

PROVIDER BULLETIN

Thursday 1 April 2021

STAFF TESTING CONSENT FORM

A template of a Staff Testing Consent Form has been uploaded to the [Provider Zone](#) along with a Staff Testing Tracker Matrix which was originally designed for care homes but can be adapted and used to track bulk staff testing centrally in any organisation

RESTORE2MINI

Restore2Mini training continues next week, for care homes and home support, to book a place email qualitytraining@bradford.nhs.uk and for more information you can view the flyers on the Provider Zone

VISITING GUIDANCE FOR SUPPORTED LIVING SETTINGS

Visiting guidance for Supported Living settings has been updated and is available [HERE](#)

The guidance is aimed at supported living settings but it also states that many of the principles are applicable to extra care housing for older people

NATIONAL BOOKING SERVICE UPDATE

We are aware that eligibility for the National Booking Service (NBS) for Covid-19 Vaccinations has been changed.

Currently all Health and Social Care staff are unable to use the NBS, along with unpaid carers that are not receiving Carer's Allowance or registered with their GP Practice.

Should you need support for your Covid-19 Vaccination, please contact our Covid-19 Vaccination Team on 01274 436263 or, if you are a manager contacting on behalf of your staff, please email hwbvaccinations@bradford.gov.uk.

CLOSURE OF MARLEY FIELDS TESTING CENTRE ON FRIDAY 9 APRIL

Marley Fields testing centre was established early on in the pandemic last year. Its aim was to support adult social care staff and other critical key workers from the district at a time when the numbers of tests available was limited. The service continued to grow with during the summer and there were over 300 tests a day, on a 6-day week, being supplied to the social care sector.

As many of these primary services have moved to national or other local portals the demand for testing at Marley fields has significantly reduced. Based on this, the time has come to withdraw this service. Ironically one year from its inception Marley Fields will close on Friday 9th April and from that point there will be no testing available at the site. Current service users have been contacted and options and routes for testing have been discussed. During this period over 41,000 tests have been issued. A great example and achievement of collaborative work between health and council colleagues.

We would like to thank the many users of Marley Fields testing site. Particular thanks also go to all the different teams of staff that have been working to support the facility and make it a success including those from; the CBMDC Outdoor Centres; Nancy O'Neill and Sarah Worstead, and the different swabbing teams and all those present at the site.

NEW MENTAL HEALTH WELLBEING HUB

West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership (WY&H HCP) has opened its staff mental health and wellbeing hub, supporting people who work in health, social care services and the voluntary community social enterprise sector (VCSE) as they deal with the impact of COVID-19.

Staffed by a dedicated professional team, the hub is a confidential, free of charge service funded by NHS England / Improvement that builds on existing wellbeing support that is available in hospital Trusts, councils and the many voluntary services organisations that make up WY&H HCP. The hub will provide a range of services, from intensive, individual treatment to resources that can support people to help themselves cope with feelings of bereavement, burnout, stress and trauma. For more information follow this [LINK](#)

EXTRA CARE AND SUPPORTED LIVING TESTING UPDATE: RAPID LATERAL FLOW TESTING NOW AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT VISITS IN AND OUT OF SETTINGS

Visits in and out of extra care and supported living settings can now be supported by rapid lateral flow testing. Both 'high risk' and 'wider' settings (as defined by the extra care and supported living testing risk-based criteria) will be able to order rapid lateral flow tests for this purpose.

Testing is one tool that can be used to help mitigate the risks to identify asymptomatic visitors who are likely to be infectious before they visit so they are able to self-isolate immediately.

For full guidance on visits in and out, please follow this [LINK](#)

For the on-site testing rapid lateral flow test guidance, please follow this [LINK](#)

To learn more, please join one of the Department of Health and Social Care's webinars for full details about testing, including to support visiting. The next webinar is on Wednesday 31 March at 11am, it can be accessed using this [LINK](#)

WEBINARS ON ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Digital Social Care, Skills for Care and Sight and Sound Technology are introducing a new webinar series designed to inform adult social care providers about the range of assistive technology available to support people who are visually challenged or who have visual processing or other sensory challenges.

This series has been designed to support and inform adult social care providers (residential and non-residential settings) about the range of assistive technology available to help support older adults, people living with mental health challenges or people with learning disabilities.

Every month, the webinar will focus on examples of different technologies and how they can be used in a variety of settings. If you would like to see a specific type of technology featured, please let us know.

The first session 'Exploring the World of Assistive Technology' will take place on **Thursday 22 April, 15:00-16:00** if you are available to attend.

The event listing is available [HERE](#)

Government to extend free **COVID*** PPE for health, social care and wider public sector services until the end of March 2022



Future of **COVID** PPE provision to health and social care, and wider public sector services secured



Ensuring additional free PPE will support the roadmap out of lockdown, whilst the vaccine programme continues to reach more people



Free **COVID** PPE scheme extended beyond previous end in June 2021

- The Government is extending the provision of free PPE to health and social care providers until the end of March 2022.
- Following the previous announcement of free PPE provision to health, social care and public sector workers until the end of June 2021, the scheme will now be extended to the end of March 2022 as the expectation of clinical experts is that usage will remain high throughout the next financial year.
- In order to protect the health and wellbeing of health and social care workers, as well as their patients and clients, the continued provision will ensure frontline workers can access rigorously tested and high-quality PPE.
- PPE also plays a critical role in the wider COVID-19 response, such as enabling visiting to care homes and supporting emergency frontline services like the police, fire and rescue. Free PPE provision extends to all of these needs amongst public sector frontline workers.

**This applies to PPE for COVID-19 use only as set out in PPE guidance, not for BAU (business as usual) PPE*



DATA FOR THE SOCIAL CARE SECTOR IN BRADFORD

	Latest	Change
Deaths	0	-1
Infections	12	-28
Outbreaks	14	-6
Occupancy	73%	-1%
Tracker completed	99%	+1%

HOME SUPPORT PLACEMENTS (last 7 days)

Total Placements	Locality Providers	Other Providers
35	23	12

CARE HOME VACANCY DETAILS (last 7 days, both Residential and Nursing).

PERCENTAGE OCCUPIED	NUMBER OF HOMES
Under 70%	30
71% to 85%	36
86%+ Occupied	41

Bradford Care Home Occupancy Rate



Bradford Care Homes with a Covid-19 Outbreak



Bradford Care Home Completed Tracker in last 7 days



Number of Covid-19 Infections



BCA MEETING SCHEDULE

Meeting	Date	Time
Provider Update	Tues, 6 April	10:30 – 11:30
IPC Update	Tues, 13 April	10:30 – 11:30
Provider Update	Tues, 20 April	10:30 – 11:30
Quality Workshop – Part 1 - CQC	Wed, 21 April	13:30 – 16:00
IPC Update	Tues, 27 April	10:30 – 11:30

**STAY SAFE, MAKE SPACE
AND VENTILATE**



COVID-19 SUPPORT TEAM WEEKLY VLOG

The latest instalment of the series is available to view [HERE](#)





VAT SOLUTIONS
INDIRECT TAX SPECIALISTS

WEBINAR PRESENTATION

Care Group VAT Registration (Contract Restructuring)

What is it... and what are the benefits for your care provision?

Many care operators have heard about the opportunity which exists within the sector to reclaim VAT on an ongoing basis, but many are unaware of the extent to which it is already being adopted or what process is involved to achieve the fully working structure in their own business..

The ongoing VAT reclaim benefits of 'contract restructuring', plus the wider business efficiencies of adopting and implementing this model, will be set out and discussed in our webinar presentation by Rob Burton, MD of our commercial partner VAT Solutions.

Rob will explain how it works in practical terms, drawing upon his years of experience of implementing the arrangement, using case studies and addressing frequently asked questions around the process. In addition, he will explain the historical reasons why the VAT reclaim opportunity is available to the sector (covering regulatory/funding bodies and HMRC), as well as explaining the working mechanics, what is involved operationally and how to avoid any pitfalls.

Q&A session included.

How to Book...

Date: Thursday 22nd April

Time: 10.30am-11.30am

Places will be limited on an invitation only basis.

To reserve your place please

email Clare@vatsol.com

Tel: 0114 280 3630

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