



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

30 June 2020

Dear colleagues,

Please find an update from PPECell Team

PPE sector eligibility

Ministers have recently approved the addition of four sectors to the list of services who can access PPE held by LRFs, where there is a clinical need and BAU and other supply routes have been exhausted. Those sectors are:

- Domestic abuse refuges
- Substance misuse services
- Rough sleeping services
- Healthcare personal assistants

Communications will be issued later this week to each of the above sectors outlining the process for obtaining PPE. The expectation is that these services should seek to source PPE from their BAU channels in the first instance.

Healthcare personal assistants will be able to request PPE only through Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), who will request and manage the distribution of PPE to healthcare personal assistants. The remaining sectors will be provided with the relevant sector facing contact details by MHCLG and request in the same way as existing service providers. Where PPE is requested, please continue to reflect usage in Delta returns, to ensure additional stocks can be provided where required.

LRFs should prioritise those on the list of eligible service providers. LRFs can make an informed judgment whether to supply other service providers based upon an assessment of clinical need, in line with Public Health England's latest guidance on PPE use, and according to local shortages.

Direct contact with PPECell

All LRFs have now moved to having direct contact with a named PPECell liaison lead on operational PPE related matters. Your hub lead can be contacted via ppecell@communities.gov.uk.

PPE quality assurance

We are pleased to be able to share the Q&A document, providing detailed information on the PPE quality assurance process, which can be used with Local Authorities, CCGs and end users.

Where you have concerns regarding the suitability of a delivered PPE product, you can now directly raise these by contacting the Customer Service Team using one of the below:

- Phone: 0800 876 6802
- Webform: <https://www.ppe-dedicated-supply-channel.co.uk/product-issues/>

When using the webform, please enter 'unknown' for the fields you cannot complete. Should you need to escalate an unanswered product query or issue, please email PPECell, and we will investigate on your behalf.

Call for LRF views on PPE supply

As we move out of emergency response mode there is a need to review the current arrangements for PPE deliveries via LRFs. We would like to draw your attention to a call for LRF views from Julia Sweeney, Director MHCLG, sent out via email on 29 June. An agenda item will be included on the regular LRF Chairs call on Wednesday 1 July in order to hear the views of the Chairs of the LRFs on current and future arrangements for deliveries to LRF and the best ways to support PPE supply to the front line.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Jo Liddy / Paul Downie
Deputy Directors
PPE Cell