



Adult Social Care Sector

Overview

Supporting Care Homes

Strategic Context

- Supporting Individual Providers and wider Care Market
- Reducing Spread of Infection
- Protecting Residents
- Protecting Staff delivering care and support

About the Care Market

- 33 older people care homes (inc Rosedale). Overall occupancy level of 79.2% - down from 83.4% at start of pandemic. Some care homes reporting financial sustainability problems.
- 19 LD/ MH care homes (in in house) – occupancy remains high.
- Additional financial support now ended except for Infection Control Fund grant and access to PPE.
- 26 contracted care at home and supported living providers.
- 8 care at home providers offering private work only.
- Problems with picking up new packages of care due to numbers of staff self-isolating, but otherwise market working well.

Wider offer of Support

Practical Support and Engagement

- Regular contact
- Intelligence
- Infection Control Fund (1 and 2)
- Increased Fees – 5% and 10%
- Public Health advice, guidance and support.
- Standards and Practice
- PPE

Prevention and Protection

- Promoting Compliance
- Social Distancing
- Shielding
- Enhancing washing facilities and Infection control practices.

Key areas of work

- Being a trusted contact
- Training – Infection, Prevention and Control
- Quality Assurance
- Whole Care Home Outbreak Management
- Daily contact with homes in outbreak or having single cases.
- Outbreak data recording
- Gathering issues and escalating – e.g whole care home testing
- Raising profile of issues – Flu
- Lessons Learnt

Quality Assurance

Interventions and Control Measures

- Supporting and advising best practice in hygiene and infection control
- Advice and guidance on standards for effective internal cohorting
- Step down, where necessary facilities to isolate Covid positive residents.
- Advice and guidance re: minimising staff movement between staff and residents
- Clearly defined testing policies
- Routine regular testing of asymptomatic staff and residents
- Fast response and support for outbreak control
- Oversight of care homes and quality assurance continues but without on-site visits. Inspections on hold.

Care Homes

Covid Risks

- Care Homes closing to admissions and transfers
- Guidance on visiting impacting on residents and families
- Mental Well Being of residents, families and staff
- PPE compliance and complacency!
- Testing turnaround time
- Staff behaviours – Covid fatigue!

Winter Plan

- Supporting and encouraging take up of Flu immunization – residents and staff
- Infection, prevention and control – winter viruses – compliance
- Visiting (in and out) of care homes
- Managing flow between hospital, care homes and the community

Wider Support

+ Key Groups

- Public Health
- Public Health England – Health Protection Team
- Adult Social Care
- Commissioning, Contracting and Procurement
- Environmental Health Team
- Clinical Commissioning Group
- North Tees Acute Trust
- Tees, Esk and Wear Valley Mental Health Trust

Wider Support

+ Key Groups

- Local Care Home Protection Operational Group (Multi Agency led by SBC) weekly newsletters to all providers – regular provider forums.
- Regional Care Home Protection Group (Multi Agency – Senior leads from Adults and Health attend)
- Care Home North East Group – Visiting Policy
- Regional Testing Cell
- North East Flu + Covid Vaccination Board
- Tees Valley Flu + Covid Vaccination Group
- Regional ADASS Group
- Regional Directors of Public Health Group

Local Ambition

- Maintaining excellent relationships with providers
- Offer of real “hands on” support
- Promoting Independence and maintaining good quality and continuity of care.
- Responding to ideas from the sector and sharing ideas and innovation rapidly across the sector
- Reduce the impact of Covid19

Next Steps and Covid Vaccine Planning

Wider work underway

- Care at Home
- Extra Care
- Learning, Disability and Autism
- Sheltered Accommodation
- Direct Payments and Personal Assistants
- Carers
- Clinically Extremely Vulnerable