



Information

for adult social care providers

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Issue 24

Dear Colleague,

Thank you for your continued support during these challenging times. Please find below a number of updates, which I hope you will find useful.

Infection Control Fund allocation for residential providers in Leicestershire

You will be aware of the recently-announced Adult Social Care Infection Control Fund for England, for which the Leicestershire allocation is £6.7m. Please see our [Infection Control Fund](#) link for further details

The Council intends to issue the first payment to residential providers who meet the nationally-set conditions on 10 June 2020. The total payment will be £962 per CQC registered bed, split over two equal payments of £481 payable on 10 June, and £481 payable in July or August.

So, for example, if your home has 24 registered beds you will receive £11,544 (£481 x 24 beds) on 10 June and £11,544 during July or August.

Full details of the grant and the terms and conditions will be issued this week, but one condition which must be satisfied before payment can be made is that the Council must:

“Ensure any support made to a care home provider is made on condition that the provider has completed the Capacity Tracker at least once and has committed to completing the Tracker on a consistent basis ensure that payments of the funding to the care provider are made on condition that the provider will repay the money to the local authority if it is not used for the infection control purposes for which it has been provided.”

Therefore, to qualify for the first instalment of funding, **you must ensure that you have registered on the [care home capacity tracker](#) and that you have updated it at least once before 5pm on Tuesday 2 June 2020.**

Failure to do this will result in the first payment of the grant being withheld in accordance with the centrally-set conditions.

If you have any queries, please contact our [Provider Communication Line](#).

Whole care home testing

Reaching all eligible care homes

The Department of Health and Social Care are committed to reaching all care homes whose residents are over 65 or have dementia with testing by the 6th June and are making good progress against that commitment.

There are however still some care homes across England who are eligible to register via the [online portal](#) who have not yet done so. We know that in some cases this is because the care home participated in the pilot programme, and others have organised their own testing through local mechanisms.

Webinars

The Department of Health and Social Care are hosting whole care home testing webinars each weekday, in the morning and afternoon on the whole home swab testing process. The target audience is care homes.

They strongly recommend them for care homes about to receive their test kits, but anyone from an eligible care home yet to carry out whole care home testing can attend one. More dates and times are added regularly.

Main objectives of the webinar series:

- Outline the end to end whole home testing process
- Share top tips
- Provide an opportunity to ask questions

Care Homes can [register online](#) to access the webinar.

Bereavement and Resilience – A supportive session for care home staff

A bereavement and resilience session will specifically support the increasing challenges that care home staff are facing in dealing with bereavement of residents.

There will be an opportunity to explore and understand grief as well as the feelings and emotions it brings. It aims to:

- have open discussions about 'what is needed' to personally understand and manage the grief and loss
- look at resilience and what that means
- Consider how we individually learn to understand what is meaningful to us.

A mixture of different teaching approaches will enable an interactive way of learning that will benefit staff in this sector.

The session will be repeated on the following dates:

- 9th June, 2pm - 3:30pm

- 11th June, 2pm - 3:30pm
- 1st July, 2pm - 3:30pm

Spaces are limited, therefore, if you would like to attend, please go directly to the [event brite booking link](#).

Updated Infection Prevention Control (IPC) guidance

Version 3 of the [IPC guidance](#) was updated on 18 May 2020 and includes changes to the following chapters:

- Explanation of the updates to infection prevention and control guidance, section 2
- Introduction and organisational preparedness, section 3 (including emphasis on social distancing)
- Transmission characteristics and principles of infection prevention and control, section 3
- Reducing the risk of transmission of COVID-19 in the hospital setting (addition of clarifying text throughout based on recommendations from the Environmental Subgroup of SAGE, supported by the Healthcare Onset Covid-19 Infection (HOCl) Working Group, plus addition of section 4.2 on positive pressure rooms)
- COVID-19 personal protective equipment (PPE), section 8.1

Reminder about our weekly provider conference calls

As part of our commitment to supporting adult social care providers at this unprecedented time, we have decided to extend our weekly provider conference calls which have been running since late March for a minimum of a further two months. The calls cover a range of topical briefings and always include opportunities to ask questions and express views.

They are open to all, and do not require pre-booking nor specific telephone systems to join. The dates and details are available on our [provider teleconferences](#) page. Please note that the date, time and dial-in details may vary from week to week, so do check regularly to ensure that you are able to join us.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Jon Wilson
Director of Adults & Communities