



Issue 5 – 4 August 2022

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The future of adult social care

Fair Cost of Care

In [Provider News 4](#) we outlined our approach to the Fair Cost of Care exercise and the Market Sustainability Plan with the aim to take the work to Cabinet in September, which we are on track with.

The home care survey, which was extended for two weeks, has now closed and the data is currently being analysed by Care Analytics. We are aiming to receive the findings and associated reports/ annexes in September to form part of the Cabinet paper.

For more information please read the Government’s Market Sustainability and [Fair Cost of Care guidance](#) or the [frequently asked questions](#) produced by the Local Government Association.

Guidance and good practice

Understanding urinary tract infections in those over 65 years of age

A urinary tract infection (UTI) can be difficult to diagnose in those who are over 65. By 80 years old, half of all older adults in care, particularly those who have urinary catheters, will have bacteria in their bladder/ urine. An early diagnosis and treatment of UTIs in adults over 65 are crucial. This [IPC Advice Bulletin for Care Homes](#) offers care providers information about UTIs in older adults and when to seek medical attention

Flowcharts to help explain COVID-19 testing in care homes

Staff and residents in care homes can better understand COVID-19 routine and symptomatic testing with this helpful [COVID-19 testing flowchart](#).

In the event of an outbreak at a care home when there have been two or more positive COVID-19 cases within a 14-day period, refer to this [care home outbreak testing flowchart: staff and residents](#).

National Minimum Wage in the care sector explained

HMRC is offering a free webinar on Wednesday 10 August at 10am – 11.30am to help care providers in the social care sector understand how to pay the National Minimum Wage. The webinar will cover the fundamentals of pay that cause the most confusion for care providers and provide an opportunity to ask questions throughout.

[Register for the webinar.](#)

Learning and development opportunities

Learning disability and autism training for health and social care staff

The government announced in 2019 their commitment for all health and social care providers who carry out regulated activities to ensure that their staff have achieved learning outcomes on learning disability and autism relevant to their roles.

This ambition has now been met and from the 1 July 2022, all health and social care providers registered with CQC must ensure that their staff receive training on learning disabilities and autism appropriate to their role. This new legal requirement is introduced by the Health and Care Act 2022.

The government funded the development and trialling of Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training in partnership with Skills for Care and Health Education England.

Trial results are available on the Health Education England website, and some aspects of the Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training will be available over the next year while the Code of Practice is being developed. [More information is available on the Health Education England website.](#)

There is information related to [autism guidance and advice](#) available on the Skills for Care website, and care providers can [sign up to a free Skills for Care newsletter](#) to receive further information.

Learning opportunities with Macmillan

Macmillan's [education and development opportunities prospectus for 2022](#) lists many learning and development opportunities, and their [learning and communications hub](#) has a calendar of events and training that social care professionals can sign up for.

Council updates

Reminder: How to contact the Customer Service Centre

We reported in [Provider News 4](#) that over the past year, Leicestershire County Council has been reviewing its contact channels into its Customer Service Centre for

the purpose of improving efficiency for both members of the public and care providers.

As a result, fax servers used by some care providers to send incident reports were decommissioned on 25 July.

Care providers now have two options to report an incident:

1. Complete an online Portal Incident Form
The Portal Incident Form for reporting an incident in a care setting can be found on [Leicestershire County Council's professional referral webpage](#). It is simple to use – it asks a series of questions about the incident and allows you to upload related documents.
2. Telephone
Care providers should contact the Customer Service Centre for incidents of a more serious and high-risk nature at 0116 3050 004 Monday to Thursday 8.30am to 5pm, and Friday 8.30am to 4.30pm and 0116 2551 606 in the evenings, weekends and bank Holidays.

Emails may not reach the Customer Service Centre so only use these two options.

Data tracking

DHSC update: Formal Notice of data required from Sunday 31 July 2022

DHSC has published the Formal Notice setting out what information is required by the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care from CQC-regulated adult social care providers, under section 277A of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, as inserted by section 99 of the Health and Care Act 2022.

Read the [formal notice of a mandate for all adult social care providers](#) and [log in to the Capacity Tracker via the CT platform](#).

DHSC has also published [guidance to support care providers](#) with this new requirement.

As stated in the Formal Notice, the first set of monthly data is due by 14 August 2022.

Consultations and research

Down Syndrome Act 2022 guidance: call for evidence

The Government is developing the Down Syndrome Act statutory guidance and is seeking views on what should be included.

The Government has launched a call for evidence, which is the first step in the consultation process for developing the statutory guidance aimed at improving access to services and improving the quality of life for people with Down's syndrome.

Views can be submitted until 11.45pm on Tuesday 8 November 2022.

[Find out more and give your views here.](#)

Planning a COVID-19 commemoration event or activity – tell the UK Commission on Covid Commemoration

The UK Commission on Covid Commemoration are interested in hearing about any events and activities that are happening in care home settings to remember the COVID-19 pandemic. It could be an event to thank all those involved in the response, the opening of a memorial garden or something else.

Care providers can fill out a [short survey](#) to inform the commission about any events and activities.

Future editions

Next edition

The next edition of Provider News will be published during week commencing 15 August 2022.

Please contact enquirylinequality&contracts@leics.gov.uk if you are interested in writing about a topic of your choice, or perhaps something that is particularly important to you, in the next edition of Provider News.