



Issue 7 – 2 September 2022

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The future of adult social care

Adult social care reform update

Leicestershire County Council has developed a report on progress towards market shaping and charging reform for its Adults and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider on 5 September. [You can read the paper here.](#)

The report provides information on the Fair Cost of Care analysis and next steps relating to the Council’s Market Sustainability Plan.

If you represent a home care provider and have been asked to submit further information towards the home care FCOC exercise, we would be grateful if you could supply the additional detail requested by the deadline which you have been given, to ensure that your data can be used to inform the understanding of a fair cost of care in Leicestershire.

Framework for Integrated Personalised Care

You should already be aware of the work underway across LLR on the Framework for Integrated Personalised Care, which is replacing the Health and Social Care Protocol (2014).

The in-person launch on Thursday 15 September is almost fully booked, but a virtual launch will be running on the following dates:

- Monday 19 September 9am-10.30am – [click here to join the meeting](#)
- Tuesday 27 September 11.30am-1pm – [click here to join the meeting](#)
- Thursday 29 September 11am-12.30pm – [click here to join the meeting](#)

If you would like to attend one of the virtual sessions above, please join by clicking the above link on your preferred time and date, alternatively if you would prefer a Microsoft Teams invitation, please request this using the contact details below.

If you are already attending the in-person launch on 15 September, there is no requirement to dial in to one of these sessions too.

If you have any queries, please contact naina.karadia@leics.gov.uk or FIPCQueries@leics.gov.uk.

Guidance and good practice

Preparing for autumn COVID-19 boosters

Older people and those with certain underlying health conditions are more likely to contract COVID-19. This winter it is expected that many respiratory infections, including COVID-19 and flu may be circulating at high levels – this may put increasing pressure on hospitals, care homes and other health care services.

For these reasons, people aged 50 years and over, those in care homes, and those aged five years and over in clinical risk groups are being offered an autumn booster of COVID-19 vaccine. A booster will be offered to front-line health and social care staff, those who care for vulnerable individuals and families of individuals with weakened immune systems. The booster vaccine is also being offered to those at high risk of the complications of COVID-19 infection, who may have not been boosted for a few months. The booster should be taken three months after the last dose. Those eligible for a flu vaccine may be able to have them in the same occasion, and the two vaccines are safe to take at the same time.

The care home vaccination programme will begin on Monday 5 September 2022 and care home managers should ensure all the relevant consents have been collected in good time – please see [Provider News 6](#) for more information on obtaining and evidencing consent. It is led by GP practices, and care homes will be contacted with specific details. Staff will be eligible to be vaccinated at the same time as residents within a care home.

Outside of the care home vaccination programme, appointments will be offered between September and December, with those at highest risk being called in first. Appointments will be available from the National Booking Service shortly.

You can read the COVID-19 guides below for more information:

- [Eligibility for COVID-19 booster and seasonal influenza immunisation](#)
- [COVID-19 guide for adults](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccinations – a guide for people with a weakened immune system](#)
- An information leaflet on [what to expect after vaccination](#) is available to download

You can also read the product information leaflets for UK recipients of the [Pfizer and Moderna vaccines](#) for more details on the vaccine, including possible side effects.

[A letter from Claire Armstrong](#), Director of ASC Delivery and Covid 19 Responses, has been sent to care home providers about the launch of the autumn vaccination programme.

Pause in COVID-19 testing

As COVID-19 cases continue to decline both locally and nationally, and with the success of the vaccination programme, routine asymptomatic testing is to be paused from Wednesday 31 August 2022.

This is a move to manage COVID-19 in line with other respiratory illnesses, whilst protecting and treating those most vulnerable to more serious outcomes.

Staff will no longer need to perform twice weekly LFD testing. Professional visitors and visitors providing personal care will also pause testing from this date.

Testing will continue for anyone developing new [symptoms](#) of COVID-19, and the [current procedures](#) should be followed in this scenario. Testing for residents being newly admitted into the care home from hospital and the community will also continue, as will testing in the event of an outbreak. The table below describes the types of tests to use:

Scenario	Test type
Testing upon admission from the community	PCR*
Testing upon admission from a hospital	NHS will perform PCR within 48 hours prior to discharge
Symptomatic staff member	LFD at home
Symptomatic resident	LFD
Test to release early from isolation	LFD
Rapid response testing	LFD
Outbreak testing	LFD and PCR* as per outbreak testing protocol

*If somebody has received a positive COVID-19 result (either LFD or PCR) within the past 90 days, they should not perform a PCR test but substitute for an LFD test. In line with the 'Living with COVID' plan, the government will continue to monitor risk and will be ready to resume testing if required. Residents and staff will continue to be protected by appropriate IPC considerations and PPE, as well as protection by vaccination.

Full guidance can be found [here](#).

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

For guidance how to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in adult social care settings in England read the [Infection prevention and control in adult social care: COVID-19 supplement](#).

For more guidance on the COVID-19 testing available for staff, residents and visitors for all adult social care services, please read [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) testing for adult social care services](#).

For an explanation about the purpose of ongoing testing and who is currently eligible for access to testing and when tests should be used read [COVID-19: testing during periods of low prevalence](#).

Skills for Care winter staffing resources

[Winter staffing resources](#) are available on the Skills for Care website.

A 'preparing for the winter pressures ahead' webinar is taking place on Wednesday 5 October, 10:00-10:45. It is aimed at registered managers of adult social care services but is open to all. [Click here to book](#).

Onboarding Ukrainian nationals

Employers in the UK have reported difficulties completing the onboarding process for Ukrainian nationals because references and criminal records checks are currently difficult to obtain within Ukraine.

To aid employers, the Better Hiring Institute has worked with industry and the UK Government to provide guidance which outlines alternative ways to achieve onboarding compliance for people fleeing Ukraine due to the war.

[Find out more and download the guidance](#).

Learning and development opportunities

Leadership programme for nurses from black and ethnic minority backgrounds

The Florence Nightingale Foundation in partnership with Deborah Sturdy, Chief Nurse for Social Care in the Department for Health and Social Care, are pleased to offer an exceptional and transformational [leadership development opportunity](#). The six-month programme is open to nurses from black and ethnic minority backgrounds working in social care organisations across England who have at least three years post-registration experience.

This programme offers a supportive learning space for nurses to develop their leadership identity, capacity, and capability, enabling their influence on organisational and patient health outcomes.

This programme offers a supportive learning space to develop leadership identity, capacity, and capability to influence organisational and patient outcomes.

Applications close on 15 September.

ASC-WDS and WDF virtual workshop

Adult social care managers, learning development leads, and HR leads can attend a virtual workshop using Zoom that aims to provide an overview of the Adult Social Care Workforce Dataset (ASC-WDS) including how to set up an account and what benefits it can bring. It will also provide an update on the Workforce Development Fund (WDF) to support the learning and development of staff. The workshop will take place on Tuesday 13 September, 2pm–3pm.

[Find out more and book a place.](#)

Personalised care - comfort measures in the last days of life: a free virtual workshop

NHS Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland are funding a 3-hour virtual workshop to help care home workers learn about personalised care and comfort measures for the final days of life. The workshop is being hosted by LOROS and is free for registered and non-registered care home workers in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

The workshop will take place on Thursday 20 October, 1pm–4.30pm. Care home workers will learn how personalised care and support planning (PCSP) fits into palliative care and end of life care, how to recognise the signs and symptoms of the dying person, and how to maintain the dying person's personal comfort at the end of life.

[Visit the LOROS website for more information and to book your place.](#)

Learning disability, autism and epilepsy – improving outcomes webinar

NHS England (Midlands) is supporting a programme of work to improve life outcomes for people with a learning disability, autism or both (LDA) who have epilepsy.

Workers supporting children and adults with a learning disability, autism, or both are invited to a half day webinar that will bring together national experts, regional leads and citizens with lived experience to learn more about these issues, look at why action is needed and working towards driving improvement together.

The webinar is taking place on Tuesday 4 October, 1pm-4pm.

[Visit NHS England for more information and to book a place](#)

IPC Webinar Series 2022

We mentioned in [Provider News 6](#) that the County and Rutland LA IPC team are continuing with their series of short webinars called 'IPC Basics'. IPC champions,

housekeeping staff, and others working in adult social care who are interested in infection prevention and control should attend these short refresher courses.

It's not too late to sign up. You can [learn more here](#).

Health and wellbeing

MHFA England workshops, events, and exhibitions

There are a number of mental health workshops, events and exhibitions being held online and in person by MHFA England.

Suicide prevention: building safer workplaces and communities

Tuesday 6 September, 10am-11am

Free webinar

Learn how to support the mental health of your team.

[Book your place](#).

Wellbeing at Work Summit UK

20 – 22 September, all day

London, Manchester, virtually

Get inspiration from employers and experts from across the world to help you create a more compassionate culture that delivers results.

[Find out more and book tickets](#).

'Make A Difference' World Summit

Tuesday 11 October, all day

Central London

Learn about the opportunities for employers to scale-up workplace mental health and wellbeing support, embed wellbeing as a strategic priority and set a new bench mark for best practice.

[Find out more and book tickets](#).

Working from Home Live

16 – 17 November, all day

London ExCel

Learn how to adapt to the future of home working, whether it is setting up a new home office, utilising technology to keep in touch with colleagues and clients or looking after your health.

[Find out more and book tickets](#).

Consultations

National NHS England Learning Disability and Autism Programme: call for feedback

The National NHS England Learning Disability and Autism Programme is developing a 5-year whole age approach to improving the physical, mental, emotional health and social wellbeing of people with a learning disability and autistic people.

The framework is intended to support the NHS and partners in ICS areas, across regions and nationally, to improve the health outcomes and experiences of people with a learning disability and autistic people.

They have worked with people with lived experience, family carers, representatives from the voluntary and independent sector and teams within NHS England and from ICSs to develop this approach.

They would like care providers to give feedback on the development of the framework.

You can review the [My Healthy Life presentation](#) for further information and provide feedback by filling in the [online feedback form](#).

The form takes about 20 minutes to complete. The final date for feedback is Tuesday 6 September 2022.

Future vaccination strategy

NHSE would like your views on a future vaccination and immunisation strategy, as outlined in the next steps for COVID-19 vaccination [letter dated 22 June 2022](#).

This is an opportunity to share your views on what is working well and what could be improved to maximise uptake of vaccinations, reduce variation, and continue to protect people and their families.

You are invited to contribute on the future shape of vaccination services before Friday 30 September via [their portal](#) using quote/tender 56405.

Next edition

The next edition of Provider News will be published during week commencing 12 September 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.