



Information

for adult social care providers

CORONAVIRUS
**PROTECT
YOURSELF
& OTHERS**



Issue 41

Dear Colleague,

Please find below several updates which I hope you'll find useful.

Infection Control Fund

All but a very few care homes have now been paid the full Infection Control Fund (ICF) grant and we are issuing revised payment schedules to record the final total payment, for your information. Similarly, all but a few home care, extra care and supported living providers have received their full grant, and we are issuing agreements for signature and return.

Work is ongoing to agree the final reporting processes, of which providers will be advised in the coming weeks. Meanwhile, in accordance with the ICF agreement, it is important that care homes update the care home tracker and that home care providers update the CQC tracker. The important information which you supply is used to monitor provision and issues in key areas such as PPE supply and workforce.

Provider teleconference calls

The provider conference calls have been running approximately weekly since early April, and have provided an invaluable opportunity for us to discuss key issues and to understand the challenges that providers are facing.

We really value this channel and are keen to retain it. In recognition of the time commitment from your side, and on discussion with participants in the calls, we are changing the frequency of these calls from weekly to fortnightly (monthly for supported living providers) with effect from this week.

The new set of dates and dial-in details will be added to the [Provider Teleconferences](#) page on the website ahead of the next calls during week commencing 31 August. Home care provider representatives should note the agreed slightly earlier start time for the calls of 9.45am.

You will be aware that we have explored the possibility of using Microsoft Teams for future calls in view of some providers experiencing occasional difficulty in accessing the meetings. Unfortunately for technical reasons this is not presently possible, so we will continue to use Skype until further notice.

Local Resilience Forum (LRF) emergency PPE stock

Emergency PPE at weekends

As you are aware, emergency LLR PPE provision has been available to all providers and people in receipt of a direct payment across the week including weekends. From this weekend, reflecting consistently declining usage at weekends, this facility will cease.

Emergency PPE during office hours

As services move back into more normal operation, some of our volunteer delivery drivers are having to move back into their substantive jobs. This means that driver capacity is reducing. We would therefore ask that providers needing emergency PPE consider whether they can collect their requested stock. If this is not possible items will be delivered although please note that this may incur a slight delay.

ADASS - Care Home Infection Control Top Tips

ADASS have produced a guide highlighting some of the ways in which residential and nursing homes have responded to the current COVID-19 pandemic in order to ensure that residents are safe, that their needs continue to be met and that wellbeing is promoted, in what are very challenging and difficult circumstances.

The guide can be viewed online on the ADASS website [Care Home Infection Control Top Tips](#).

Update to 'Admission and care of residents in a care home during COVID-19' guidance

The Department of Health and Social Care 'Admission and care of residents in a care home during COVID-19' guidance has now been updated with an annex which sets out a service model for testing people moving from the community into a care home. The updated guidance can be viewed online [admission and care of people in care homes – Annex K](#).

As ever, thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

Jon Wilson
Director of Adults & Communities