



Issue 10 – 30 September 2022

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The future of adult social care

Framework for Integrated Personalised Care (FIPC)

If you attended a launch event or read a previous bulletin update, you should now be aware of the work that has been done on developing the Framework for Integrated Personalised Care.

The new framework has been jointly developed by partner organisations and from Saturday 1 October 2022, this framework will officially replace the Health and Social Care Protocol (2014).

Materials to support the roll-out of this new way of working are available online, including a video outlining the new framework and copies of both the management and practice guidance.

Further materials such as a list of frequently asked questions and video of the launch event will be added in the coming weeks.

If you have any queries or would like to know more about the changes taking place, please visit the [Framework for Integrated Personalised Care](#) page on the provider area of our website or email naina.karadia@leics.gov.uk or fipcqueries@leics.gov.uk.

Guidance and good practice

Face mask update

Face masks should continue to be worn by all care workers and encouraged for visitors in care settings, regardless of COVID-19 status. Whilst asymptomatic testing was paused on Wednesday 31 August 2022, the [COVID-19 supplement to the](#)

[infection prevention and control](#) (IPC) resource remains unchanged. The type of mask recommended depends on the type of activity being undertaken and whether the person is known or suspected to have COVID-19 or not, but all should be well fitted to cover the mouth, nose and chin, and worn according to the manufacturer's recommendations.

Vaccination update

The roll out of the COVID-19 vaccination and the annual flu vaccination is underway. Where possible, vaccination teams will aim to co-administer both vaccinations. Staff can be vaccinated during care home vaccination visits, or alternatively book a vaccination [here](#). It is safe to have both vaccines at the same time.

The best time to have your flu vaccine is in the autumn or early winter before flu starts spreading. It's important that you receive a flu vaccination this season as well as the COVID-19 vaccination to ensure you have the best possible protection against both of these illnesses this winter. Every flu season there are different flu viruses circulating, and viruses can also mutate. This means that an annual vaccination is required.

Vaccination during pregnancy update

During pregnancy, your immune system (the body's natural defence) is weakened to protect the pregnancy. This can mean you're less able to fight off infections. As the baby grows, you may be unable to breathe as deeply, increasing the risk of infections such as pneumonia. These changes increase the risk from flu, and pregnant women are more likely to get flu complications than women who are not pregnant.

The vaccinations for flu and COVID-19 (primary and booster doses) are safe and strongly recommended during pregnancy, and during breastfeeding. It's safe to have the vaccine during any stage of pregnancy, and you do not need to delay vaccination until after you've given birth. The vaccines do not contain any live viruses and cannot give you or your baby flu or COVID-19.

Right to work checks update

The temporary adjustments to right to work checks due to COVID-19 will end on Friday 30 September 2022.

The end date for the temporary adjusted checks had previously been deferred to 30 September 2022 following the government's announcement enabling the use of identification document validation technology (IDVT) by employers carrying out digital checks on British and Irish citizens who hold a valid passport.

Read further information on [digital identity checks](#).

Deferring the end date ensured that employers had sufficient time to develop commercial relationships with identity service providers, make the necessary

changes to their pre-employment checking processes and carry out responsible on-boarding of their chosen provider.

It has also ensured that the right to work scheme has continued to support long-term, post-pandemic working practices, providing sufficient time to put measures in place to enable face to face document checks if employers do not wish to adopt digital checks for British and Irish citizens with a valid passport (or Irish passport card).

From 1 October 2022, employers must carry out one of the prescribed checks before employment commences, as set out in the guidance.

These checks are:

1. a manual right to work check
2. a right to work check using IDVT through the services of an identity service provider (IDSP)
3. a Home Office online right to work check

Conducting any of these checks will provide employers with a statutory excuse which is a defence against a civil penalty.

Further information for employers on how to conduct these checks is available on the [right to work checks: an employer's guide](#).

Learning and development opportunities

Managing deterioration in care homes webinar for primary care

The East Midlands Academic Health Science Network is hosting a webinar on Friday 30 September 2022 on how care homes in the East Midlands are working to identify the early signs of deterioration in their residents.

The webinar is suitable for anyone in primary care who works with care homes including GPs, care coordinators, community matrons, district nurses, advanced practitioners, physiotherapists and occupational therapists as well as EMAS. It is also suitable for primary care staff who communicate with care homes regarding care of residents such as for example practice managers, reception supervisors and administration leads.

To find out more and book your place [visit Eventbrite](#).

Leicestershire County Council updates

Provider Portal new e-form

The Provider Portal access request form has been developed into an e-form. This will allow for a more streamlined process and maintain a timely response rate.

Please be aware that following an Information Governance audit, access will not be granted to personal email addresses such as Gmail, Hotmail etc. Accounts will only be granted access if they are part of the care provider's email domain. Each user will require their own unique username and password. Access will not be granted for generic email mailboxes e.g. financeteam@...

User accounts for each provider will be reviewed every 12 months to ensure the right people in the organisation have access to the Provider Portal.

Benefits of the Portal include:

- Check packages of care (CPLIs)
- Utilising reports - viewing remittances
- Submitting portal queries to the payments team

If there are any questions about provider portal access, e-mail ASCProviderPortal@leics.gov.uk.

Financial sustainability

PM announcement on energy cost support for businesses in adult social care

As you may be aware, the Prime Minister has announced support for all businesses, charities and public sector organisations with their energy costs this winter, with businesses' energy bills capped at an equivalent level to the domestic price cap of £2,500 for the next six months.

For more information, read '[government announces energy price guarantee for families and businesses](#)'.

We are awaiting more details on the specifics of the equivalency in cost per kw/h and confirmation of start date of the scheme; when we have more information to share, we will do so at the earliest opportunity.

Local financial wellbeing support and resources

You may find these local sources of information and resources helpful if the rising cost of living is affecting your personal finances. They offer financial advice and money-saving tips. Please kindly forward this information to your teams and other colleagues who may find it useful.

- Inspired to Care have produced a [financial support for care providers resources sheet](#).
- LLR ICB are signposting people to the [NHS England financial wellbeing web page](#).
- Active Together are promoting a Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) Programme:

- Runs over the holidays (Christmas, Easter and Summer)
- Holiday provision for children eligible for free school meals
- County programme (delivered in partnership with Active Together and Leicestershire County Council) [Holidays Together | Active Together \(active-together.org\)](https://active-together.org)
- City programme (Leicester City Council) [Family Information | Holiday activities and food programme \(leicester.gov.uk\)](https://leicester.gov.uk)

ESPO Energy and adult social care providers

Leicestershire County Council currently uses ESPO for both gas and electricity and has been doing so for several years. During this time, the councils, and other customers' energy rates have consistently been lower than the market average. This is primarily due to ESPO operating a flexible basket strategy, in which small chunks of gas and electricity are purchased over a 12- to 18-month period, which reduces risk.

By bringing together all types and sizes of organisations and combining buying power, ESPO can offer a much better price than a single organisation going directly to an energy supplier.

ESPO are advising that you should start talking about renewing your energy contract at least 12 months before it expires. By doing so, you will have a chance to consider options and decide what is right for your care home setting.

If you have any questions, please call Rowena at ESPO on 07747 868021.

Data tracking

Upcoming changes to workforce data collection and new packages of care collection

From the end of September 2022, in response to feedback and to highlight pressures over the winter period, new workforce related questions are being added to the Capacity Tracker for both care home and home care providers. There will also be new questions about packages of care for home care providers. Appropriate help for these new questions will be available within the Capacity Tracker.

For both care home and home care providers, new questions about workforce will be:

- How many hours have you paid direct employees to work in the last month/four weeks*, including any overtime?
- How many hours of overtime have you paid for in the last month/four weeks*?
- How many hours of agency staff time have you paid for in the last month/four weeks*?

- How many days/hours of absences have you recorded in the last month/four weeks*?

*Time period optional to suit working practice, e.g., could cover last complete pay period using payroll data in recognition that pay periods will differ between or even within providers (some staff will be paid weekly and others fortnightly or monthly) and no one pay period option will be meaningful to all.

For home care providers only, new questions about packages of care will be:

- In the last 28 days, how many current NHS and LA funded service users' care packages have you had to return?
- In the last 28 days, how many current self-funded service users' care packages have you had to end?

These questions refer to previously agreed packages that have been returned/ended after service provision started.

The new workforce and packages of care questions will become mandatory for the December 2022 reporting window.

From the end of September, the wording of one of the questions in the ASC Home Care Collection will be changing. To provide added clarity, the question "How many people are using your service today?" will change to "How many service users are currently receiving care from your agency?"

The necessity of the currently collected workforce absence questions for both care home and home care providers is currently being reviewed in light of these additions.

Consultations and research

Questionnaire: what services are available to Autistic individuals or people with learning disabilities?

Working as a collective of commissioners across the East Midlands, ADASS are keen to develop a regional picture of what services are available for some of our most complex individuals with learning disability and or Autistic people. They are also keen to understand the challenges and barriers that care providers face when supporting a transition from a long stay placement and thereafter supporting someone in the community.

ADASS would be grateful if you could spare a few minutes to complete this [questionnaire](#) and indicate your interest in attending a regional workshop with their health and social care commissioners to help support better outcomes at both individual and system level.

DACHA study on the quality of life

The DACHA study in partnership with the Institute University of Cambridge is running a consultation on different tools for measuring quality of life outcomes for people living in care homes, which will inform the development of a minimum data set that the CHAIN Network are testing in care homes.

As part of this CHAIN are interested in how different stakeholder groups consider care related quality of life measures. They know that different groups (care home staff, care home managers, family, commissioners, visiting NHS and social care professionals, researchers, the regulator) will prioritise different things. This consultation is looking to identify across group agreement and as importantly whether groups differ in what they rate as important.

If you work in a care home setting or have personal experience of having a relative in a care home, please participate. Your contribution will help to make clear what matters to people, inform decision making and contribute to a national conversation on what care related quality of life is for this population.

Here's how you can [take part in the study](#). It closes on Friday 30 September 2022.

Awards

Make a nomination for The Care Professional of the Year Awards 2022

Inspired To Care have announced the return of the Care Professional of the Year Awards which take place on the Thursday 24 of November 2022 at The Oadby Racecourse.

Nominations are open and will run until Monday 10 of October 2022. Anyone can make a nomination so please encourage your colleagues, as well as service users and their relatives, to make nominations.

To make a nomination visit www.inspiretocare.co.uk/awards.

Next edition

The next edition of Provider News will be published during week commencing 10 October 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.