Sefton Council logo

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Date: 11th February 2022

Dear Care and Community Support Provider,

As always thank you to you and your staff for everything you are doing to help protect our most vulnerable residents.

Please continue to report any confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19 to Sefton’s Community Infection Control Team (in hours) or Public Health England (out of hours/weekends and bank holidays).

* For Monday to Friday between 0900 and 1700, please contact the community infection control team on 0151 295 3036
* For out of hours, weekends and bank holidays please contact Public Health England’s Health Protection on call support on 0151 434 4819

**Testing guidance for homecare workers in England**

The guidance can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-testing-for-homecare-workers-information-for-agencies/a-testing-service-for-homecare-workers-in-england>

At this week’s Provider meeting we discussed this new guidance and Providers raised queries/questions on it.  We have contacted CQC to raise these queries and will update Providers when we get a response.

**Cheshire & Merseyside Resilience Hub (CMRH)**

As well as the general CMRH support package for staff members, CMRH are now able to offer 1-2-1 support for staff members who might be going through relationship troubles. They have partnered with Relate as part of a national contract to further help and support staff and this is covered by their general offer. This is available to all staff members in the NHS, Social Care & Emergency Services free of charge and very much 100% confidential. Please see attached posters advertising this service.

**Relationship support offer:**

Staff members seeking further help and support around their relationship will be eligible to receive a **30-minute introductory call** and **6** **counselling sessions** as part of their on-going commitment. This service is due to go live on **14/02/2021** and is available for a limited period. There is a dedicated landing page and phone number for staff members wanting to receive further help. <https://www.relate.org.uk/relatehub-nhs> & 0300 303 4477

**Upcoming workshops:**

Tuesday 15th Feb – Burnout, The Perfect Storm 12-1pm - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/253055254077>

Wednesday 16th Feb – Psychological Self Care for Staff 12.30pm-1.30pm - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/253043859997>

**Outreach is back!**

CMRH are now able to start taking bookings for face-to-face outreach sessions from March onwards. If you would like the team to come drop by with lots of helpful information and wellbeing goodies to help your staff, please use [the online form](https://www.cheshiremerseyresiliencehub.nhs.uk/i-would-like-to-contact-the-hub-for-advice-or-support/contact-us-form-managers/). They can offer outreach most days.

**Sefton Training Programmes**

As you are aware, over the past two years we have collated relevant training, webinars and resources for you and your staff teams. Please find below the latest versions of these programmes.



**Sefton Safeguarding Adults Guidance**

The Safeguarding Guidance has recently been discussed at provider meetings. The Guidance is available on the website, however, for ease, we have included it below.



**Specific Information for Care Homes**

**Care Home Strategic Partnership**

Thank you to the Care Home Managers that attended the meeting of the Care Home Strategic Partnership on Tuesday 8th February, 4.00 – 5.00pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 8th March 2022.

**Discharge into Care Home – Designated Settings**

The discharge into care homes: designated settings guidance was updated on the 7 February.

This [guidance](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/designated-settings-for-people-discharged-to-a-care-home/discharge-into-care-homes-designated-settings) sets out:

* the discharge arrangements for people who have tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19)
* the requirements designated setting providers must meet
* key information to assist local authorities in planning to ensure they have enough designated accommodation
* CQC’s infection prevention control (IPC) protocol

This guidance should only be used for individuals who need care in a residential or nursing home and have tested positive for COVID-19 within 48 hours prior to being discharged from a stay in hospital. The ‘home first’ approach should continue to be followed as the preferred option.

**Data Security and Protection Toolkit (DSPT)**

As you are aware, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and to support discharge from hospital to care providers and allow the ease of sharing patient information, the Government mandated the use of NHS Mail (or other secure email) for all CQC registered providers. Completion of the DSPT is a pre-requisite for NHS Mail.

The Toolkit is an online self-assessment of your organisation’s data security and it:

* demonstrates compliance towards data protection legislation,
* reviewed and updated annually
* gives advice and is a checklist of good practice.

We would like to remind you that there is a requirement to complete and update the Toolkit and would be grateful if you haven’t already done so, to do this, at your earliest convenience. Less than 50% of Sefton’s care homes are compliant, so it is important that you access support.

**NHS Northwest Vaccination Toolkit**

NHS northwest has created a toolkit of video and printable resources to support care homes to have conversations with staff about the benefits of the vaccine and why it’s important for staff in care homes to have their booster dose to get full protection against the virus. It can be used in conjunction with the communications toolkit provided by the DHSC (Department of Health and Social Care), which includes national resources to share with your staff about booster vaccine.

We would be grateful if you could use this toolkit and share to:

* Support conversations with care home staff about the COVID-19 vaccine.
* Share the content in staff newsletters and display on notice boards.
* Advise eligibility - everyone aged 16 and over who had a second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine at least 3 months ago can get a booster dose.

The vaccination communication cards (below) have been created by NHS England and NHS Improvement, along with materials from UKHSA (UK Health Security Agency), to be used during conversations with care home staff to encourage them to get their COVID-19 vaccination booster.

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**Resources**

The following resources have been created by NHS England and NHS Improvement, along with materials from UKHSA (UK Health Security Agency), to be used during conversations with care home staff to encourage them to get their COVID-19 vaccination booster.

All resources are available to download using the individual links below.

**Vaccination and Pregnancy**

Mum and Baby Video> [here](https://youtu.be/024covX-d9M)

Emma’s Story Video>  [here](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IDECeKZfeQ3s3k32L-Z_q3WAJAx10uaV/view?usp=sharing)

Dr Alice Bird, vaccination and pregnancy video> [here](https://youtu.be/1G9wTksLu8U)

**How to book a booster**

Video> [here](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rgBoEu5KPZyKt93nD9I5MkfmoKRM8wZ0/view?usp=sharing)

**National Social care graphics and posters**

<https://coronavirusresources.phe.gov.uk/covid-19-vaccine/resources/weve-been-boosted-social-assets/>

<https://coronavirusresources.phe.gov.uk/covid-19-vaccine/resources/weve-been-boosted-social-assets/>

**Compilation video ‘Why we had the vaccine’**

Download [here](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qubT_2NyG2gdJvA-3wI9Y9gr_HM7dW_0/view?usp=sharing)

**North and South Registered Care Managers’ Forum – 9th Feb 2022**

Jonathan Cunningham would like to thank those who attended the second ‘face to face’ North and South Sefton Care Managers’ Forum and a huge thank you to Heather & Becky for allowing the use their beautiful venue of Byng House in Southport. It was a superb meeting whose managers represented 42 care homes across the region. Also, many thanks to Beverley and Lynn from Sefton Council who took the time to attend and discuss the safeguarding portal. Thank you, as always to Jon Kerr from Skills for Care for attending and supporting this network.

Please find attached the minutes of the meeting. They are worth a quick scan as there were multiple issues raised.

**Next ‘Face to Face’ Meeting Wed 20th April 1000-1200 (South Sefton)**

St Nicholas Care Home 21 St Nicholas' Drive, Netherton, Bootle L30 2RG

Google Maps: [[Click Here](https://www.google.co.uk/maps/place/St+Nicholas+Care+Home/@53.4893727,-2.9851274,17z/data=!4m13!1m7!3m6!1s0x487b237371a6c897:0x796decd411d7f705!2sSt+Nicholas'+Dr,+Bootle+L30+2RG!3b1!8m2!3d53.4894117!4d-2.9828677!3m4!1s0x487b237371a3684d:0x4153aaa2d028d4d!8m2!3d53.4881895!4d-2.9828796)]

From us, all the Health and Care partners and Councillor Paul Cummins, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, we would like to take the opportunity to thank you and your staff teams for everything you are doing to support our most vulnerable residents. Your dedication, support and hard work is very much appreciated by us all.

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