



Bulletin 88 – 21 May 2021

Dear Colleagues,

Please find information below on several COVID-19 matters for your attention.

Scam callers

Leicestershire County Council has been alerted to a recent scam phone caller to one of its adult social care providers attempting to obtain sensitive information.

Although many of the Council's workers are presently home based, they will never email from or request that information is sent to a private email account. Personal and other sensitive data must always be sent via Egress.

If you suspect a scam or fraudulent call for any reason, please do not divulge any information verbally or via email - contact enquirylinequality&contracts@leics.gov.uk for advice. Thank you for your vigilance at a time that has seen an increase in fraudulent activity for the public sector.

Hospital discharges

We continue to work in partnership with our health colleagues to support hospital discharges and prevent delays. The requirement for hospital beds for those with acute health conditions continues to be at a premium. We ask that any requests for care and support are responded to as quickly as possible to prevent delays in the discharge process – thank you for your ongoing support in ensuring that our NHS partners can make the best use of their capacity.

Finance update

In the last few days some providers will have received overspend payments in relation to the Rapid Testing Fund (RTF). Later this week some providers will also receive overspend payments in relation to the Infection Control Fund Round 2 (ICF2).

Next week, payments relating to the Infection Control and Testing Fund (ICTF) will be issued. These will be in excess of the distribution required by the nationally set grant conditions, with care homes being paid £300 per bed and home care providers being paid £100 per client. We have used part of the discretionary fund to distribute more money.

Providers that reported an underspend in ICF2 or RTF will see those monies deducted from the ICTF payments they receive.

For more details about the fund, including the grant conditions and eligible expenditure, please visit the [Infection Control and Testing Fund](#) section of the DHSC website.

If you have any questions please contact Dave Pruden at
dave.pruden@leics.gov.uk.

Leicestershire County Council home care survey update - contracted providers

Thank you for your continued completion and submission of the daily home care survey - your updates have been vital in overseeing how providers have been managing over recent months.

As you will be aware from email communications last week and this week, we have now reviewed the survey questions, taking into account your submissions via the national capacity tracker. To avoid you needing to input similar information to different surveys or trackers, we have reduced the number of questions on our survey and will be reducing the frequency of completion of the survey from daily to weekly. Please complete it every week no later than Friday at 10am in addition to the national capacity tracker requirements.

The data collated through both methods gives us a better understanding of the level of care being provided, as well as the level of take up of vaccinations and any impact that COVID-19 is having on your staffing levels and PPE. With these updates we can focus our support in the areas most needed.

We will make contact with providers where the tracker and or survey is not being completed to offer support if required.

The current daily survey ceased from Wednesday 19 May 2021 with the new survey being live from Thursday 20 May 2021. You will receive an updated email with the link to the survey ready for Friday's completion.

Complete the Digital Skills survey and get a £10 voucher

We have all had to develop our digital skills during the last year. Ipsos MORI, the Institute of Public Care (IPC) and Skills for Care are carrying out related research on behalf of NHSX, the tech arm of DHSC and NHS England, involving a survey and interviews with social care staff. The research aims to understand the use of care technology and digital skills within adult social care. NHSX will use the findings to inform future policy and support for the sector.

They need care workers, social workers, and both nurses and occupational therapists working in adult social care to complete a short survey to share their views and experiences of using digital devices and technology, both at home and in the workplace. The survey will take no more than 20 minutes to complete, and participants will receive a £10 shopping voucher as a thank you.

[Register for the survey](#) before it closes on 14 June 2021 or call 0800 15 22 773 to take part.

The survey also offers a chance to volunteer for a telephone or online interview or discussion group. If selected, volunteers will receive £40 cash on attendance, as a thank you. For more information click [here](#) or email UK-NHSXskills@ipsos-mori.com

Registered Managers are also invited to take part and they may be contacted by Ipsos MORI's telephone team or alternatively can complete the survey online.

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>