

# Adults' Health and Care

## Provider newsletter

10 February 2023

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### Norovirus cases in over 65s increasing

Laboratory reports of norovirus are increasing – with cases in the over 65s being over 30% higher than the pre-pandemic average. Outbreaks in care homes have also been increasing. The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) are reminding health and social care settings of the [existing guidance on managing norovirus outbreaks to help stop the spread of infection](#).

It is also important to remind people not to visit vulnerable people, particularly in care homes or hospital, while unwell with diarrhoea and vomiting until 48 hours after symptoms stop. Reminding people to take precautions such as practising good hand hygiene which includes thorough hand washing regularly but especially after using the toilet or an episode of illness and before eating or preparing food is vital to try and prevent the spread of norovirus.

For more information on norovirus, [read the UKHSA blog](#).

The UKHSA have put together information about winter-readiness infection prevention for care homes. [Read more](#).

### Information for home care providers who submit their payments through the Provider Payment Generator (PPG)

Providers of home care packages who submit their payments through the PPG should note that Period 13 is a 5-week period this year, which will end on Sunday 2 April. The providers will receive their payments between 11 and 14 April.

[See the tables](#) in the 'Domiciliary Care' section, which summarise payment periods for this financial year and the next.

### Are you thinking of recruiting employees from overseas?

Hampshire County Council remains highly committed to supporting local economies including local recruitment. We are aware however that many care providers are also looking overseas for recruitment. We have put [a document](#) together to support care

providers, local communities and workers from overseas alike to ensure a positive experience for all.

## Hampshire Care Association are extending their free membership offer

During the last two years, which have been incredibly hard for all care providers, Hampshire Care Association (HCA) has continued working to bring providers together and represent your interests locally and nationally. Following on from their free membership offer for 2022, HCA are extending the offer to include 2023 and through to April 2024.

Complete the [membership form](#) so that HCA can ensure they have the correct contact details for you. You do not need to make a payment now and will be contacted towards the end of 2023 with details for how to renew for 2024.

Could you get more involved?

There are plenty of opportunities to get more involved in any subject areas that interest you, local work with commissioners and other providers, and in taking HCA's case to politicians and the media.

To find out more about any aspect of the Association's work contact  
Vanessa [executiveofficer@hampshirecare.org](mailto:executiveofficer@hampshirecare.org) or 07486 058 825  
Charlene [Operations@hampshirecare.org](mailto:Operations@hampshirecare.org) or 07726709966  
Debbie [events@hampshirecare.org](mailto:events@hampshirecare.org) or 07434270349

## Friends Against Scams awareness session - 15 February

Hampshire Safeguarding Adults Board (HSAB) has arranged for a free virtual awareness raising session with the National Trading Standards Scams Team on 15 February 10:30 – 11:30.

The Friends Against Scams is a National Trading Standards Scams Team initiative which aims to protect and prevent people from becoming victims of scams by empowering people to take a stand against scams. **This session focusses on how to protect yourself and those that you support from Scams.** The session covers the scale of the problem and works to change the perceptions of why people fall for scams and make scams a community, regional and national topic.

By attending a Friends Against Scams awareness session or completing the online learning, anyone can learn about the different types of scams and how to spot and support a victim. With increased knowledge and awareness, people can make scams part of everyday conversation with their family, friends and neighbours, which will enable them to protect themselves and others. **Anyone can be a Friend Against Scams and make a difference in their own way.**

Only one ticket should be booked per person. If you are booking for other members of your team, please ensure that their names are accurately recorded. Links to online events will be sent out in the week prior to the event being run.

[FIND OUT MORE AND SIGN UP](#)

## Care Masterclasses – University of Southampton

The University of Southampton have put together some personalised care masterclasses in March. They are free to Hampshire and Isle of Wight health and social care staff.

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