



Information

for adult social care providers

CORONAVIRUS
**PROTECT
YOURSELF
& OTHERS**

 Leicestershire
County Council

Issue 75 – 26 February 2021

Dear Colleagues,

This bulletin contains the latest COVID-19 information relating to adult social care, including the first information on the national proposals for easing of restrictions.

Government roadmap to cautiously ease lockdown restrictions

On Monday the Government published a [four-step roadmap to ease restrictions](#) across England and provide a route back to a more normal way of life.

We are currently waiting for more information on what this means for social care and will update you in future bulletins.

‘One visitor’ policy for care homes

The recent announcement on the future easing of lockdown restrictions included changes to care home visiting.

From 8 March, every care home resident in England will be able to nominate a single named visitor who can come in for a regular visit. The visitor will have to take a rapid lateral flow test every time they visit, wear PPE and keep physical contact to a minimum.

When the data shows it is safe, the Government wants to go further and allow more visitors.

In addition to these new measures, care homes should continue to allow visits for other loved ones through arrangements such as substantial screens, visiting pods, visits behind windows or outdoor visiting. In the event of an outbreak in a care home, the home should immediately stop visiting (except in exceptional circumstances such as end of life) to protect residents, staff and visitors who might be vulnerable to COVID-19. More detail on these changes will be published in updated national guidance in the week commencing 1 March, and we will cover this in next week’s issue following publication.

Updated guidance on discharges

The following link is the latest guidance on discharges and testing for those involved in designated settings <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/designated-settings-for-people-discharged-to-a-care-home/discharge-into-care-homes-for-people-who-have-tested-positive-for-covid-19>

The guidance details the current requirement for hospitals to undertake a COVID-19 PCR test on all people discharged into a care home in the 48 hours prior to discharge. All individuals who test positive should be discharged into a [designated setting](#) in the first instance to see out their isolation period. All individuals who test negative can be discharged to any care home where they should undergo 14 days of isolation as a [precautionary measure](#). The outcome of tests should be shared with care homes prior to discharge and be included in the discharge summary information.

An exception to this process is for individuals who have previously tested positive for COVID-19 and are within 90 days of their initial illness onset or positive test date. If these individuals have already completed their 14-day isolation period from onset of symptoms or positive test result (if asymptomatic) and have no new COVID-19 symptoms or exposure, they are not considered to pose an infection risk. They therefore do not have to be re-tested and can move directly to any care home from hospital.

Vaccination webinar on Saturday

This event organised by NHS England in the Midlands aims to exchange conversations and lived experiences to support work in achieving parity of the take up of the Covid19 vaccine amongst our BAME workforce and communities. For more information and to register your place, please click on the relevant link below.

Saturday 27 February 2021 – 13.00-14.30

<https://www.events.england.nhs.uk/events/bame-vaccination-conversation-601bc7a2d0537>

Thank you as always for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Jon Wilson

Director of Adults and Communities

Mike Sandys

Director of Public Health

The archive of all previous COVID-19 provider bulletins released since March 2020 can be found at <https://resources.leicestershire.gov.uk/adult-social-care-and-health/working-with-you-during-coronavirus>