

Thursday 08 October 2020

MESSAGE FROM BETHANY PEARCE, ADULT SOCIAL CARE PPE POLICY DELIVERY LEAD, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE (06 OCT 2020)

A number of you have provided feedback about the proposed guidance change and your frustration at the process. I am writing again today to provide a fuller explanation of the change and reassure you that the Department and PHE take your concerns seriously.

Firstly, on behalf of DHSC and Public Health England I apologise unreservedly for the confusion that has been caused by the sudden change in guidance. We are working to rectify this as soon as possible and are examining our internal processes to ensure that future revisions to the guidance go through the correct process.

The guidance was altered based on clinical health service requirements outlined within the ['COVID-19 Guidance for the Remobilisation of Services within Health and Care Settings'](#) (this excludes Adult Social Care in England) which advises that vinyl medical gloves should only be worn in care situations where there is no anticipated exposure to blood and/or body fluids. This guidance was influenced by the findings of a [literature review from Scotland](#) which was based on clinical settings. This advice was subsequently applied to guidance relating to the Adult Social Care setting in such a way that it did not clearly delineate between personal and clinical care.

Taking on board the comments you have provided, we will be updating the guidance to make it clear that vinyl gloves can be used in the majority of situations where gloves are needed. Only when staff are likely to come into contact with blood should they wear nitrile, neoprene or latex gloves.

We understand, and are sorry, that this process has caused anxiety and frustration, in addition to having possible cost implications. We are endeavouring to amend the guidance quickly to provide clarity around the situation and to ensure the guidance is accurate and agreed.



INFECTION CONTROL FUND ROUND 2

The Council is preparing to allocate Round 2 of the Adult Social Care Infection Control Fund.

In order to be eligible for this round, the government has stipulated that:

- All home support, supporting living and extra care providers must have completed the CQC homecare survey for 2 consecutive weeks.
- All care homes must have completed the Adult Social Care (ASC) fund questions within the Capacity Tracker for 2 consecutive weeks. The [Capacity Tracker Care Home User Guide](#) can be accessed via this link. Step 4 of the document, page 17 onwards, details how to do this.

Please ensure that you are now completing these requirements, as we will require confirmation of this prior to distributing the fund.

We are working with representatives from Bradford Care Association and you will receive a further communication in relation to the fund in due course

KICKSTART SCHEME

Bradford Council is pleased to confirm that it will be acting as a Gateway for the Government's new Kickstart scheme. This means we can submit applications to the scheme on behalf of partner organisations who cannot meet the 30 jobs threshold that has been set nationally.

The scheme presents a fantastic opportunity for businesses to boost their workforce capacity whilst enabling young people to gain valuable, paid work experience by funding new posts for six months at national minimum wage for 25 hours per week. By acting as a Gateway we can maximise the number of local employers that can benefit from this scheme, and we are very pleased to be able to offer this service. Further information on the Kickstart scheme can be found here: www.gov.uk/kickstart

We are now working on our first Gateway submission with the aim that it will be submitted to the DWP by the end of October 2020. If you wish to put forward work experience placements for the scheme, please complete the short e-form <https://surveys.bradford.gov.uk/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=160148167811> This will provide us with the information that we need to include in our application to the DWP. I would be grateful if you could return as soon as is possible, or at the **latest by noon on the 19th October 2020**. We understand that there is a 30 day turnaround time at DWP once this is submitted so we hope to receive feedback on our submission by the end of November 2020.

We will be in touch again to update as the application progresses.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch. kickstart@bradford.gov.uk

INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL ON CALL COVER FOR THIS WEEKEND (10AM- 1PM)

- Saturday: Darren Fletcher - 07582 102163
- Sunday: Michael Horsley - 07582 102117



ACS INFECTION CONTROL FUND - CAPACITY TRACKER

There is a section on the **Capacity Tracker** called "**ACS infection Control Fund**" that has a series of questions to be completed and this needs to be updated once a week, as well as the daily updates that are required.

Updating the ACS section has been made a fundamental requirement for the Infection Control Fund which was received earlier this year and to be eligible for any subsequent funding. We therefore need to stress that it is important it is completed each week.

To access the ACS questions these are under the provider section. If you need more guidance to find these then the Contact Centre can help 0191 691 3729

The data across the whole of the Capacity Tracker and the ACS information is being scrutinised at a high level both regionally and nationally. As a Local Authority we are asked to report on specific entries by Care Homes, please be mindful that data submissions are an accurate reflection of the current situation at the home as entries may be queried. There is guidance under the help section about the full system if you are not clear about any part you are being asked to input. (Specifically the ACS section is under Care Home Support – Care Home User Guide – Page 17 – there is a further link to the ACS questions and guidance) but also now on the Provider Zone for ease.

The deadline for a full update of the Capacity Tracker, including the ACS Infection Control Fund questions, is Monday 12th October. Care Home Liaison officers will be contacting all homes to offer support- please make them aware if there are any issues meeting this deadline or email the Commissioning Inbox. Officers may also follow up if the system has not been updated by this time.



BCA - IPC: WINTER PLANNING SESSIONS; GETTING STARTED

The Bradford Care Association (BCA), Infection Prevention and Control Team (IPC) and Clinical Commissioning Group will lead sessions around Winter Planning, **the first session will take place on the 13 October 2020; 10:30 to 11:30**. These sessions will be held fortnightly on alternate weeks to the BCA Provider Update meeting.

The target audience for these sessions will be your IPC Champions and Team Managers. It is recommended that Registered Managers also join.

The agenda for the "Getting Started" session:

- Adult Social Care Winter Plan
- Key messages from the IPC survey
- Winter Resilience; Getting started
- Support and Resources
- Next Steps and Feedback
- Next Session; 10:30 – 11:30, 27 October 2020.

Details on how to attend will be shared on the [Provider Zone](#).

DELIRIUM IN COVID-19

Delirium is a sudden change or worsening of mental state and behaviour. It can cause confusion, poor concentration, sleepiness, memory loss, paranoia, agitation and reduced appetite and mobility.

As of the 2nd of October guidance was issued that the onset of delirium in older people, or in those with dementia or cognitive impairment should prompt clinicians to consider SARS-CoV2 testing.

See the [Provider Zone](#) for further details.



DHSC CONFIDENT OF PPE SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION THIS WINTER

The Department of Health and Social Care's new [Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\) Strategy](#) for England describes how the Government has reduced dependence on overseas suppliers and built a strong domestic supply base for PPE.

For the full UKHCA update, see the [Provider Zone](#).

FREE #LOANSHARKSAREMONSTERS HALLOWEEN ACTIVITY PACKS

The Anti-Poverty Events Group are launching our Digital & Financial Inclusion Project on the 15th October for International Credit Union Day called #LoanSharksAreMonsters.

For full details, see the [Provider Zone](#).

For booklet requests, more information or queries about this project, please email deborah@artworkscreative.org.uk for any information or queries regarding this project.

**THREE TRAINING COURSES AVAILABLE
FROM HUDDERSFIELD UNIVERSITY FOR
SOCIAL CARE PROVIDERS**

The University of Huddersfield is offering 3 courses or 'training packages' to social care providers during this October and November. The courses can be accessed by providers based in West Yorkshire and Harrogate for no cost, as they are funded for the WY&H ICS by North East and Yorkshire Health Education England.

The courses / training packages consist of a podcast *that must be watched prior* to a one hour question and answer webinar.

[The booking system allows you to book on to a webinar up to 72 hours before each date advertised for the question and answer webinars. This gives you time to access and watch the podcast prior to the questions and answer webinar].

Please see dates and times, and how to book onto each course, on the 3 flyers in the [Provider Zone](#).

The 3 courses / training packages are on:

1. Loss, Grief and Bereavement – sustaining you and your workforce
2. Recognising and Responding to deterioration
3. Supporting people with long term conditions following COVID

**Apprenticeship Route to Registered Nurse
for social care employers - webinar 20th
October**

Health Education England (HEE) are hosting a webinar on **20th October 2020 from 3.00 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.** which aims to give the latest information to social care employers on the Apprenticeship Route to the Registered Nursing Degree.

Skills for Care's expert nursing project manager Wendy Leighton will be participating with HEE colleagues.

You can join the conference by clicking [HERE](#)

This is a Teams Live Event so HEE have informed us the delegates won't be able to speak or be seen on the webinar, but there will be a Q&A function to submit questions, and the webinar is recorded for circulation after the event.

Any additional requests for information, please email: talentforcare@hee.nhs.uk

Due to the success of the first quality workshop the local authority and the CCG have generously come together to give free access to the remaining quality workshop in series one (Next session - Wednesday 14th October). It was clear to see that providers found the workshop useful by giving them time for reflection in order to see what they have achieved in these unprecedented times.

At the start of the workshop, providers were asked how prepared they were and how they felt during the early stages of the pandemic. They were then asked this question again at the end of the workshop. See the [Provider Zone](#) for feedback which shows the difference in personal reflection, showing the importance of these sessions.

See flyer on the next page for more details.

**BCA QUALITY WORKSHOPS
ARE NOW FREE!**



Bradford Care Association
QUALITY WORKSHOPS



Brightening Minds Training

**BACK
TO
THE FUTURE**



Session 2 'TO' 1:30-4:30pm 14th October 2020

Open to all Providers following on from the first quality workshop where we reflected on the past few months. During this workshop we will be focusing on the here, now and 'today' Sign up through Eventbrite to get the access to the Zoom information ensure only 1 registration is used per Provider location.



**ACCESS THE ZOOM LINK
THROUGH EVENTBRITE [HERE](#)**

Order your ticket through eventbrite to gain access to the Zoom information.

**BECOME A BCA
MEMBER AND GET ALL
6 SESSIONS FREE PLUS
BENEFITS**

**PLEASE REMEMBER
ITS ONE LOG IN PER
ORGANISATION**

 Additionally email: admin@bradfordcareassociation.org for more information!

BCA Member - Free admission to all session

Non BCA Member - £30 (6 sessions in total, second series early 2021) Or become a
BCA member for an annual fee of £100 and get all sessions included as well as BCA benefits!

Next Sessions:

Session 3: 'FUTURE' 4th November

Series 2: Early 2021