

 **Deborah Butcher**

**Executive Director for Adult Social Care and Health**

 Magdalen House

 Trinity Road

 Bootle

 L20 3NJ

 0151 934 3105

 www.sefton.gov.uk

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Dear Care and Community Support Provider,

As always, we want to thank you for everything you are doing to continue to keep our vulnerable residents safe and well.

The Department of Health and Social Care has launched a public consultation on extending free PPE to the health and care sector beyond 31st March 2022. It is considering whether to extend the provision of free PPE beyond its current end date and would like feedback on this. The consultation is available on GOV.UK: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/extending-free-ppe-to-the-health-and-care-sector> and more information is provided in the attachment to this letter. Alternatively, you can send your responses and any supporting evidence to PPE.strategy@dhsc.gov.uk Please send any responses by 23:45 on the 31st October 2021.

We would like to remind you that the deadline for returns for the Infection Control Grant 4/Testing Grant is the 15th October 2021.

The 10th of October is World Mental Health Day. Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust is getting animated in its support for World Mental Health Day (WMHD) by releasing two short films that give tips for wellbeing and signposts those in need to their services.

They have launched two new animations giving simple advice for what to do if you, or someone you know, is in crisis and needs help and another giving tips to follow the five ways to wellbeing.

The first animation gives advice if either yourself or someone you know is experiencing a mental health crisis and how to access help via the crisis lines set up by Mersey Care, one of the country’s leading mental and community health trusts in the country, at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The [crisis lines animation can be accessed here,](http://link.mediaoutreach.meltwater.com/ls/click?upn=uHTKkna2LQLuIpYceEv86KyF7MWud2yo1OloeIqG0pt0Y8KI4Z8wK1jr-2Fpvtnh-2BKhkCe_RsEKs-2BP5asU-2BJN-2FtX0vXbPtDJ0YdRk-2FjRDTWNUYzV06uyQVq5CMfzDaxEraS1QFsBg5-2FfnLkOpfK9eK4us4-2By0Vp7fRCkV59qRJ4aFvxgoM2EXHukahWSVda1q7fqnA4sita2lk9rABzU1ZlqcDFvd-2BOm9eIoUc-2FQkWAhwx3YetSZAFR5FujRaC1sK-2BKow-2Fxp2oZJ-2FbfFw4-2FlQXGAcBgBSQrjigXm-2FlfpWO-2Bq4-2FyAwlDC8OpF8wlRDkT0uZPbLEoGPOxlB-2BSbBuOFYcVf0k4BCzlhG2tEON-2BufkCIYk0VMY1WuU9ZT0HsgfovL4fVneKKRZwfZlsQsiDaj-2FrxZjbQ3IFBclL-2BqunHdn2rUDyJCcnDwaYRjGueUFKZ1RNkYVoReqp15tJlwrAkbTgBChW5A-3D-3D) while the other film gives advice on how to follow the five ways to wellbeing, which are proven steps to help with mental health and wellbeing, [and is available here.](http://link.mediaoutreach.meltwater.com/ls/click?upn=uHTKkna2LQLuIpYceEv86N1jKFPEcxfMYa0lZqC2gh2fBacow7PQFKuHjt4RDTyPa3kl_RsEKs-2BP5asU-2BJN-2FtX0vXbPtDJ0YdRk-2FjRDTWNUYzV06uyQVq5CMfzDaxEraS1QFsBg5-2FfnLkOpfK9eK4us4-2By0Vp7fRCkV59qRJ4aFvxgoM2EXHukahWSVda1q7fqnA4sita2lk9rABzU1ZlqcDFvd-2BOm9eIoUc-2FQkWAhwx3YetSZAFR5FujRaC1sK-2BKow-2Fxp2oZJ-2FbfFw4-2FlQXGAcBgBSQrjigXm-2FlfpWO-2Bq4-2FyAwmz6TZNHX-2BdVWxfjMOjaHyMaG5tEyPQV4-2BOd-2Bma0kERAH11gLXRCN-2Fay5Kit6mOapyHygrIyl9fBOxdPYcvU0Gr-2BHpQeoiVcMWuOIUB-2F71qDhpV8jIhldT8zjAnotDjx0K-2Ba7htHctWiWKKqfZqIHa9M3zKT0pjz1KDxrSj1GAhSg-3D-3D)

Information for Care Homes

The Cheshire and Merseyside Resilience Hub have a range of free workshop events for staff members, managers and teams, which are detailed below.

**Who contains the containers** – Monday 4th October 12.30pm – 1.30pm – [**Click here to book**](https://cheshiremerseyresiliencehub.nhs.uk/workshop-forms/who-contains-the-containers-monday-4th-october-12-30pm-1-30pm/)

**Cultivating Compassion for health and social care teams** - Monday 11th October – 12pm – 1pm – [**Click here to book**](https://cheshiremerseyresiliencehub.nhs.uk/workshop-forms/cultivating-compassion-for-health-and-social-care-teams-monday-13th-september-12pm-1pm/)

**Working through a pandemic** – Monday 18th October – 12.30 – 1.30pm –[**Click here to book**](https://cheshiremerseyresiliencehub.nhs.uk/workshop-forms/working-through-a-pandemic-monday-20th-september-12-30pm-1-30pm/)

**A perfect storm – burnout workshop** - Tuesday 19th October 12pm – 1pm – [**Click here to book**](https://cheshiremerseyresiliencehub.nhs.uk/workshop-forms/perfect-storm-tuesday-19th-october-at-12pm-1pm/)

**Psychological self-care for staff** – Wednesday 20th October 12pm – 1pm – [**Click here to book**](https://cheshiremerseyresiliencehub.nhs.uk/workshop-forms/psychological-self-care-for-staff-wednesday-8th-september-12pm-1pm/)

After the success of Round 1 of our Care Home Capital Improvement Programme, we are really pleased to let you know that we will be launching the next round of the Care Home Capital Improvement Programme Grant Scheme – Round 2 on the **18th October 2021** for registered nursing and residential homes in Sefton.

The grants have helped to support our care homes to help make the home more dementia friendly and improve outcomes for care home residents and feedback has been very positive. The information leaflet attached provides some examples of how the grant is helping residents. More details of the 2nd round will be shared next week.

**'Making it real ' Working with Care Homes Summit - 3rd November 2021.**

This one-day summit is an opportunity to bring together Care Home Leaders who have recently completed the My Home Life England programme with key stakeholders in Sefton who work with care homes to support quality of life for people who live, die, work in and visit care homes.

Thank you to the care homes who have already said they will be joining the Summit. Please find attached a flyer with more information about the day. If you have recently completed the programme, we would love to see you there. Please confirm your attendance with steph.thompson@city.ac.uk We hope this event will make a contribution to working differently with care homes into the future.

From us, all the Health and Care partners and Councillor Paul Cummins, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, we would like to thank you and your staff once again for all your hard work and everything you are doing.

Yours sincerely



Deborah Butcher

Executive Director for Adult Social Care and Health



Fiona Taylor

Chief Officer, NHS South Sefton and NHS Southport and Formby CCGs