



Information

for adult social care providers

CORONAVIRUS
**PROTECT
YOURSELF
& OTHERS**



Bulletin 94 – 25 June 2021

Dear Colleagues,

Here is our latest COVID-19 focussed bulletin for adult social care providers in Leicestershire, including details of easy access to vaccination over the coming few days.

The ‘big COVID-19 vaccination weekend’ – Fri 25 to Sun 27 June

In a continued effort to stop the spread of the virus, the ‘big vaccination weekend’ has been set up to make vaccination as convenient and as easy as possible for all eligible people across LLR. There will be pop-up vaccination clinics across Leicestershire and Leicester, open to all adults.

Clinics for both Pfizer and Astra Zeneca are open from Friday (25 June) to Sunday (27 June) and first and second doses are available.

In the county the venues include Melton Sports Village, Thorpe Astley Community Centre, and The Kube in Oadby.

More information can be found on the [Leicester City CCG website](#).

Please promote this opportunity to your workers who have not yet had their dose 1, and those awaiting dose 2. Workers should check the details for their intended session before travelling, as times, dose number and vaccine type vary by clinic.

Mandatory COVID-19 vaccinations for older people’s care home workers

Following public consultation, the Government will bring forward regulations to make COVID-19 vaccination a condition of deployment for any individual working in a CQC-regulated care home providing nursing or personal care in England, subject to exemptions.

More information, including the consultation responses, is available in the Government’s press release - [Everyone working in care homes to be fully vaccinated under new law to protect residents](#).

We know that there are significant implications for care homes in Leicestershire, and we are developing a plan to support you with the requirement. A tailored communication package will be offered to each home by a partnership of Leicestershire County Council's Public Health and Adults and Communities departments, and health bodies, working with you as the provider.

To help us shape this plan by understanding more about people who require more support to be vaccine confident, and to capture your ideas, we would be extremely grateful if you could complete this short survey: <https://surveys.leics.gov.uk/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=162454847414>. In the survey we are not asking you to input individual worker details.

The closing date is 4 July. Thank you in advance for sharing your knowledge.

Increasing confidence in having the vaccine

Public Health has produced a suite of resources that may help staff to feel more confident in having the vaccine. They are available from Public Health England's Campaign Resource Centre at: <https://coronavirusresources.phe.gov.uk/covid-19-vaccine/resources/asc-comms-toolkit/>

Changes for care homes from 21 June

In bulletin 93 we introduced the changes for care homes effective from 21 June. We now have further details which are summarised here.

Admission of residents

New residents admitted to a care home from the community will no longer have to isolate for 14 days, to make the introduction less disruptive. This will require an enhanced testing regime for the resident:

1. PCR prior to admission (within 72 hours)
2. PCR on the day of admission (day 0)
3. PCR 7 days later

Additionally, daily rapid lateral flow testing (LFT) is recommended for the resident until the 7-day PCR has been received. This is based on the assumption that the new resident is fully vaccinated plus three weeks where possible, and they have had no known contact with a COVID-positive person.

Residents admitted from hospital, or from another care home, are still required to self-isolate for 14 days in their own room. The care home should still enable visits from the essential care giver (unless the resident has tested positive for COVID-19).

Changes to visiting

Residents can now nominate an essential care giver to attend to essential care needs. They should be enabled to visit in all circumstances (including outbreaks) unless they or the resident are COVID-positive. The essential care giver is not included in the 2-visitor-per-day limit.

In the event of an outbreak, visiting should be stopped. However, window and pod visits do not necessarily need to be stopped during an outbreak, and a risk assessment should be undertaken to determine whether they can continue without breaching zoning or cohorting arrangements of residents and staff.

Admission from a visit out (deemed high risk from a risk assessment) or an overnight hospital stay still requires 14 days isolation. Isolation would also be required for new admissions from hospital or from another care home.

Care home residents will be able to spend time away from their care home without subsequent isolation. To reduce the risk of transmission, residents should avoid crowded places, and avoid using public transport (particularly at busy times) where possible. Others involved in the visit should take steps to minimise the risk to the care home, for example receiving a negative test and following good infection control practice such as good hand hygiene, wearing face coverings, and avoiding crowded places. In the event of an outbreak, all movements out of a setting should be minimised.

Keeping asymptomatic residents safe

Residents may not present with typical COVID-19 symptoms (persistent cough or a lack of taste or smell). They should be assessed twice daily for the development of a high temperature (37.8°C or above) or a cough. Other signs include:

- shortness of breath
- if residents are less alert
- if residents have a new onset of confusion
- if residents are off food
- if residents have reduced fluid intake, diarrhoea or vomiting
- Worsening physical or mental ability with no other known cause

If 14 days have passed since the last positive test or symptomatic case, a round of PCR and rapid lateral flow end-of-outbreak testing of all residents and staff should be undertaken. In addition, PCR test positive results will be sent for whole genome sequence testing to detect Variants of Concern in care home outbreak situations.

Approaches and tools to support the management of deterioration in care homes

Care home staff are central to the understanding and recording of your residents' needs and wishes around the escalation of care.

As this role is so pivotal in supporting deterioration pathways, East Midlands Academic Health Science Network (EMAHSN) would like you to [fill in a survey](#) to help understand the views of care home teams in relation to recognition and management of deteriorating residents.

The survey should be completed by the care home manager (or appropriate designated lead) and should take just 10 minutes to complete. The closing date is 30 June 2021. If you have any difficulties in accessing the survey, please contact Natalie Riley at natalie.riley@nottingham.ac.uk.

Launch of Inspired to Care recruitment advert

Over the past month, Inspired to Care has been creating a recruitment advert with an aim to celebrate the amazing work of our diverse, skilled and passionate social care workforce and inspire more people to join our sector. This is Inspired to Care's largest ever recruitment marketing campaign for adult social care in Leicestershire.

The campaign launched yesterday, and we want you to be amongst the first to see it. The advert can be found on the Inspired to Care website campaign landing page at www.inspiredtocare.co.uk/joinus, but it will also be seen across various other platforms over the coming weeks and months including social media, TV streaming, YouTube and sent out to our extensive national and local network. We also plan to send it out via press release for media attention too.

We have also created a useful digital campaign toolkit full of resources and materials that providers can use to promote vacancies in their own services and organisations. These can be personalised with their own company logos and text. We have created Facebook profile filters, e-mail signature images, video call backgrounds, social media banners, posters and leaflets that can all be personalised. Providers can find all these resources here: <https://www.inspiredtocare.co.uk/toolkit#aboutthecampaign>

We hope you enjoy the advert and we would welcome any comments or feedback.

Please support Inspired to Care and the campaign by following us on our social media platforms and sharing the campaign so it can reach as far and wide as possible. This will help us change perceptions of careers in social care and also celebrate our wonderful workforce that too often, don't get the recognition they deserve.

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/InspiredtocareLeicestershire>
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/inspired.to.care/>
- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/inspired-to-care>

Please also remember to upload all of your vacancies to the Inspired to Care website – see bulletin 92 at

<https://resources.leicestershire.gov.uk/sites/resource/files/field/pdf/2021/6/10/Information-for-adult-social-care-providers-issue-92.pdf> for more details.

Relatives of care home residents: information sought

Patient and Client Council and Public Health Agency would like to hear from relatives of people in care homes about their experiences. More information is available here:

<https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/covid-19-coronavirus/covid-19-information-public/pulse-check-experience-relatives-engaging-care>

Last minute reminders

Two very important deadlines are approaching on the same date - 30 June – for the EU Settlement Scheme and completion of the Data Security Prevention Toolkit. Please see bulletin 92 at

<https://resources.leicestershire.gov.uk/sites/resource/files/field/pdf/2021/6/10/Information-for-adult-social-care-providers-issue-92.pdf> for further details of what you need to do.

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>