

COVID-19 EMERGENCY PLANNING HIGHLIGHT REPORT

SERVICE AREAS:	Commissioning
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REPORTING PERIOD:	Week ending 17 th July 2020

NEW GUIDANCE AND IMPACT

Track and Trace:- ongoing impact to provider workforce is being monitored. Currently providers are not reporting significant workforce issues as a result of this guidance. We continue to work with providers to support Infection and Prevention Control practice to minimise this risk.

NEW CHALLENGES AND ACTIVITY

Feedback from provider forums: Provider base settled and undertaking Covid-19 related tasks as more Business as Usual now, so previous guidance has been accepted as part of the business as usual challenges providers face daily. It should be noted that a big proportion of providers have performed exceptionally well throughout this period and they are planning appropriately for any future outbreaks and will use the learning they have from the last few months to inform this planning.

The continual issues around PPE remain, particularly around cost on some items. We are reliably informed from contract management meetings with providers and the provider forums that masks no longer present an issue, but this has shifted to other items as previously suggested and this hasn't disappeared since the last reporting period.

In terms of activity for Covid-19, this has reduced and continues to gradually reduce. This has allowed focus and energy to be placed into regaining traction on proactive contract management.

We are undertaking due-diligence checks for a number of providers that have been appointed from the previous and last round of the homecare DPS opening – this may create additional homecare capacity.

Infection Control Fund:- the second instalment of the ICF is due to be received by the local authority next week (week commencing 20th July).

- 75% element: once the second instalment has been received, this will be distributed to care homes as a matter of priority.
- 25% element: the allocation of the 25% is being finalised following collation of commissioned hours being reviewed to inform the allocations and distribution of funds to the wider domiciliary care market, including extra care, supported living and direct payment providers.

RECOVERY ACTIVITY

LD COVID Accommodation:- The Manor has been extended to September 2020; Barber Gardens and Lyon Gardens are transitioning to support business as usual capacity.

All Covid Block bed contracts will end on 20 September. The transition planning is being overseen by a project group. A number of these beds will transition to new Block beds as part of the block bed tender, which goes live on 21 September. The remaining will revert to spot placement at the same cost.

Recovery and Resilience Strategy is being developed for Adult Social Care, which outlines our approach and vision to transforming care over the next 18-24 months.

DECISIONS MADE SINCE LAST REPORTING PERIOD

N/A

NEW FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS SINCE LAST REPORTING PERIOD

The Second Instalment of the Infection Control Grant will be received next week and payments will be processed to providers as a matter of priority. The ICF grant comes to an end in September so there is a need to understand local needs going forwards. Commissioning is working with providers to understand these and will develop a summary of findings.

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WORKFORCE CHANGES

Provider workforce capacity appears to remain relatively stable. Providers are informing that staff remain incredibly committed and have presented few challenges, however, given the period we are about to enter into with school holidays and planned breaks, this may reduce some immediate capacity.

Commissioning currently has 15 staff absent due to Covid-19:

- Self-isolating due to symptoms: 0
- Self-isolating due to family member having symptoms but working from home: 0
- Social Distancing due to underlying medical condition but working from home: 15

COMMUNICATIONS

Regular newsletters continue to be circulated to providers.

A survey has been developed to circulate to all providers to obtain feedback on the regular newsletter, with a view to focusing it to the needs / wants of providers as we move into business as usual.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Calls that have been cancelled by clients and families due to COVID concerns are beginning to return to providers for care now. This hasn't caused any concerns or problems to any providers and this was clearly accounted for in terms of scheduling.