

Dear Care and Support Provider,

Care and Support Provider Update: 1st September 2020

Thank you to those of you who have let us know that staff within your care home are interested in the offer of an antibody test. If you have already contacted us, you will be contacted by the Quality and Compliance team this week.

If you have NOT let us know that you would like antibody testing, please respond to commissioningandcontracts@sefton.gov.uk by 12.00 noon 2nd September.

Please note that:

- Antibody testing would mean a phlebotomist visiting your care home on a set day for a set period of time. They would need a safe quiet space with a chair and a sink, they would bring all other equipment and be in PPE.
- Antibody tests indicate whether someone has had the COVID-19 virus. They are a key part of the Government's testing programme and will play an increasingly important role as we continue to respond to the pandemic. Positive antibody tests do not mean that a person who has had COVID-19 will not catch the virus again or spread it to others in the future.
- More information about when the antibody testing will take place and a consent form will be sent out in due course to the care homes who have responded for sharing with the staff members who have expressed an interest in antibody testing.