

Adults' Health and Care

Provider newsletter

10 March 2023

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COVID-19 Spring booster for those 75 and over, residents in care homes, and those who are immunosuppressed

The COVID-19 spring booster will be available in April this year. The vaccination is available to those who are aged 75 and over, residents in care homes, and those who are immunosuppressed.

Information about the booster vaccination is available from [the NHS](#).

[More information](#) is available from the Government.

Be aware of the fire risks of emollients and skin creams

Emollient and skin cream residue on fabrics such as bedding, clothing and dressings can increase flammability, even from just one application. They are especially a fire safety concern when used by people who spend extended periods in a bed or armchair due to illness or reduced mobility.

Anyone using emollients or skin creams regularly should keep away from fires, naked flames or heat sources.

Nationally, there have been at least 56 deaths associated with emollient skin products within the last 10 years.

Consider the following when using emollients and skin creams:

- Explain the risks of emollients to the individual and their family
- Ask health colleagues about alternative treatments where people smoke and/or have a condition which places them at high risk of fire such as memory loss, poor concentration, or drowsiness.
- Are there any smoking aids which may reduce the risk?

- Remind service users that sitting too close to any open fires, gas fires or halogen heaters could also pose a risk if using emollient skin products.
- Clothing or dressings could quickly ignite and be contaminated with these products. Wash clothing and bedding daily at the highest temperature recommended by the fabric care instructions. This should reduce some of the contamination from the emollient but may not remove it completely.

Autism Acceptance week – 27 March

[Autism Acceptance week](#) is an opportunity for us to all think about how society still needs to make changes to support autistic people.

Did you know that there is an Autism Ambassador scheme for Hampshire, Portsmouth, Southampton and Isle of Wight? The role of an ambassador is to spread the understanding of autism to work and community colleagues, families and friends.

[FIND OUT MORE ABOUT BECOMING AN AMBASSADOR](#)

Local Election – Voter ID Easy Read information

Local elections for some councils in England are taking place on 4 May.

For the first time people will need some form of ID to be able to vote in person.

My Vote My Voice have put together some [information in Easy Read](#) about Voter ID and how to apply for the Voter ID Certificate.

For providers who support people with a Learning Disability - Local Workforce Review

The Learning Disability and Autism Partnership (LDAP) has coordinated a project with Hampshire County Council which will look into the recruitment challenges currently facing the care sector. The project will carry out a review by the National Development Team for Inclusion (NDTi) and would like to hear the views of local workforce who support people with learning disabilities and autistic people.

NDTi is a not-for-profit organisation working to enable people at risk of exclusion, due to age or disability, to live the life they choose. [Find out more about NDTi.](#)

NDTi will complete qualitative research through interviews with care staff, team managers and senior leaders and will look at data for staff turnover. The findings will help to give a better understanding of recruitment and retention of staff.

Hampshire County Council will be in contact with providers to ask them if they would like to participate in this survey. If you would like more information, please contact paul.smithson@hants.gov.uk.

Nominations for the Hampshire Care Association Awards are now live!

The Hampshire Care Association (HCA) Care Awards are taking place on Thursday 15 June, 6pm at MacDonald Botley Hotel and Spa.

HCA are looking for nominees in the following 13 Categories:

Residential Care Home of the year

Nursing Home of the year

Home Care Provider of the year

Manager of the year

Frontline leader of the year

Carer of the year

Ancillary employee of the year

Chef/cook of the year

Volunteer of the year

Newcomer to care of the year

Activity coordinator of the year

Outstanding innovation & best practice award

Excellence in delivering dementia care

HCA will also be presenting their prestigious Blue Rose Award

All nominations must be submitted online by midnight Friday 31 March, and nominees must work in or be a care provider that is a full 2023 member of HCA. There is a 500 word limit. Please only submit the name of the nominee once, as all identifiable names will be removed. Contact Debbie at events@hampshirecare.org if you have any queries.



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