



Hampshire Care  
Association

Welcome to the latest Residential and Nursing Home communication from Hampshire and Isle of Wight (19 November 2020)

Dear Colleagues,

**Please see below for essential COVID-19 updates on:**

- Proposal to regulate to stop movement of staff between care settings – consultation: Please respond by 23 November 2020
- Not too late to apply for an iPad
- Influenza vaccination – get vaccinated now!
- Learning from COVID-19 exposures
- Reduced price Christmas Trees from the Forestry Commission
- A Christmas Carol online performance
- Kickstart Scheme-funding to employers to create job placements for 16 to 24-year olds
- Health and care staff can claim immigration health surcharge reimbursement
- New immigration system: what you need to know
- Recruiting during the COVID-19 pandemic: sharing recruitment solutions
- Designated Settings

**Hampshire local updates**

- Safeguarding Adults Update for Care Homes
- Message from Immedicare telemedicine service - South Eastern Hampshire ONLY

**Proposal to regulate to stop movement of staff between care settings – consultation:  
Please respond by 23 November 2020**

Learning from the first wave of COVID-19 indicated that staff moving between care settings were a risk factor for the spread of infection. The government has now published a consultation on changes to Regulation 17 safe staffing and the Code of practice on the prevention and control of infections that would create a requirement on residential and nursing care home providers in England to restrict the movement of staff providing personal care or nursing care in their services.

- The requirement would apply to the use of all staff including bank or agency staff
- It would stop any person delivery a regulated activity in another care setting within 14 days of working elsewhere (in a care setting)
- It excludes registered managers, or individuals deployed to undertake tasks other than the delivery of care, such as cleaning.
- It does allow a limited exception to the requirement in order that care home providers can continue to ensure enough staff are available to care for service users safely.

Please do take time to respond and comment on the consultation by Monday 23 November 2020.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/stopping-movement-of-staff-between-care-settings/proposal-to-regulate-to-stop-movement-of-staff-between-care-settings>

### **Not too late to apply for an iPad**

NHS England are reviewing all feedback and any amendment requests received, and will be in touch shortly with an update on next steps and final allocations.

For care homes that missed the application deadline or homes that feel they would benefit - NHS England are collecting feedback to assess any additional demand. So, if there are any care homes that did not apply or they have a perceived need please email [helen.eaton6@nhs.net](mailto:helen.eaton6@nhs.net) with the following information:

- CQC Location ID
- Name of home
- address of home
- reason for requiring the iPad.

### **Influenza vaccination – get vaccinated now!**

Due to the anticipated arrival of the COVID-19 vaccine in December, it is vital that as many carers and residents as possible are vaccinated for influenza by the end of November. This is because:

- there needs to be at least a week between receiving an influenza and COVID-19 vaccine
- resources to deliver the influenza vaccine will be diverted to deliver the COVID-19 vaccine from December.

As a carer, getting vaccinated against seasonal influenza is particularly important this year because:

- Many of the symptoms of influenza are similar to COVID-19 (e.g. fever, lethargy, muscle pain/weakness, cough, runny nose)
- Residents in care homes will be particularly susceptible to influenza and an outbreak will put further pressure on staff and residents
- Workforce resilience and wellbeing will be critical over the winter period.

The [NHS England and Public Health England's national flu immunisation programme](#) offers free influenza vaccinations to Social Care workers during the 2020/21 season. Please contact your GP or pharmacist for a free vaccine.

## Learning from COVID-19 exposures

All outbreaks and exposures to COVID-19 are investigated for learning. Below are some of the themes that have contributed to outbreaks – please ensure that staff are aware and that you have updated your risk assessments / practices in response to this learning.

- Compliance with PPE in face to face care situations generally good but wider concerns around PPE / social distancing at breaks / outside work
- Social distancing in staff rest areas – lack of availability of suitable ventilated rooms, breaching of the 2 meter social distancing rule when eating/drinking, lack of recognition of passage ways and high volume areas like sinks and fridges
- Staff bringing in snacks and treats for each other and sharing communal food which may be or become contaminated
- Team spirit leading to carers coming into work when potentially symptomatic (combination of symptoms – some hard COVID symptoms, some e.g. cough explained away by asthma etc. some soft symptoms e.g. headache, fatigue)
- Atypical presentations of staff / soft symptoms fatigue, headaches etc. resulting in positive COVID diagnosis
- Carers travelling together in cars (with or without face masks) and poor ventilation
- Shared living accommodation contributing to spread amongst carers
- Homes making local risk assessments not to use the correct PPE e.g. not using facemasks due to reluctance in residents – these types of concerns must be discussed with CCG/LA
- Cases associated with kitchen staff not wearing PPE, particularly face masks
- False reassurance around negative or regular testing – several staff reportedly recently tested, then developed symptoms and waited to get repeat tested as only recently done.

## Reduced price Christmas Trees from the Forestry Commission



The forestry commission are offering care homes the chance to purchase real Christmas trees this year at much reduced prices. If you would be interested in this opportunity, please contact [Ross.Griffiths@hants.gov.uk](mailto:Ross.Griffiths@hants.gov.uk) (open to all areas).



## A Christmas Carol online performance

The Old Vic theatre is offering a free link to a performance of 'A Christmas Carol' this year  
Please click on the link below for more information and to register your home

<https://www.oldvictheatre.com/whats-on/2020/old-vic-in-camera/a-christmas-carol-5>

## Barclays – free technology sessions



Barclays are now running some free local 40 minute sessions on how Care Homes can get the best use of entertainment using your technology devices!

This will include...

- Downloading apps
  - Support using the internet for entertainment
  - using YouTube
  - Spotify for music
  - FaceTime / skype
- 
- 24th November at 11am, 1pm, 4pm and 6pm
  - 1st December at 11am, 1pm, 4pm and 6pm

To book on please email [mark.cossons@barclays.com](mailto:mark.cossons@barclays.com) with your preferred date and time and Mark will send you through a TEAMS invite

## Kickstart Scheme-funding to employers to create job placements for 16 to 24-year olds

# KICKSTART SCHEME



On 8 July government published their policy response to the COVID pandemic, announcing a package of support worth a total of £30bn. This included specific strands of activity for employment and skills support to help people back into the labour market as soon as possible. Importantly there is recognition that young people are particularly vulnerable due to their lack of experience in work.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/a-plan-for-jobs-documents/a-plan-for-jobs-2020>

- The Kickstart Scheme provides funding to create new job placements for 16 to 24 year olds claiming Universal Credit who are at risk of long term unemployment.
- 100% of the [National Minimum Wage](#) (or the [National Living Wage](#) depending on the age of the participant) will be paid to the employer for 25 hours per week for a total of 6 months
- The funding also includes associated [employer National Insurance contributions](#) and employer minimum automatic enrolment contributions
- The employer will also receive a grant of £1,500 per placement to cover set up and other related costs such as equipment, DBS checks, training, careers guidance
- Employers can spread the start date of the job placements up until the end of December 2021.

Hampshire County Council, via the Hampshire Employment & Skills Hub will act as an intermediary for other sectors in Hampshire who intend to support the Kickstart scheme but will offer less than 30 places each. This offer will include District Councils; Police; Fire Service; Education; Health and Social Care and the Voluntary and Community sector.

**As a care provider providing care in Hampshire you could be in scope for support.**

If you are interested in finding out more about the Kickstart Scheme and how you can support a young person in Hampshire to gain valuable experience and employability skills please register for a place at the upcoming Webinar on Wednesday 2 December 2020 by following this link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/introduction-to-kickstart-tickets-128221252217>

Please forward any enquires to [kickstart@hants.gov.uk](mailto:kickstart@hants.gov.uk)

## Health and care staff can claim immigration health surcharge reimbursement

Tens of thousands of international health and care staff who have worked tirelessly to save lives during the pandemic are now exempt from the immigration health surcharge (IHS) to pay to use the NHS and can claim their reimbursement.

The IHS allows non-European Economic Area nationals to access the NHS on broadly the same basis as UK residents if they are seeking to work, study, or join family members for more than 6 months.

The government's Tier 2 health and care visa, launched in August, exempted eligible staff from paying the IHS. The new reimbursement scheme goes further to ensure that staff not covered by the visa, but who have worked in the NHS or care sector since 31 March, are able to claim reimbursement for themselves and their dependants, even if they paid the surcharge before this date.

For more information please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/health-and-care-staff-can-claim-immigration-health-surcharge-reimbursement>

## New immigration system: what you need to know

On 13 July 2020, the government set out [further details on the UK's points-based system](#). These new arrangements will take effect from 1 January 2021, once freedom of movement with the European Union (EU) has ended.

It will treat EU and non-EU citizens equally and aims to attract people who can contribute to the UK's economy. Irish citizens will continue to be able to enter and live in the UK as they do now.

For more information please visit [New Immigration System – January 2021](#)

## Recruiting during the COVID-19 pandemic: sharing recruitment solutions

[Recruiting during the COVID-19 pandemic: sharing recruitment solutions](#)

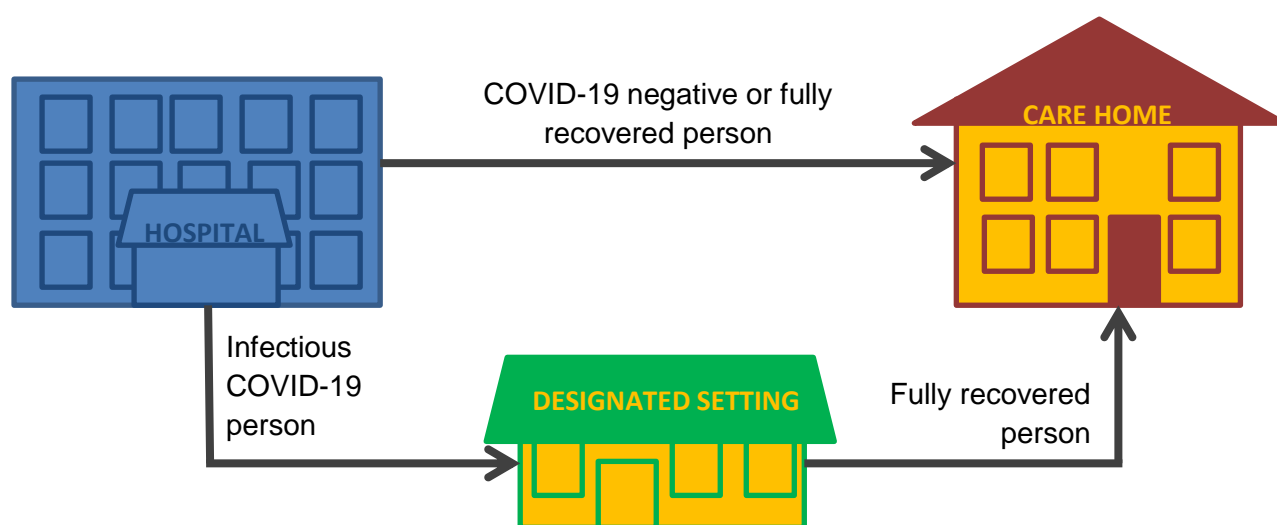


Recruiting new workers can be challenging at any time, but during the COVID-19 pandemic this challenge has been even greater. We know that the sector has developed some innovative solutions over the past months; employer-led or led by local authorities, Local Enterprise Partnerships, local care associations or other local partnerships.

We've worked together with the Local Government Association, the Care Provider Alliance and ADASS to share examples in the categories listed below. Click on the links below to view the examples in each category.

- [General recruitment](#)
- [Final year students](#)
- [Recruiting from other sectors](#)
- [Redeployment within the sector](#)
- [Returning to work in social care](#)
- [Volunteers](#)

## Designated Settings



New Designated Settings are being created across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight as part of learning from the first wave of COVID-19.

A Designated Setting is a location that has been approved by the Care Quality Commission as having enhanced infection prevention and control procedures, including separate zoned areas, staffing, entrances and exits etc. that can accept individuals who have been tested as COVID-19 positive and are currently infectious, who are leaving hospital to move to, or back to, mainstream Residential and Nursing Care, whilst also disrupting the flow of the virus.

Any individual must meet the following criteria to be considered for a Designated Setting:

- Individual is being discharged from hospital
- Individual is confirmed COVID-19 positive and currently infectious
- Is unable to return home even when all Domiciliary and family issues have been explored – this may include Live in Care, Rapid Discharge, Rehabilitation, Reablement or a Domiciliary Care agency

Care Homes can continue to accept any individual who has fully recovered from COVID-19.

A list of FAQ's is provided below:

### **Designated Settings**

- **What is a Designated Setting?** A Designated Setting is a bedded environment that meets enhanced infection prevention and control standards and has been 'signed off' by the Care Quality Commission as being able to support infectious COVID-19 positive discharges from hospital
- **Are all care homes designated settings?** No a Designated Setting is specifically assessed and registered by the Care Quality Commission
- **How long will an infectious COVID-19 individual stay in a Designated Setting?** A person will stay in a Designated Setting until they have completed a total of 14 days of isolation and are deemed to be fully recovered. This means that if a person has already completed 7 days of isolation in hospital, they will complete a further 7 days in a Designated Setting before being assessed for transfer to a care home.
- **What influence do relatives and family members have in the decision about transfer to a Designated Setting?** As this is a short term placement for a specific purpose, discussions and choice would occur in the next part of the person's recovery
- **Will the person be retested in the Designated Setting?** Current guidance is that no retest should be undertaken before 90 days. The view is that a person will no longer transmit the virus by 14 days and may return a false positive test before that time.

### **Discharge**

- **Which people are suitable for discharge from hospital into care homes?** Only people who have tested negative for COVID-19, or those who have fully recovered from COVID-19 and are no longer infectious are suitable to be discharged directly to care homes
- **Will hospitals still test people before discharge to a care home?** Any person who is either COVID-19 negative, or has an unknown status will be tested by the hospital within 48 hours of discharge and the result made available to the care home. However, those who have recently tested positive for COVID-19 will not be re-tested. This is because people can carry dead fragments of virus for up to 90 days after infection which will return a positive result – however, this does not mean the person is infectious or a risk to others so a swab is unhelpful



- **Do individuals that test negative for COVID-19 still need to be isolated in a care home for 14 days after hospital discharge?** Yes. This is because the incubation period of COVID-19 is 14 days so isolation protects other residents in the care home in case they develop COVID-19.
- **Do Providers have to accept an individual who has tested COVID-19 positive, even if the individual is a usual resident in that Home?** No they do not as all admissions are at the discretion of the Provider. However, especially in the case of individuals who are usually resident in the Home, current advice states that a previous positive COVID-19 test should not stop an admission provided the individual has fully recovered. If you are unsure or concerned, please seek further advice from your local Infection Prevention & Control contact or the 7 day IPC service [hiow.c19ipc@nhs.net](mailto:hiow.c19ipc@nhs.net)

### Infectious and recovered COVID-19 individuals

- **How are you defining infectious COVID-19 individuals?** Infectious COVID-19 individuals are those people who have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 14 days, or those who remain symptomatic of COVID-19 (fever) after this time
- **What about a cough or loss of taste or smell that continues after 14 days?** Many people will have a residual cough after 14 days and their sense of taste/smell may take weeks to recover. This does not mean they are infectious.
- **When is someone classed as a recovered (non-infectious) COVID-19 individual?** A person is classed as fully recovered once they have completed 14 days of isolation and they have been fever free for at least 48 hours
- **When does the 14 days of isolation start?** For a hospital patient, the 14 days of isolation starts from the date that the COVID-19 positive swab was taken (not the date of symptom onset or the date the result was reported)
- **If you are not re-testing COVID-19 positive people at 14 days, how do you know if they are no longer infectious?** Evidence suggests that by day 7, the amount of live COVID-19 virus a person carries will have decreased significantly and by day 10, the virus will be dead (not viable). Isolating people for 14 days, and ensuring that they no longer have a fever ensures that they have an extremely low risk of being infectious. People with severe immunocompromise may be isolated for longer and will have specific tests to ensure that they no longer pose a risk to others
- **Should I accept someone who has tested negative for COVID-19 but who has been in contact with someone with COVID-19 in hospital?** This will be an individual decision. You should not feel under pressure to accept the person and if you do, you must be able to ensure that you can isolate them effectively for 14 days and have the appropriate PPE and infection prevention procedures in place.
- **Are providers expected to accept an infectious COVID-19 individual (this is a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 14 days)?** No, absolutely not. Infectious COVID-19 individuals must be discharged to a Designated Setting

## Hampshire local updates

## Safeguarding Adults Update for Care Homes

### **Making a Safeguarding referral for adults to Hampshire MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub)**

Existing safeguarding advice remains the same. If an emergency response is required please call 999. Safeguarding referrals for Adults need to be made to the Local Authority, as they remain the lead agency.

The contact number is:

- HAMPSHIRE: In hours- 0300 555 1386 (Mon-Thurs: 08.30-17.00 and Friday 08.30-16.30) and out of hours -0300 555 1373.
- SOUTHAMPTON: In hours- 023 8083 3003 and out of hours- 023 8023 3344

To access the new on line referral for Safeguarding Adults, please use this hyperlink: accessed here: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/adultsocialcare/contact/start-a-referral>

### **Helpful documents and web pages...**

#### **Hampshire Safeguarding Adults Board – Corona virus information hub**

<https://www.hampshiresab.org.uk/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-public-and-professionals/>

#### **Making a Safeguarding Referral**

Four Local Safeguarding Adults Boards (Southampton, Hampshire , Isle of Wight and Portsmouth) 4LSAB Multi –agency policy, process and guidance (June 2020)

<https://www.hampshiresab.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/4LSAB-Adult-Safeguarding-Policy-Process-and-Guidance-June-2020-5.pdf>

Multi agency framework to support decision making in relation to Adult Safeguarding concerns (October 2020)

<https://www.hampshiresab.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/4LSAB-Safeguarding-Concerns-Guidance-Oct-2020.pdf>

#### **Mental Capacity and DoLs**

Covid- 19 testing and mental capacity

Link below to Rapid Response Guidance Note from 39 Essex Chambers

<https://www.39essex.com/rapid-response-guidance-note-testing-for-covid-19-and-mental-capacity/>

Updated DoLs and Mental Capacity Act Guidance during COVID-19 pandemic and testing

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-looking-after-people-who-lack-mental-capacity/the-mental-capacity-act-2005-mca-and-deprivation-of-liberty-safeguards-dols-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-additional-guidance>

CQC interim guidance reflecting changes to DBS

<https://www.cqc.org.uk/guidance-providers/all-services/covid-19-interim-guidance-dbs-other-recruitment-checks>

**Message from Immedicare telemedicine service - South Eastern Hampshire ONLY**

Dear Immedicare Service User,

During the second nationwide lockdown, the Immedicare telemedicine service will be available 24/7 as usual. We encourage you to call us whenever there is a new or unplanned change in a resident's health. Immedicare connects with your local healthcare providers including the ambulance service, GPs, and Out of Hours provider, giving you easy access to safe and prompt clinical care, in collaboration with the wider healthcare system.

It's especially important to use Immedicare as your first port of call (except for 999 emergencies) during winter, when your local healthcare services are likely to be under immense pressure.

Immedicare is doing everything we can to support your home during these challenging times, so please let us know if there's anything we can do to help you, such as extra training for your staff. We're all in this together and we want you to feel supported.

Keep safe,  
The Immedicare Team