

For more information on the Council's current position, in respect of Covid 19 please use this website: [CLICK HERE](#)
Please ensure any information you consult is from a reliable source, including the NHS, or Public Health England.

Thursday 27 January 2022

PROVIDER BULLETIN

6 January 2022

3 February 2022

1 April 2022

For more information, click [HERE](#).

12 week
grace
period
starts

Last date by
which existing
staff can have
their 1st dose
to become
fully
vaccinated by
1 April 2022*

Regulations
come into
force

COVID-19 SUPPORT TEAM WEEKLY VLOG

The latest instalment of the weekly Vlog is available to view [HERE](#) or click on the video on the right!

vlog week # 48

MATTHEW

CARE SECTOR LIAISON OFFICER



SURVEY FOR STAFF SICK PAY

Please find a survey link here; [Staff Sick Pay Survey](#). We are asking care home, home care and extra care providers to complete this survey to confirm what sick pay staff are currently receiving.

This survey covers what staff receive when off sick or have to isolate and also whether or not your service has used all of the allocated ICTF funding to cover staff wages whilst they have taken sick leave over the last few months.

We will use this information to review current ICTF Discretionary funding availability to the sector in relation to staff pay.

GOVERNMENT EASES SOCIAL CARE RESTRICTIONS FOLLOWING BOOSTER SUCCESS

- Unlimited visiting for care home residents to return
- Reduced isolation following a COVID-19 infection for those receiving care
- Changes will ensure those providing and receiving care are kept safe while increasing freedoms for residents

Restrictions in place to help prevent the spread of Omicron in adult social care will now be eased as Plan B measures are removed following the success of the booster programme.

From Monday 31 January, there will be no limit on the number of visitors allowed into care homes and self-isolation periods will be cut and now care homes only have to follow outbreak management rules for 14 rather than 28 days.

By Wednesday 16 February, care workers will be asked to use LFD tests before their shifts replacing the current system which included the use of weekly asymptomatic PCR tests.

86.5 per cent of all care home residents have now had their booster jab, which provides maximum protection against Omicron, with the latest data from the UK Health Security Agency showing it is 92% effective in preventing hospitalisation two weeks after it is administered. The safety of care home residents will continue to be the priority. The new measures will ensure there are still robust protections in place to protect them while case rates in the community remain high.

Health and Social Care Secretary Sajid Javid said:

“I know how vital companionship is to those living in care homes and the positive difference visits make, which is why we continued to allow three named visitors and an essential care giver under Plan B measures.

“Thanks to the progress we have made, I am delighted that care home restrictions can now be eased further allowing residents to see more of their loved ones.”

Changes to testing and isolation requirements for those receiving care include:

- Self-isolation periods reduced from fourteen to ten days for those who test positive, with further reductions if they test negative on days five and six.
- Isolation periods for those in care following an emergency hospital visit will be reduced from 14 to a maximum ten days, in line with the NHS and following the latest advice from SAGE.
 - Removing testing or self-isolation requirements following normal visits out.

Minister for Care Gillian Keegan said:

“Thanks to the continued success of the vaccine rollout, I am delighted we can ease restrictions in care settings and allow unlimited visits to ensure people living in care homes see all their family and friends.

“The changes announced today are backed by scientists, ensuring we all have more freedoms from coronavirus, including care home residents and their families.”

Essential care givers should continue to be able to visit inside a care home even during periods of outbreak affecting a care home.

Updated guidance will be published in due course with further details on changes to visiting, isolation and testing.

As set out in the Autumn and Winter Plan, the government will continue to provide LFDs free of charge in the coming months, but universal free provision will end at a later stage as the government's response to the virus changes.

CHANGES TO TESTING GUIDANCE FOR HOME CARE STAFF

- An enhanced testing regime of pre-shift LFDs for all staff on each of the days they are working, and the removal of the weekly asymptomatic PCR testing for staff.
- There will be no change in PCR testing for staff symptomatic testing, or any other PCR testing for staff e.g. when they're a contact.

The introduction of pre-shift rapid lateral flow tests should help identify and isolate positive cases more quickly rather than waiting for PCR results to return from the lab. This will be testing maximum once per day and for live in carers, it is advised that tests should be taken as close to the beginning of the day as possible and 24 hours apart.

From **Friday 28 January**, you will be able to place an order for LFDs for your staff. When you place an order, we will send you enough LFDs for all your staff to undertake pre-shift LFDs for everyday they are working. These can be used at home by staff members. To do this, you should navigate to the usual organisational testing portal [link] and use the same Unique Organisation Number that you currently use to order PCRs, and you will see the option to place an order for staff LFDs. Please input the number of staff you have and then confirm your contact details to place an order. Once you have ordered tests, you'll receive a confirmatory email from: organisation.coronavirus.testing@notifications.service.gov.uk

Tests can take up to 7-10 working days to arrive following your order. Once they have arrived, we ask that a month's worth of tests are distributed to your staff to enable them to conduct tests at home. We are asking all organisations to implement these testing changes by the 16th February.

Ordering LFDs is independent to the orders placed for PCR tests; so if you have recently placed an order for PCR tests, you will still be able to order LFDs from Friday 28th January.

JOIN THE WEBINAR

To understand more about the change and how to implement it, we would also strongly encourage you to [join the upcoming webinars](#) which will go through the clinical rationale for these testing changes, how these changes will support you to keep staff and the people you care for as safe as possible, and how we will support you to implement these changes. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions on these webinars.

The timings are:
Friday 28 January at 11:00am
Monday 31 January at 10:00am
Wednesday 2 February at 4:00pm

GET BOOSTED NOW nhs.uk/covidvaccination

UPDATE TO CQC'S REGULATORY APPROACH

In December, in response to rising Covid numbers and the fact that many providers across the system were involved in the booster vaccination programme, CQC [postponed inspections of some services](#). They also [prioritised activity to help create more capacity in adult social care](#) over winter. Now, considering the current situation – including the easing of restrictions across the country – CQC have reviewed and updated the regulatory approach.

From Tuesday 1 February CQC will inspect where:

- There is evidence that people are at risk of harm. This applies to all health and social care services, including those where inspections were previously postponed except in cases where we had evidence of risk to life.
- They can support increasing capacity across the system, particularly in adult social care.
- A focus on the urgent and emergency care system will help understand the pressures, where local or national support is needed, and share good practice to drive improvement.

BRADFORD CARE HOME DROP IN SESSION

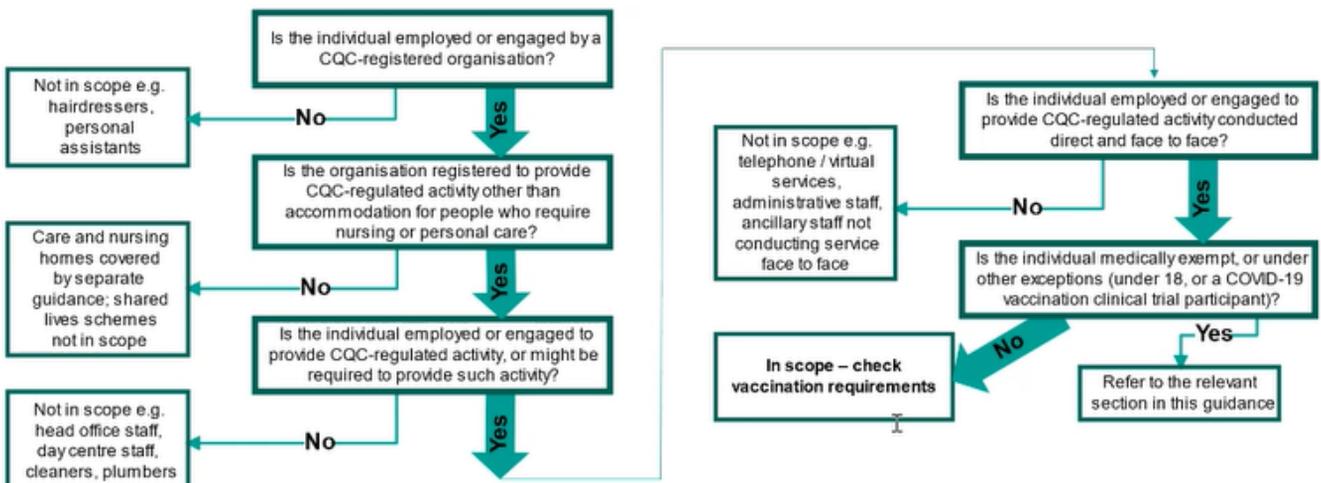
NHS colleagues hosted two Care Home drop in sessions recently to offer guidance on taking observation, Telemeds and Immedicare. You can download the slideshow with this [LINK](#). The next sessions will take place next Tuesday and Wednesday at 3pm. You can join the meeting at this time with this [LINK](#)

UPDATED TESTING GUIDANCE – EXTRA CARE AND SUPPORTED LIVING

The guidance has been updated and can be viewed [HERE](#).

Who is in scope?

To download this guide for VCOD2 just click [HERE](#)



HALSA STAFF WELLBEING LEAFLET

The West Yorkshire Health and Wellbeing Programme for 2022 has been released in partnership with HALSA. You can view it [HERE](#).

CQC CONSULTATIONS

CQC have asked that we signpost providers to their current consultations, which are available via this [LINK](#)

The key one being highlighted is on Assessment Framework: I statements proposals.

LEAD PRACTITIONER COURSE

ShIPLEY College are running a Lead Practitioner Course. For more information follow this [LINK](#) or contact Wendy Rowan wrowan@shiple.ac.uk

HYDRATION AND NUTRITION PRACTICAL RESOURCES

Use this [LINK](#) to view some really useful and practical resources in relation to hydration and nutrition. The resources have been collated by colleagues within the Vale of York CCG who have kindly agreed that they can be shared more widely.

Please do not amend any documents with copyrights included and ensure that acknowledgements are given to originating authors should you circulate more widely.

MARGARET BUTTERWORTH CARE FORUM

The Margaret Butterworth Care Forum (MBCFH) is a forum hosted by Kings College London for discussion and learning focused on dementia care in communal settings such as nursing homes, care homes and extra care housing. They will be hosting 3 webinars over the course of 2022. The first webinar on 23 March 2022, from 2.00-4.00 will focus on the theme 'Visiting in care homes during Covid-19'.

Two speakers will discuss this topic:

Josie Dixon, Assistant Professorial Research Fellow, Care Policy and Evaluation Centre, London School of Economics and Political Science, will discuss the study *Visit-id: a study of care home visiting arrangements during Covid-19*

Dr Kathleen Lane, PI of UCAIRE study, University of East Anglia, will talk about the study titled "We can't visit and see what's going on for her... it's like having paper-bags over our heads": experiences of infection-control measures on family and friends of care-home residents during Covid-19

There will be plenty of time for questions and discussions. Once registered on Eventbrite, you will receive the Zoom-link a few days before the webinar. The link to Eventbrite is [HERE](#)

2022 MANAGERS CONFERENCE

The 2022 Managers Conference (14 -15 March), organised by the [National Care Forum](#) and supported by [Skills for Care](#), is open for bookings. Managers from all care settings across the country are invited to be supported as services move from crisis to recovery.

The programme will support managers:

- to make the most of their ability to deliver high quality, person-centred care
 - by providing inspiration through a wide range of workshops and speakers
 - by helping support their teams to build resilience
- to manage the challenges of a complex and rapidly changing care environment
 - to pave the way for the ongoing delivery of outstanding care and support.

Presentations will include:

- people with lived experience and relatives' perspective
 - Digital leadership and skills
 - Mental Health First Aid
 - CQC's new inspection strategy
 - Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion
- The importance of learning and development.

[BOOK NOW](#) for the Early Bird Rate or save by registering for multiple bookings.



HM Government

NHS

**YOU CAN GET YOUR
COVID-19 VACCINES
AT ANY STAGE OF YOUR
PREGNANCY.**

**So if you haven't already,
the right time is now.**

GET BOOSTED NOW nhs.uk/covidvaccination

DATA FOR THE SOCIAL CARE SECTOR IN BRADFORD

DATA	LATEST	CHANGE
Deaths	0	0
Infections	Not available	Not available
Outbreaks	65	-14
Occupancy	78%	-1%
Tracker completed	95%	-1%

HOME SUPPORT PLACEMENTS (last 7 days)

Total Placements	Locality Providers	Other Providers
Not available	Not available	Not available

CARE HOME PLACEMENTS (previous 7 days)

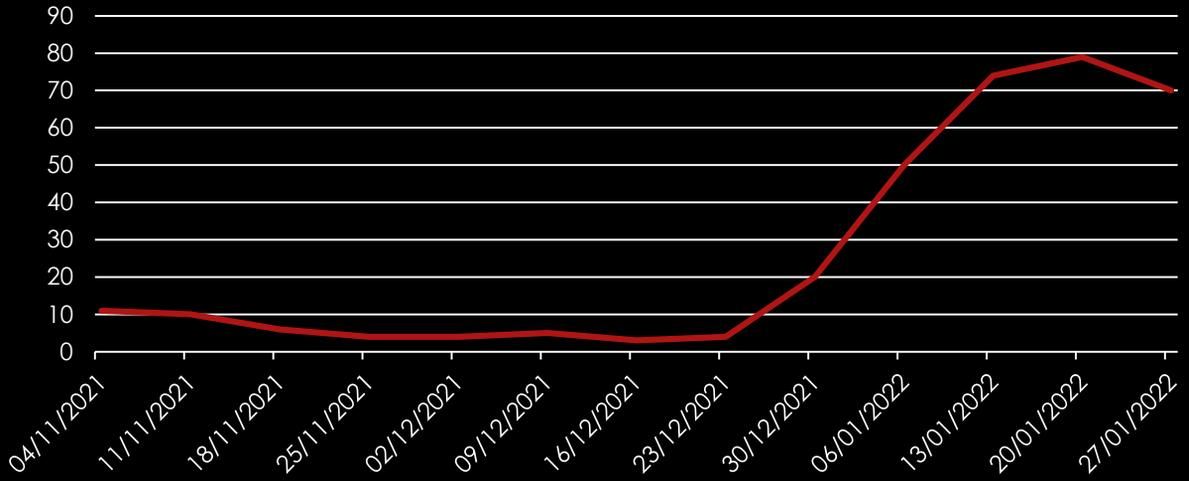
OPR2	OPN	Deferred
9	3	1

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

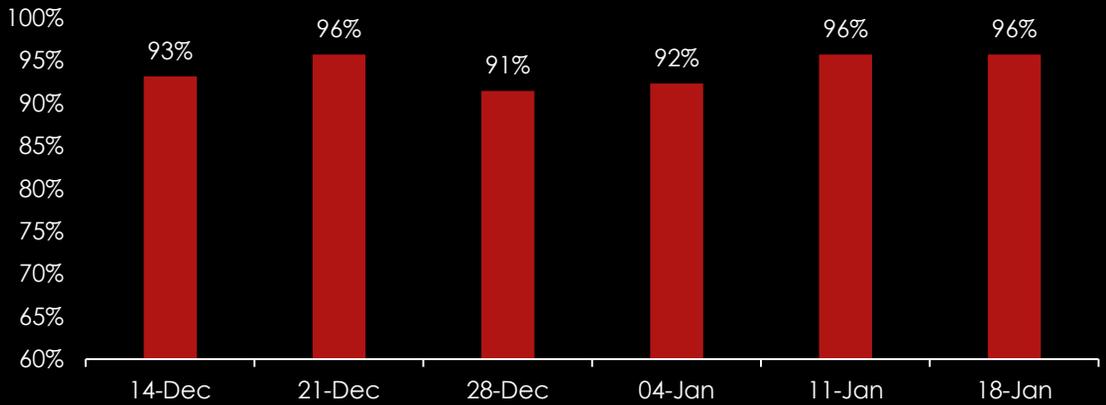
Care Home Occupancy Percentage	Number of Homes	Percentage of total homes
Under 25%	3	3%
26% to 40%	3	3%
41% to 60%	13	11%
61% to 80%	32	28%
81% to 90%	30	26%
Above 91%	35	30%
Total Homes & Mean %	116	78%

Vacancy Type	Declared Vacancies	Declared Total Beds	Declared Vacancies Closed	Occupied Beds	Occupied Beds Percent	Lost Capacity Percent
General Residential	153	1200	132	915	76.25%	11.00%
Dementia Residential	118	943	101	724	76.78%	10.71%
General Nursing	60	708	88	560	79.10%	12.43%
Dementia Nursing	59	377	17	301	79.84%	4.51%
Mental Health Residential	44	230	7	179	77.83%	3.04%
Mental Health Nursing	36	155	3	116	74.84%	1.94%
Learning Disability Residential	24	211	15	172	81.52%	7.11%
YPD - Young Physically Disabled	24	78	0	54	69.23%	0.00%
Learning Disability Nursing	5	24	0	19	79.17%	0.00%
TOTAL	523	3926	363	3040		

Bradford Care Homes with a Covid-19 Outbreak



Bradford Care Home Completed Tracker in last 7 days



Number of Covid-19 Infections

