

Care and Support Provider Update: 3 April 2020

Dear Care Provider,

Here is the Care and Support Providers Daily Update for 03 April 2020:

Please note that there is also the Sefton website with a dedicated area for Care Providers, that will be regularly updated. <https://www.sefton.gov.uk/social-care/adults/adult-social-care-providers.aspx>

Skills For Care: Information and support from Skills for Care in response to COVID-19

Essential training in response to COVID-19 including rapid induction.

<https://elinkeu.clickdimensions.com/m/1/24742546/p1-b20093-5fd72c06980046fd871bddbbf35e1900/6/879/7c33c7ba-feb7-4318-a35c-8609ef063f79>

National Government Guidance: How to protect care home residents and staff during the coronavirus outbreak.

This guidance includes areas of focus regarding:

- Admission of residents
- Caring for residents, depending on their COVID-19 status
- Reporting of COVID-19 cases
- Providing care after death
- Advice for staff
- Supporting existing residents that may require hospital care
- National support available to implement this guidance

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-admission-and-care-of-people-in-care-homes?utm_source=ac47bed8-b52a-4c2f-b961-a48468e031b1&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

Joint statement is from BMA, Care Provider Alliance, CQC, Royal College of GP's

Information on when a GP unable to attend the home to provide a death certificate. Joint statement on Advanced Care Planning.

\\SMBC-FILE-09\Commissioning_Support\General\COVID-19\Provider Communications

Just a reminder to join the North and South Sefton Care Home Group What's App if you haven't already and also the STORM Care Managers Inner Circle Facebook Group, links below, which are both great groups for supporting each other and sharing ideas and critical information.

- **WhatsApp group** is being set up for all Sefton and Care Partners; Join and disable the notifications (so it doesn't drive you bonkers): Join here: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/DGGaEeL2PUy4Na3aaTuXH4>
- **STORM Care Managers Inner Circle** is a UK wide group that is supporting **all** care managers. It has a LIVE Facebook update and debrief EVERY evening at 8pm. All

your templates, business continuity plans are on there. LIVE support throughout the day for all your questions and worries. JOIN TODAY as it may save a life and saves you time! <https://www.facebook.com/groups/STORMCareManagersInnerCircle/>

- CQC have been asked by a number of providers what they should do when their GP is unable to attend the home to provide a death certificate. In order to support you in answering any such query here is the most recent information:

There is a difference between 'confirmation that life is extinct' and 'certification of death'.

It is 'confirmation that life is extinct' which needs to be done before a funeral director can remove a person's body from a care home.

We have some guidance for providers on this, <https://www.cqc.org.uk/guidance-providers/gps/nigels-surgery-13-who-can-confirm-death>.

In summary, the law

- does **not** require a doctor to confirm death has occurred or that "life is extinct"
 - does **not** require a doctor to view the body of a deceased person
 - **does** require the doctor who attended the deceased during the last illness to issue a certificate detailing the cause of death
- CQC are starting to share our questions and answers direct with Providers on our CQC website [External FAQs](#).
 - There is also a link to the information Providers are receiving on our CQC internet <https://www.cqc.org.uk/guidance-providers/adult-social-care>
Scroll down and look for the Newsletter icon at the bottom right of the page; these are weekly newsletters.
 - Skills for Care are also providing support to Providers, <https://elinku.clickdimensions.com/m/1/24742546/p1-b20086-04ed053db3d7471eb523a4df3c3596c8/1/539/39d1abba-b11b-4f41-8b47-e21ec0e25093>
 - CQC have a team in place that are currently fast tracking any registrations in relation to Covid19. All the relevant guidance can be found in the following link;

<https://www.cqc.org.uk/news/stories/registration-cqc-changes-statements-purpose-during-covid-19>

Considerations for providers e.g. Day Centres.

Risk management relating to empty / vacant properties

As a general principle, outlets on hot and cold water systems should be used at least once a week to maintain a degree of water flow and to minimise the chances of stagnation. To manage the risks during non-occupancy, consideration should be given to implementing a suitable flushing regime or other measures such as draining the system if it is to remain vacant for long periods (see <https://www.hse.gov.uk/legionnaires/legionella-landlords-responsibilities.htm>). This guidance also applies to workplaces which become less occupied. In addition, consideration is required of other water systems that are no longer in use, such as leisure, sports and swimming and spa pool facilities. We suggest that for these facilities, you should follow the procedures described in the Pool Water Treatment Advisory Group Code of Practice and this can be found at <https://www.pwtag.org/code-of-practice/>

Guidance has also been produced by the European Society for Clinical Microbiology and Infectious disease on managing Legionella in building water systems during the COVID-19 pandemic.

https://www.escmid.org/fileadmin/src/media/PDFs/3Research_Projects/ESGLI/COVID_buidling_water_system_guidance_27_3_20_v4_DS.pdf