

Information

for adult social care providers

CORONAVIRUS
PROTECT
YOURSELF
& OTHERS



Issue 44

Dear Colleague,

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

Important information about the end of the Infection Control Fund (ICF) scheme

During the week commencing Monday 14 September 2020 we will send Final Expenditure Report templates to providers for completion, ahead of the end of the ICF scheme.

Providers will be required to report the total spend incurred in relation to each infection control cost category:

- Measures to isolate residents within their own care homes
- Actions to restrict staff movement within care homes
- Paying staff full wages while isolating following a positive test
- Other - additional staffing
- Other - providing staff with on-site accommodation or hotels or other accommodation to limit staff's social interaction outside of work
- Other - transport arrangements, including taxis, bike facilities, changing rooms to allow staff to avoid public transport

The return contains guidance on eligible expenditure, which is already available on our [website](#), and a declaration which has to be completed.

Where total expenditure falls short of the grant issued, monies will have to be returned to the Council and we will explain how to do that when we issue the template.

After September, the Council will contact a representative sample of providers to undertake a more detailed review of the expenditure return submitted and may, if required, carry out an audit.

The County Council has to report to the DHSC by 30 September, so ***all providers must return the completed template by Friday 25 September.***

We apologise for this very tight timescale and ask that actual expenditure is used, but where unknown at the date of the form's completion, you may have to estimate.

A briefing will be given on the provider calls on Monday 14 and Tuesday 15 September, with further support available afterwards.

Discharge to assess: individuals' financial contributions to or funding of care costs

Under the new [hospital discharge service: policy and operating model](#) released late last month, people who you support who have been discharged from hospital since 1 September will have their longer-term care needs assessed during the person's period of funded recovery services of up to 6 weeks.

Where care has been NHS-funded during the COVID-19 emergency, the local authority Care Act assessment and financial assessment may lead to some people having to contribute to or fully fund their future care. This may include individuals which your organisation has been supporting for some time, and potentially since March 2020. Service users and/or their representatives have been advised about this and we are currently in the process of undertaking assessments. We will ensure that you are involved in the assessment and also in relation to any change in funding responsibilities.

New safeguarding guidance

There is some new guidance available in the Safeguarding Adults Multi-Agency Policy and Procedures (MAPP) which is summarised below:

[Person in Position of Trust \(PIPOT\) Guidance](#)

This replaces the previous PIPOT Guidance and Process. The PIPOT process is used when concerns are raised about someone who works with vulnerable adults. This would usually be concerns relating to the person's personal life, for example being identified as a perpetrator of domestic abuse. The PIPOT process is essentially a decision making process to establish whether the person's employer needs to be made aware of the concerns to enable them complete risk assessments in relation to any associated risk within the employee's job role. The PIPOT process should *not* be used:

- When there are concerns that the person has abused an adult at risk - in this case the Safeguarding Adults process should be used.
- Where the concerns are about someone who works with children-these should be referred to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO).

The main changes within the new guidance are:

1. Where one of the following statutory Safeguarding partners; Leicestershire Partnership Trust (LPT), University Hospitals of Leicester (UHL), Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Local Authority or the Police holds the information about the Person in a Position of Trust, they make a decision using the PIPOT guidance about whether the person's employer is informed. Therefore, these referrals no longer all need to come to the Local Authority.
2. These agencies will be responsible in terms of oversight and accountability of the PIPOT process to the Safeguarding Adults Boards.
3. Where the information is held by any other agency, PIPOT referrals should be made to the Local Authority for the area in which the person works.
4. There are new templates to support the audit trail when an employer is made aware of concerns, and to provide feedback to the referring agency as to how the risk is being managed.

[Causing Enquiries to be Made](#)

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, it has been necessary for Local Authorities to 'cause' more safeguarding enquiries to be made, particularly in care homes, to help reduce infection risks by minimising visits. The Care Act Guidance states that the purpose of a safeguarding adults enquiry is to decide whether or not the local authority or another organisation, or person, should do something to help and protect the adult. If the Local Authority decides that another organisation should make the enquiry, for example a care provider, then the Local Authority should be clear about timescales, the need to know the outcomes of the enquiry and what action will follow if this is not done, as Local Authority cannot delegate overall lead agency responsibility for safeguarding enquiries.

The guidance has been developed to support Local Authority staff in making decisions about when they could cause enquiries to be made by other agencies and also in what circumstances this may not be appropriate. There are also templates designed to support partner agencies, so they have clarity about what is being requested from them within the enquiry, to help further strengthen local multi-agency collaborative working within adult safeguarding.

Consultation on distributing vaccines

The government opened a [consultation on 'changes to Human Medicine Regulations to support the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines'](#) on the 28 August. This includes exploring the option of nursing associates, AHPs, pharmacy etc. as vaccinators.

The consultation period will run until the end of Friday 18 September 2020. If you miss the date and still want to make comments, contact covidvaccineconsultation@dhsc.gov.uk and they will try to accommodate your comments before any changes are made.

As ever, thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

Jon Wilson
Director of Adults & Communities