

**Bradford Care Association (BCA) – Zoom meeting held 28.04.2020**

Chair: Louise Bestwick

Present: 17 BCA members

**MINUTES**

1. 26% of Bradford Care Home now affected – A care home provider who operates nationally advised one their homes in Barnsley 30 deaths out of 75 Residents.
2. PPE Issues – Supplies seem to be easier at least on a Just in Time Basis through a combination of sourcing own supplies and through the council. It is being helped with more lists of other suppliers to contact coming out. Karen Podgson, Kirklees – has sourced masks at 35p per mask. Louise is exploring this and will share. A slight improving picture. All spending lots on PPE. Guidance for Care Homes – Sessional use of masks now in progress in most care homes from last week. And new guidance has been issued for Home Support too.  
PPE survey – Can all providers please complete the survey sent out by the council, this will capture all information needed for the council to understand usage/demand and costs we are incurring.
3. All hospital admissions within hospital should be tested as per the new guidance. A new pathway and process is being developed and will be shared with providers as soon as possible. We are awaiting clarification about whether A&E discharges will also be tested from Public Health England
4. Pathway for swabbing hospital discharges continues to be developed– Council run homes (hotsites) will take in positive residents if we are unable to take the residents back. There should be no repercussion if we are unable to take back Residents – due to issues with our homes and vulnerable Residents. Capacity now in hospitals/hotsites to hold these positive patients. Issues re “duty of care” – If we can take residents back but if we are COVID free we may decide we cannot take the patient back until 14 days isolation has been complete. Particular issues with Dementia residents and people walking with purpose. The pathway is being worked up.
5. Financial support – Welcome first step but rapidly changing picture so it will need to continue to be developed. Self-funders not considered with in the current payment and represent 50% of all beds in Bradford. Increasing VOIDS within the sector due to increased deaths and low referrals. This is a major concern for providers and worried about their financial viability going forward. Advanced payments for cash flow mechanism and processes needed for worked through for this.
6. Workforce – 36 trainee Care Assistants have been recruited by the council for the pool of staff to support the sector – not full pathway available yet re allocation. Care homes are experiencing one extreme to another re managing



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the care support demand – depending on COVID positive, deaths and staff sickness and then a dramatic reduction in occupancy so having to reduce staffing levels.

7. National / Regional issues – Public Health Team – Will send out testing kits if we have 1 “positive” patient (with symptoms) unfortunately they ran out of kits over the weekend, but they have stock again now.  
2 Pillars for test –
  - a. Local testing kits
  - b. Through military who will come next day to do swabbing and send to Milton Keynes.
8. CQC testing route for staff – 2 routes
  - a. CQC site in Leeds, member of household has to be symptomatic
  - b. Through local offer at Marley, Keighley swabs done yourself  
– Results in 48 hours – Sent to person who was tested.
9. Telemed – This is being rolled out – 80 care homes in Telemed at present – training and support “virtual ward rounds” and with clinicians and Doctors so great support for Care Homes. Daily huddles could be an option if you need to use Telemed. If this something you would like – Any thoughts let Louise know.
10. Red bag Pathway – Documentation to send in not the “Red Bag” ensure DNR is returned! Dr Humphreys send out information to GPS to ensure they are sharing information and speaking with care providers about the people we support.
11. Capacity Tracker – Ensure this is completed daily – This highlights fact of what we have in the homes and how it is changing week on week. RAG/SUS Rating to complete daily too, please
12. CQC update and RAG/SUS to be completed daily for home care
13. NHS mail Please sign up– Discharge information sent home and communicating with GP’s
14. Patients in hospital with COVID symptoms will be clinically diagnosed as positive even if have a negative test. Up to Home to negotiate what we wish to do re discharge back to us or go to the “hot sites”.
15. Top Ups – in some instances top ups paid for by the local authority, but not all discharge coordinators saying the same? Louise will ask for clarification.
16. Bradford council given £15.5 million from the Government – £1.6 billion more allocated nationally on top of that has been allocated too for councils to use.
17. Most council are paying for “voids” – empty beds but not Bradford.
18. Looking at mid-May for a Registered Managers meeting, this is still to be organised.
19. Zoom meeting – Again next Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2020

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