care managers, deputy managers and nominated individuals.

COVID-19 advice line

Skills for Care have launched an advice line for registered and front-line managers, managing CQC regulated adult social care services through the COVID-19 crisis.

This advice line can help managers access the latest information, resources, funding, online learning and other opportunities provided from Skills for Care. They

can also direct managers to the latest guidance and advice produced by other agencies.

This [advice line](#) is open between 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday.

Call: 0113 241 1260 or email: RMAdvice@skillsforcare.org.uk

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Jon Wilson
Director of Adults & Communities