



Leeds
CITY COUNCIL



Leeds
Clinical Commissioning Group

Care Provider Bulletin

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Director of Public Health Statement

Applicable to: All Care Homes

For Information:

Webinars - LA support to care homes from April 22

Many of you will have booked onto the above webinar sessions scheduled for this week (Session 1: 23rd March at 14:00, Session 2: 24th March at 10:30 and Session 3: 24th March at 14:00). The ASC policy changes (testing and IPC) are not likely to be agreed nationally until the 24th March. UKHSA have therefore decided to postponed the webinars until the week commencing 11th April. By doing so this should ensure the guidance is out and UKHSA can include it in the sessions. Further details will be circulated.

As of the 21st March the Leeds 7-day Covid-19 infection rate is now 588.62 per 100,000, a 51% increase from last week. The infection rate for the over 60s in Leeds is 533.4 per 100,000 which is an increase of 55% over the last week. The overall rate of infection in Leeds is currently above the Yorkshire and Humber average as a whole and lower than the England rate. Increases are being seen across the region and England as a whole.

With these high rates increased vigilance is needed by all working in or visiting Care homes, using the well-established and effective infection control measures including appropriate use of PPE, handwashing continue and remain of high importance. These measures will also help reduce the spread of other infectious disease currently circulating such as gastroenteritis which has caused outbreaks in a number of setting this week including care homes.

These increases in covid rates are likely due to relaxation of mitigation measures, increased mixing and waning of the vaccine. Though currently the numbers of people reported to be seriously ill is remains small.

The focus on vaccinations continues. This week the spring booster of the coronavirus vaccine starts, to people aged 75 years and older, residents in care homes for older people, and those with weakened immune systems. Moderna and Pfizer will be delivered local arrangements are being finalised.

The National guidance is available below

[A guide to the spring booster for those aged 75 years and older residents in care homes - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) Updated 18th March

The number of homes reporting cases on the 21st March:

Older people's CHs

The number of homes reporting cases has increased slightly this week but the number of residents and staff testing positive has decreased. There are now 19 older people's care homes reporting cases of COVID-19 with a total of 49 positive residents and 42 positive staff. Currently residents testing positive are not experiencing significant illness.

Working Age Adult CHs

There has been an increase this week. Currently 6 WAA homes reporting cases and a total of 20 residents and 17 staff affected.

Key National Government guidance documents are available below, updates are expected on these shortly, by using these links you can ensure the most up to date guidance is being viewed:-

- [Guidance on care home visiting - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) updated 15th March 2022
- [Admission and care of residents in a care home during COVID-19 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) updated 9th March 2022. Updated to reflect the removal of

the legal requirement for people with COVID-19 to self-isolate in line with government's approach to living with COVID.

Due to the higher risk nature of health and social care settings, the advice for residents and staff members working in these settings has not changed.

- [COVID-19 care home testing guidance for regular and outbreak testing of staff and residents - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) updated 25th February 2022.
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-management-of-exposed-healthcare-workers-and-patients-in-hospital-settings/covid-19-management-of-exposed-healthcare-workers-and-patients-in-hospital-settings> updated 24th February 2022
- [Visitors to adult social care settings: reporting rapid lateral flow tests at home - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) updated 16th February 2022
- [02-301121 Adult Social Care Testing Guidance visual rev9.pdf \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#) updated 16th February 2022

There also remains uncertainty re the provision of LFTs for visitors. National government guidance is expected shortly.

Accurate and trusted information along with frequently asked questions around the vaccines can be found on the Leeds CCG website.

[COVID-19 vaccine information - NHS Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group \(leedsccg.nhs.uk\)](#)

[Flu vaccinations - NHS Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group \(leedsccg.nhs.uk\)](#)

For the current National Government's guidance, Coronavirus: how to stay safe and help prevent the spread including the changes to self-isolation see the [government website](#).

If you require any advice please contact carequality@leeds.gov.uk

Vaccine Update

Applicable to: Everyone

For Information:

Vaccination offers the best possible protection against becoming ill and preventing severe disease and hospitalisation.

Who is eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine?

All adults aged 18 or over can get vaccinated against COVID-19. You can book your appointments anytime. The COVID-19 vaccination offer is 'evergreen' so you can still come forward to get your vaccine.

Adults over 75 and care home residents will be offered another COVID-19 booster in the spring to help protect against the virus. You will be contacted when it is your turn for the spring booster.

Even though life is getting back to normal again, it is still important to get your vaccines and boosters to protect as much as possible against further outbreaks. Book via:

- *National booking system:* You can book a 1st, 2nd, 3rd or booster dose of the coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine or manage an appointment via the [online NHS booking service](#), or by calling 119 free of charge, anytime between 7am and 11pm seven days a week.
- *Walk in clinics:* these are being offered at several locations across Leeds. Clinic details may change at short notice; find up to date information here: [Walk-in vaccination clinics - NHS Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group \(leedsccg.nhs.uk\)](#)

There are several walk-in vaccination clinics across Leeds and regularly updated information can be found at [Walk-in vaccination clinics - NHS Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group \(leedsccg.nhs.uk\)](#). New sites are running clinics so keep an eye on this page for the latest arrangements. Details of which vaccines are available and who can attend are included for each listing.

Spring booster campaign.

A guide to the spring booster for those aged 75 years and older residents in care homes is available at [A guide to the spring booster for those aged 75 years and older residents in care homes - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Note this only applies to “older” peoples care homes.

DHSC Care Home and Home Care Markets Survey – Have your say!

Applicable to: Home care and care home providers

For Information:

DHSC Care Home and Home Care Markets Survey – Have your say!

On 7 September 2021, the Prime Minister announced changes which will affect the care home and home care provider market. To help understand this market better, DHSC is asking care home and home care providers to complete their survey hosted within Capacity Tracker from the evening of 21 March 2022 onwards.

The survey is an opportunity for providers to share information about who is receiving care in their service and information about that care. This will help DHSC to understand what its reforms will mean in practice for residents, service users and provider businesses. It will also help monitor how reform is affecting the care market in the coming months.

Provider responses will provide valuable insight alongside lots of other evidence and information gathering on charging reform.

DHSC would like to thank in advance all care home and home care providers that take the time to complete the survey.

If you have any further questions relating to the DHSC Care Home and Home Care Markets Survey, please email: capacitytrackerfeeratesurvey@dhsc.gov.uk

Consultation on changes to the MCA code of practice and implementation of the liberty protection safeguards

Applicable to: Registered care providers

For Information:

The Government are consulting on the proposed changes to the Mental Capacity Act 2005 (MCA) Code of Practice, which includes guidance on the new Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS) system.

This consultation is also seeking views on the LPS regulations, which will underpin the new system.

This is a joint consultation published by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and the Ministry of Justice (MoJ).

The MCA applies in England and Wales, but some aspects of its application are devolved in Wales. The Welsh Government has therefore informed this consultation.

The links are below

[Changes to the MCA Code of Practice and implementation of the LPS - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/changes-to-the-mca-code-of-practice-and-implementation-of-the-lps)

[\(\[www.gov.uk\]\(http://www.gov.uk\)\)
<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/changes-to-the-mca-code-of-practice-and-implementation-of-the-lps>](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/changes-to-the-mca-code-of-practice-and-implementation-of-the-lps)

Easy read versions can be found at

[Changes to the law and guidance about making your own decisions \(easy read\) - GOV.UK \(\[www.gov.uk\]\(http://www.gov.uk\)\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/changes-to-the-law-and-guidance-about-making-your-own-decisions-easy-read)

And the consultation

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/changes-to-the-law-and-guidance-about-making-your-own-decisions-easy-read>

This consultation closes at 11:45pm on 7 July 2022.

The Society of Tissue Viability

Applicable to: Social care providers

For Information:

The Society of Tissue Viability is a charity working towards improving skin and wound care. The society started the skin care champions programme for care homes last year. It is going into its second cycle in April.

What is a Skin Care Champion?

The pandemic highlighted the essential role that carers play in the healthcare system. It also showed just how important it is that social care workers have the training and support they need to deliver the very best care. Skin Care Champions was created to provide people working in care homes and home care agencies a trusted programme of cost-effective and easily accessible education and support skin health and wound healing.

The Society of tissue Viabilities ambition is to create and empower a Skin Care Champion for every care home or agency that joins the programmes – someone who can help to make sure that excellent care is provided to their clients and residents and be seen a source of information and knowledge for their peer

The quality of education and support is excellent. Membership is £140 for a years' worth of education and resources so the charity can cover costs.

Full details are on the link below

[Skin Care Champions - Society of Tissue Viability](#)

Research into the work of migrant women from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnicities in care homes during covid

Applicable to: Everyone

For Information/Action:

Amna Sarwer a PhD student at the Open University Business School is undertaking research investigating the work of migrant women from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnicities in care homes during Covid-19 in the UK.

The research is being funded by the Open University. If you wish to take part you will be invited to take part in two interviews and an optional diary keeping exercise. Each interview will be up to one hour long and will take place online (e.g. Zoom/Teams, Skype or WhatsApp). This study will run from February 2022 until August 2022. However, you will only be required to take part in two interviews and diary keeping will be optional.

Please see this [poster](#) for further information and the [participant information sheet](#).

Care home security

Applicable to: care homes

For Information:

We have been made aware of two break ins at care homes this weekend, one at night and one in the early hours. We wanted to make you aware of this so that you can review your security arrangements and remain vigilant.

Mental Health and Wellbeing Champions course

Applicable to: Anyone working in the health and care sector in Leeds

For Information:

Leeds Health and Care One Workforce have partnered with Luminate (Leeds City College) to provide 800 fully funded places on a Mental Health and Wellbeing Champions course which is running from March 2022 for 12 months. This course is open to anyone working in the health and care sector in Leeds.

The 2-day course will cover the following areas;

- Mental Health
- Physical Health
- Communication and Engagement
- Health and Wellbeing Cultures
- Support Networks and Resources

The Health and Wellbeing champions [poster](#) provides full details of the course and the training dates available, which can be booked via [this form](#).

The poster highlights that funding is available for smaller organisations, to enable them to backfill staff who wish to attend the training. The application form for role backfill funding can be found [here](#).

We would greatly appreciate it if you could share this information with your teams and colleagues so that they can access this free training opportunity.