

Residential and Nursing Care

20th March 2020

Dear Provider

Further to our recent email correspondence this letter is a further update on the current Covid-19 situation.

If you haven't read as yet the government [guidance](#) for care home services, I urge you to do this as a matter of urgency. The guidance provides some key messages for home care providers on measures they can take.

I am very aware of the rapidly changing environment and the issues and concerns this is raising. Can I ask that any issues you have you raise through this email caas.carehomes@leicester.gov.uk so that we can manage the flow of information. We will be setting up a webpage where updates will be posted, and I will advise of this as soon as that becomes available.

Our health colleagues are working hard to discharge patients from hospital who have been assessed as fit for discharge. I know you will cooperate wherever possible, with requests for current residents to return to their home, and to use the trusted assessor route to enable new residents to be admitted without the need for you to attend the ward. Further guidance is being produced which will advise on the steps taken by UHL to ensure that the resident is fit for discharge and can be accepted by a care home given the concerns you may have about the introduction of new residents to your establishment.

Training resources are being produced which will offer guidance on the process of barrier nursing should a case of Covid19 be diagnosed within your home and as soon as this is available this will be shared with you.

As you will be aware we have asked you as a provider to keep your Business Continuity Plan updated. We now ask you to send an updated business continuity plans to caas.carehomes@leicester.gov.uk so that we can ensure you have considered all appropriate alternative measures at this difficult time.

I can advise that we have received updated information regarding the supplies of PPE. I have forwarded that note separately but to repeat here that we are advised that free distribution of fluid repellent facemasks from the pandemic flu stock will start today [Wednesday 18th March], with every care home and home care provider receiving at least 300 facemasks. We anticipate the distribution will be complete by next Tuesday. This is aimed at tiding over the initial rise in demand following the change of guidance on facemasks last week. Providers are not required to take action; the stock will be delivered to them.

In addition, if care providers have immediate concerns over their supply of PPE, there is now a dedicated line for you, the health and social care sector.

The National Supply Disruption line

Tel: 0800 915 9964

Email: supplydisruption@nhsbsa.nhs.uk

Can I again take this opportunity to thank you and your staff team for the invaluable service that you provide, particularly in these very difficult times.

Regards



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