

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2020

### Frequently Asked Questions

Thank you for your questions and comments. We have focussed on questions which summarise a key theme from stakeholders. If you do not think we have answered your question, or if we have missed anything, please do come back to us at: [england.learning.disability@nhs.net](mailto:england.learning.disability@nhs.net)

We will continue to update and re-issue FAQs however this will now be fortnightly and will upload a copy to the Future Collaboration platform.

We have set up a [Future NHS Collaboration workspace](#) to support the work of NHS England and Improvement Mental Health, Learning Disability and Autism Covid-19 Response Cell. We use this platform to share guidance and information, and encourage mental health, learning disability and autism leads and providers to share advice and feedback on how best to look after patients and staff during these difficult times. The resources on this workspace are open to those working in mental health, learning disability and autism services and will include the voluntary and independent sector.

If you currently have a FutureNHS account, you can access the workspace directly through the homepage (<https://future.nhs.uk/MHLDAcovid19/grouphome>). Those without a FutureNHS account can either self-register to the platform if they have an nhs.net or nhs.uk email account, or directly request access by emailing our generic mailbox if they are from other organisations at: [MHLDAcovid19-manager@future.nhs.uk](mailto:MHLDAcovid19-manager@future.nhs.uk)

### Key topics this week

- **Testing in Care homes**
- **Clear Face masks**
- **Public Health England report**
- **National Social Care taskforce**

*Responses from the Department of Health and Social Care (unless otherwise indicated)*

### Testing in Care Homes

While we are taking all possible steps to increase our supply this does mean that we have to revise the previously advised timelines for rolling out regular testing in care homes as follows:

- We will now reach all care homes for older people and people with dementia by the 7 September 2020.

- If you have already started regular testing, there may be a wait for your second month's order to be fulfilled until we have reached all care homes for older people and people with dementia.
- All other adult care homes will be able to start to place orders for test kits from the 31 August 2020.

## **Clear Masks**

We are working through the best route to supply these to the social care sector. Distribution is expected to begin in late August.

## **Public Health England report about deaths of people with a learning disability**

Public Health England (PHE) is currently finalising the report on deaths among people with learning disabilities. An external peer review of the report is taking place this month. Therefore, PHE now expect to publish the report in September.

## **Update on the outcomes from the National Social Care Task Force**

The Social Care Taskforce is due to run until the end of August and it will then report on its findings and recommendations.

There are a number of advisory groups which were set up under the Social Care Sector Covid-19 Support Taskforce to support the work of the Taskforce, which includes the advisory group for Learning Disability and Autism. These advisory groups will inform the final findings and recommendations. The advisory group for their report to be widely available.

## **Published Resources**

NHS Phase 3 letter

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/wp-content/uploads/sites/52/2020/07/Phase-3-letter-July-31-2020.pdf>

Guidance for providers of Supported living settings;

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/supported-living-services-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

Public Health England

NHS Test and Trace have produced easy read information on testing on the Public Health England resource hub here – in the alternative formats section:

<https://coronavirusresources.phe.gov.uk/Test-and-Trace/resources/>

<https://coronavirusresources.phe.gov.uk/>

Coronavirus: information for people with Learning Disabilities - YouTube

This playlist includes a set of videos created to explain the Coronavirus and its implications for people with Learning Disabilities

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLfVgWWNqce45o8XjfHNcVJCjJjMfU8u>

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NWTDT/ Pathways Associates

Link to the video playlist with daily news:

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLK3Jeclzv-EguNbZHVZUSdTGvg\\_U4jZ2V](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLK3Jeclzv-EguNbZHVZUSdTGvg_U4jZ2V)

### **Future webinars**

If there is a specific theme you would like to discuss or present please let us know.

### **Additional information**

Public Health England weekly update [sign up here](#)