



# Information

for adult social care providers

CORONAVIRUS  
**PROTECT  
YOURSELF  
& OTHERS**



## Issue 27

Dear Colleague,

This issue of our bulletin features updates on infection prevention control, Test and Trace, a new dementia policy from the Alzheimer's Society and a new care workforce app. I hope you'll continue to find our updates and weekly provider calls useful.

### **Updated PPE guidance, IPC, and staff self-isolation reminder**

Following a rise in the number of outbreaks in care homes across LLR, providers are reminded that they must ensure that their staff adhere to PPE and self-isolation guidance, if they or a member of their household are symptomatic.

Updated PPE guidance on [how to work safely in care homes](#) was issued by the Department of Health and Social Care on 15 June.

For up to date IPC guidance please see the [Infection Prevention Control FAQs](#) on our website or the national guidance on the [Gov.uk](#) site.

### **Infection Prevention Control - training reminder – care homes**

In [issue 26](#) of our provider bulletin, we reminded providers that an infection prevention and control training package to support care homes nationally has been developed by the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital.

Locally, staff across the three LLR CCGs and colleagues in the 3 LLR local authorities have now been trained up and have contacted all care homes across LLR to agree a date and time for them to deliver this IPC training. If you have any queries about your training, please contact Zoe Green  
[Zoe.green@westleicestershireccg.nhs.uk](mailto:Zoe.green@westleicestershireccg.nhs.uk)

### **Test and Trace roll-out**

LLR is one of the 11 national beacon sites for Test and Trace, which means that, along with the other sites, we will be responsible for developing best practice.

The NHS test and trace service:

- Ensures that anyone who develops symptoms of COVID-19 can quickly be tested to find out if they have the virus, and also includes targeted asymptomatic testing of NHS and social care staff and care home residents
- Helps trace close recent contacts of anyone who tests positive for coronavirus and, if necessary, notifies them that they must self-isolate at home to help stop the spread of the virus

The service has been introduced to help return life more to normal, in a way that is safe and protects our NHS and social care. The service will allow us to trace the spread of the virus and isolate new infections and play a vital role in giving us early warning if the virus is increasing again, locally or nationally.

In line with the roll-out and considering that we have recently had outbreaks in LLR, providers are reminded that:

- If staff develop symptoms, they must continue to follow the rules to self-isolate with other members of their household and order a test to find out if they have coronavirus
- If staff test positive for coronavirus, they must share information promptly about their recent contacts through the NHS test and trace service to help us alert other people who may need to self-isolate
- If staff have had close recent contact with someone who has coronavirus, they must self-isolate if the NHS test and trace service advises to do so

### **Test and Trace – Easy Read format available**

Easy read documents are now available on our coronavirus FAQs about [your or your cared for person's care or support page](#).

### **Dementia policy from the Alzheimer's Society**

People with dementia have been worst hit by COVID-19, with a quarter of those who've died having dementia, making it the most common pre-existing condition for COVID-19 deaths. Social stimulation and regular socially distanced face-to-face contact with loved ones not only helps people living with dementia to feel secure and improve anxiety and mood, but also helps them to maintain basic cognition and communication skills.

A policy briefing has been produced by [Alzheimer's Society](#) outlining the necessary next steps.

### **Care Workforce app – communications toolkit**

The Department of Health and Social Care has launched a new dedicated app for the adult social care workforce in England to support staff through the COVID-19 pandemic.

The app is available for anyone working in social care in England and can be downloaded from the Apple App Store and Google Play Store, as well as being accessible online at [workforce.adultsocialcare.uk](https://workforce.adultsocialcare.uk).

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Jon Wilson  
Director of Adults & Communities