

**Dear Provider,**

We are sending out a second email this week with some useful updates on testing (including a short survey for you to complete please), Infection Control Fund and on NHS payments for placement costs.

**TODAY'S CARE HOME INFORMATION SESSION** – Today's information session will answer any of questions and discuss the testing issues you may have faced as well as introducing the DPS. Do join at 1pm via this link: [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

## **TESTING**

**COVID-19 Croydon Care Home Testing Short Survey** - We are aware of the issues a number of Croydon's Care Homes have reported with the national testing portal. By completing this [online form](#) by end of Monday 17 August we can get a clear picture of the position in Croydon to report back nationally. Any queries should be emailed to [enquiriesBC@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:enquiriesBC@croydon.gov.uk)

**Testing and regular re-testing** - Please remember that importance of testing of testing any residents or staff who have COVID-19 symptoms

**Testing of people with symptoms** - If you have a member of staff or resident who is symptomatic , they can access testing via the normal routes which are:

- i) <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> OR contact the local
- ii) <https://www.gov.uk/apply-coronavirus-test-care-home>
- iii) Mobile Testing Unit at Fairfield Hall for staff (and residents who may be able to manage this) (twice a week).  
The site will be open from 10.30 and 15.30 for booked appointments only via [www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested)
- iv) Local Testing Sites are being developed and may be available in the near future (these will be local and staff can walk/use their own transport)

If you are testing any residents or get any positive results (staff or residents) , please contact the Health Protection Team (London Coronavirus Response Cell – LCRC) on 0344 326 2052 (do not press any options just hold until answered by an operator) and notify the Croydon Director of Public Health, [rachel.flowers@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:rachel.flowers@croydon.gov.uk)

**Whole care home testing and re-testing** - There are delays in the national regular care home testing programme for asymptomatic staff and residents. See attached letter ([attachment 2](#)) from the Department of Health and Social Care, we are advocating on your behalf to get this resolved as soon as possible at London and national level, and please complete the online form to give us more information so we can represent you fully. We will continue to update you as we find out more.

## **INFECTION CONTROL FUND**

The second tranche of the Infection Control Fund monies have now been received by the Council. We can confirm that providers will receive this funding by the middle of next week. For guidance on how the ICF should be spent, please see [Attachment 0](#).

## **NEW CARE HOME PACKAGE COSTS DURING COVID-19 EMERGENCY**

On 12 May 2020, all Care Home Providers received a letter from the Council regarding measures that the NHS have put in place around payments for packages of care during Covid-19. The Council can confirm that the current funding arrangements for packages will

continue to 31 August. Further guidance is expected from the NHS in the next two weeks about arrangements after 1 September. For further information, please see [Attachment 1](#).

Many thanks,

Adults Commissioning Team