

**Four themes identified in the Winter Plan**

<b>Theme 1: Preventing and controlling the spread of infection in care settings</b>	
<b>Required Action</b>	<b>Action taken in Leicestershire</b>
Continue to implement relevant guidance and circulate and promote guidance to adult social care providers in their area, including for visitors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular bulletins are produced for providers; - 48 editions since March.</li> <li>• The County Council's website has a dedicated provider section where all of the latest guidance and information is held in an easy to search format.</li> </ul>
To communicate to social care providers regarding the importance of implementing workforce measures to limit COVID-19 infection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fortnightly conference calls are held where providers can raise any issues of concern.</li> </ul>
To distribute money from the Infection Control Fund, and submit returns on how the funding has been used in line with the grant conditions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council has distributed over £6m ICF since May and has a process for distribution of the further £5.3m by March 2021.</li> </ul>
Work with relevant partners including Public Health England and local health protection boards to control local outbreaks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Public Health team are supporting providers with the testing process, providing a helpline and FAQs. A short phone survey has been produced for providers to feedback to the Council any positive tests.</li> </ul>
To ensure positive cases are identified promptly, make sure care providers, as far as possible, carry out testing as per the testing strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Public Health team have implemented a rapid testing service to ensure social care staff are tested quickly and guidance produced to help in the correct administering of tests to reduce null returns</li> </ul>
Provide PPE for Covid-19 needs when required, either through the LRF, or directly to providers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PPE will be distributed through the LRF to non-regulated providers.</li> </ul>
To support communications campaigns encouraging eligible staff and people who receive care to receive a free flu vaccine.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A programme of communications to providers has commenced through Public Health to promote the flu vaccine</li> </ul>

<b>Theme 2: Collaboration across health and care services</b>	
<b>Required Action</b>	<b>Action taken in Leicestershire</b>
The local authority should be the lead commissioner of care packages for those discharged from hospital.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local arrangements are in place to facilitate discharges.</li> </ul>
Ensure that they have safe accommodation for people who have been discharged from hospital with a positive or inconclusive Covid-19 test result	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work is underway with providers and partners to identify appropriate cohorting and isolation facilities.</li> </ul>
Establish efficient processes to manage Continuing Healthcare (CHC) assessments and to rapidly complete deferred assessments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plans with local Clinical Commissioning Groups to complete all CHC and deferred assessments by March 2021 are in place.</li> </ul>

<b>Theme 3: Supporting people who receive social care, the workforce, and carers</b>	
<b>Required Action</b>	<b>Action taken in Leicestershire</b>
To give a regular assessment of whether visiting care homes is likely to be appropriate, within their local authority, or within local wards, taking into account the wider risk environment. if necessary, impose visiting restrictions if local incidence rates are rising.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guidance and support has been provided to providers in managing visits safely, particularly where local transmission rates are occurring.</li> </ul>
Ensure that people receiving direct payments, their families and carers are able to meet their care and support needs this winter.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is a dedicated Direct Payment advice line in place and those receiving a Direct Payment on topics such as employment issues during Covid-19, PPE and accessing training for Personal Assistants have been written to.</li> </ul>

<b>Theme 3: Supporting people who receive social care, the workforce, and carers contd</b>	
<b>Required Action</b>	<b>Action taken in Leicestershire</b>
Make sure carers, and those who organise their own care, know what support is available to them and who to contact if they need help work with services that may have closed, over the pandemic, to consider how they can reopen safely	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information is available on the County Council's website and through a team of dedicated care support officers.</li> </ul>
Where people who use social care services can no longer access the day care or respite services that they used before the pandemic, work with them to identify alternative arrangements that meet their identified needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support is being provided to providers to ensure services can operate in a Covid secure way.</li> <li>Over 1200 individual reviews are being undertaken to identify the best way to meet the individual outcomes of people who utilise day and respite care services.</li> </ul>
To ensure that their social work teams are applying legislative and strengths-based frameworks (including those based on duties under the Care Act and Mental Capacity Act).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social Work Teams have been supported to continue to use strength-based approaches with service users and regular staff bulletins keep teams informed of best practice</li> </ul>

<b>Theme 4: Supporting the system</b>	
<b>Required Action</b>	<b>Action taken in Leicestershire</b>
To continue to champion the Capacity Tracker and the Care Quality Commission community care survey and promote their importance as a source of data to local providers and commissioners;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work has taken place with providers to help them complete the capacity tracker. If an issue of concern is flagged in the tracker providers receive a follow up phone call to discuss the issue in more detail</li> </ul>
To work with local partners to engage with the Service Continuity and Care Market Review, and complete a self-assessment of the health of local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An assessment has been made of the local care market.</li> </ul>

market management and contingency planning leading into winter.	
<b>Theme 4: Supporting the system cont'd</b>	
<b>Required Action</b>	<b>Action taken in Leicestershire</b>
To continue to maintain the information they have published on their websites about the financial support they have offered to their local adult social care market	The Provider support area of the authority's website is easy to navigate, accessible and provides the most up-to-date guidance available. The materials on the site are regularly reviewed and updated.