



**Integrated
Care System**
Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin

NHS

**Shropshire, Telford
and Wrekin**

February 2023

Care Cascade

Welcome to your care provider update



Welcome Back

We are pleased to provide our monthly update for colleagues working in the care sector.

These editions will centre around giving teams the information and resources they need relating to winter planning, with a particular focus on Covid-19 - including vaccinations, as well as flu vaccinations.

If you would like to include anything in the next edition, please email scott.demmerling@nhs.net



Covid-19 booster campaign comes to an end

Getting your Covid-19 vaccinations remains important to protect yourself and those around you, even if you've previously had Covid-19.

Those eligible for a vaccination can book an appointment by calling 119 or through the [NHS website](#) Or you can look for your nearest walk-in site.

The Covid-19 autumn booster vaccination programme has now ended. However, the offer of a first and second dose of the Covid-19 vaccine is still available to those who have not yet had them.

Evergreen offer – first and second doses

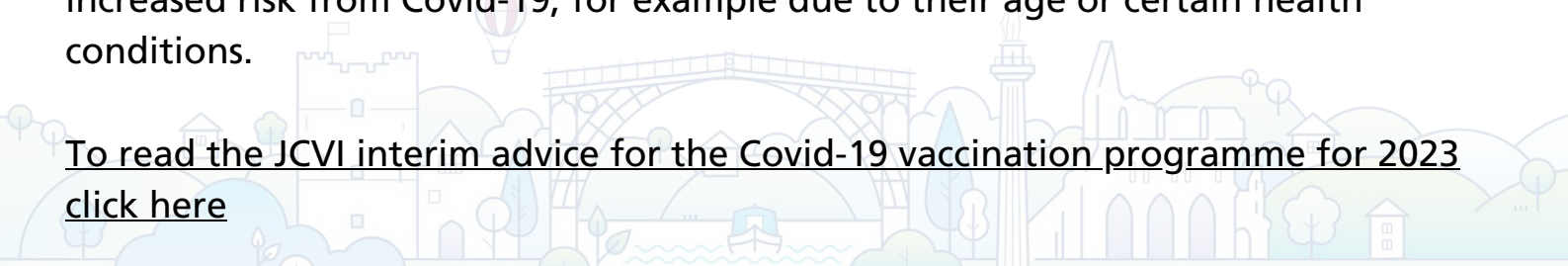
Everyone that turned 5 years of age on or before 31 August 2022 can get a 1st and 2nd dose of the Covid-19 vaccine. Children who turn 5 years of age on or after 1 September 2022 are only eligible for a first and second dose of the Covid-19 vaccination if they are at high risk due to a health condition or because of a weakened immune system or are living with someone who has a weakened immune system.

Please come forward if you haven't had either of these doses. It's important you protect yourself, those you work with and care for as well as looking after your family.

Next steps for the Covid-19 vaccination programme

The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) has not yet issued its final advice for the Covid-19 vaccination programme for 2023 spring boosters. When Covid-19 boosters are available, they will be offered to people who are at increased risk from Covid-19, for example due to their age or certain health conditions.

[To read the JCVI interim advice for the Covid-19 vaccination programme for 2023 click here](#)





Flu Vaccinations

As a health or social care worker, or an unpaid carer or personal assistant to a friend or relative, you're particularly at risk from catching flu passing it on to the people you care for. Making sure you're up to date with your vaccinations can give you peace of mind that you're doing all you can to keep them – as well as your family, friends and colleagues – safe.

How to book your flu vaccination

Visit the [Flu Booking Service](#) to book an appointment at a community pharmacy. You can also get a flu vaccination through your GP practice.

Frontline health and social care workers should get their flu vaccine from their employer. However, certain health and social care providers do not have access to occupational health schemes and cannot provide the flu vaccine to their employees.

If your employer doesn't offer it, you can still get your flu vaccine for free on the NHS.

For more information on flu immunisation for social care staff, visit [here](#)





Priority Services Register

If you have any patients, service users or customers who have additional needs and require extra help you should encourage them to join the Priority Services Register.

While this will not prevent them from having a power cut, network operators are contacting customers on the PSR now, to ensure they have up-to-date information and to remind them about being prepared for the winter. The service is designed to offer support to individuals in a power cut, but support may be more limited in the very rare event of a national energy shortage.

Details of eligibility for the PSR, how to sign up and who an individual's network operator is can be found at energynetworks.org/customers/extra-help-for-customers

Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin Falls Emergency Service Pilot Project

STW ICB along with Shropshire and Telford and Wrekin Council have been working together to develop a pilot programme to support people across the county who are at risk of falls, or have fallen and need a response service. Every month around 850 people who have fallen are conveyed to hospital by ambulance but did not all need to be admitted.

This programme aims to prevent people who fall each month from attending the emergency department by providing a first response service to get them up from where they have fallen, ensure they are safe and well and support the person to remain at home if this is best for them. This service will commence at 7am on Monday 6th February and continue until the end of March 2023.

In addition, the programme aims to increase the number of people accessing postural stability (falls prevention) programmes by at least 10% by the end of March 2023, which will improve the health and wellbeing of individuals in our local communities, giving them confidence to live their best life.



Supporting Recruitment:

To support recruitment and retention across the care sector both Shropshire and Telford and Wrekin Councils have, alongside Shropshire Partners in Care and local providers, produced the following brochure that you can access and use to promote jobs in care and the sector alongside your own recruitment campaigns.

The brochure is currently hosted on the SPiC website, accessible to all through this link [Shropshire-Partners-In-Care-A5-Working-in-Adult-Social-Care-2022 \(2\).pdf](#) and the QR code below. It will soon be on both LA websites and the ICS Health and Social Care academy <https://www.stw-healthcare.co.uk> (where you can also advertise vacancies)

National Capacity Tracker

A reminder, The Health & Social Care Act 2022 includes a requirement for ASC providers to submit a core set of data on a monthly basis. This applies to most CQC regulated ASC providers, regardless of size, or whether their services are funded privately or by social care/NHS.

To avoid possible financial penalties data must be updated/provided at least once between the 8th - 14th of each month. If the 14th falls on a weekend/public holiday, the reporting window will be extended to the next working day.

For more information – please refer to [ASC Provider Provisions Statutory Guidance & DHSC FAQ](#).

NECSU will be holding further training sessions in March.





Provider Training Sessions (Agenda)

These sessions are for CQC regulated Care Home & Home Care providers - who are new to the Capacity Tracker, or who would like a refresher of how to use the system.

In the session, we will cover:

- New Users – how to create & approve accounts
- Basics – updating contact details & opt in email preference
- System Demo – how to update and top tips
- Frequency - how often to update, how to update for multiple locations
- Questions.

Joining Instructions

- All provider training sessions will be hosted on Microsoft Teams. No prior booking is required and the number of participants per session is unlimited.
- Please join the session a few minutes beforehand to allow for a prompt start.
- Please mute your microphone and do not share screen your screen in error!
- Please use the chat box or raise your hands for questions and remarks
- Estimated Duration of each session: 45 minutes

Provider Training Sessions	Day	Date	Time	Microsoft Teams ID
Care Home & Home Care	Tuesday	07/03/2023	11am	Meeting ID: 370 959 139 360, Passcode: pDzBt6
Care Home & Home Care	Thursday	09/03/2023	2pm	Meeting ID: 312 873 288 387, Passcode: Grd4f2
Care Home & Home Care	Friday	10/03/2023	2pm	Meeting ID: 391 013 566 481, Passcode: jYjkWt



Updated Guidance on enforcement

Updated Guidance on the enforcement is now live - here are the links to the pages:

- [Enforcement](#)
- [Formal Notice](#)
- [Data Collection](#)
- [Impact Assessment](#)
- [The Redirection To The New Collection Page](#)

Free personal protective equipment (PPE) scheme

The continued provision of free PPE for COVID-19 will:

- protect frontline healthcare staff, the elderly and vulnerable
- reduce pressure on the NHS

The scheme has been extended until 31 March 2024 or until the Department of Health and Social Care's (DHSC) stocks for COVID-19 supply are depleted (whichever is sooner). We encourage providers to only order PPE based on current demand - DHSC will not accept returns of unused or expired PPE. Order limits will continue to apply and order volumes will be monitored.

'Estimated stock-out dates by PPE category' shows DHSC estimated stock-out dates when DHSC expects to run out of specific types of PPE.

[Click here for more info.](#)

[How to order COVID-19 personal protective equipment \(PPE\).](#)





My Home Life England

Professional Support and Development Programme 2023

'The best course I have been on in 16 years' (Participant 2022)

- My Home Life England welcomes applications to our new programme across Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin.
- This programme is open to leaders who work in care homes and domiciliary care, including registered managers, deputies and clinical leaders.
- There are up to 20 places available - up to 10 places for people working in care homes and up to 10 for people working in domiciliary care.
- Places are funded by NHS Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin.

The sessions provide space for participants to focus on real practical issues that they are currently facing with the intention of achieving improvement and transformation in their care service. Throughout the programme principles, practice tools, and exercises will be introduced to you. There will be plenty of opportunity to share your own experiences and hear from others, where the focus is not on 'getting it right', but on celebrating giving it a go.

[More information](#)

[Application form](#)

To make an application, please complete the application form and return to: tflint@spic.co.uk or tyra.matthews@city.ac.uk by: **9am on 17th April 2023.**

My home life
England



PPE reminder

Face Masks

Care workers are still encouraged to wear face masks in care settings which remain a critical control measure to help minimise transmission.

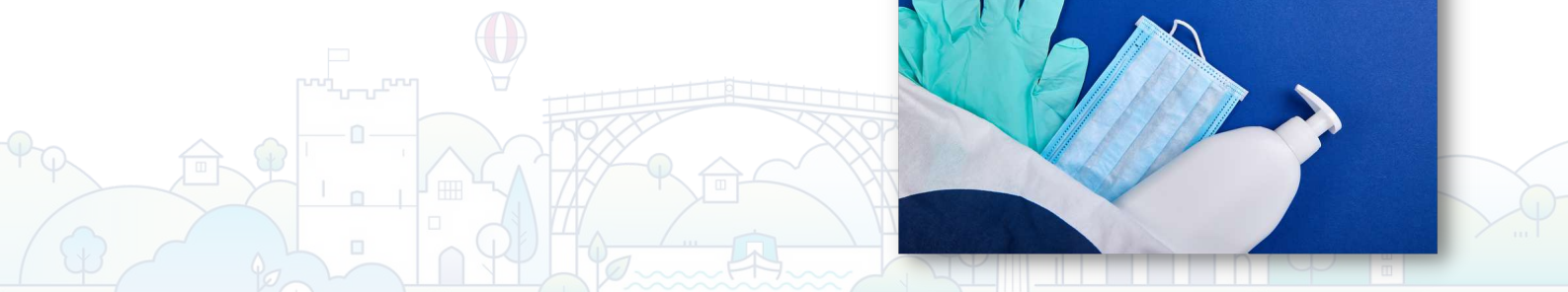
There are a variety of different face masks which are useful for both protecting the wearer (PPE) and protecting others (source control). However, the type of mask recommended depends on the type of activity being undertaken and whether the person is known or suspected to have COVID-19 or not.

All face masks should:

- be well fitted to cover nose, mouth and chin
- be worn according to the manufacturer's recommendations (check which side should be close to the wearer)
- not be allowed to dangle around the neck at any time or be pulled down under the chin and then be re-applied
- not be touched once put on
- be worn according to the risk-assessed activity
- be removed and disposed of appropriately, with the wearer cleaning their hands before removal and after disposal

Face masks should be changed:

- if they become moist
- if they become damaged
- if they become uncomfortable to wear
- if they become contaminated or soiled
- at break times
- after 4 hours of continuous wear
- after providing personal care to someone with known or suspected COVID-19 - in a residential care setting staff should dispose of their face mask after leaving the individual's room, and put a new mask on.





PPE reminder continued

Good Ventilation

Good ventilation is an important control in managing the threat of COVID-19. Letting fresh air into indoor spaces helps to remove air that contains virus particles and prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other respiratory infections.

When someone with a respiratory viral infection breathes, speaks, coughs or sneezes, they release small particles (droplets and aerosols) that contain the virus which causes the infection. These particles can be breathed in or can come into contact with the eyes, nose, or mouth. The particles can also land on surfaces and be passed from person to person via touch.

While larger droplets fall quickly to the ground, aerosols containing the virus can remain suspended in the air for some time, including after an infected person has left the area. In poorly ventilated rooms the amount of virus in the air can build up, increasing the risk of spread, especially if there are lots of infected people in the room. The risk of airborne transmission is increased when occupants in an enclosed space are participating in energetic activity, such as exercising, or when they are shouting, singing or talking loudly.

Bringing fresh air into a room and removing older stale air that contains virus particles reduces the chance of spreading respiratory infections. The more fresh air that is brought inside, the quicker any airborne virus will be removed from the room.

Whilst maintaining good ventilation is extremely important, it is also important to remember that ventilation does not prevent the spread of respiratory infections through close contact (it is for this reason that wearing a face mask is so important).





PPE Reminder continued

Cleaning and Disinfection

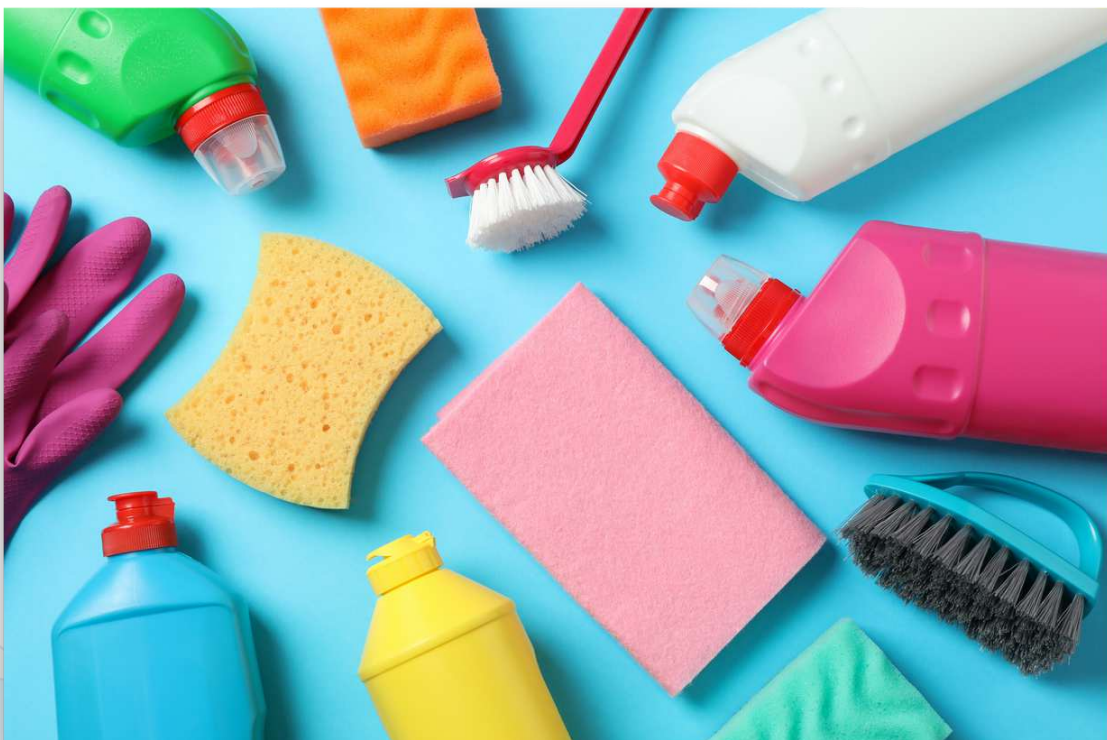
Regular cleaning plays a vital role in limiting the transmission of COVID-19.

Increase the frequency of cleaning, using for example sanitisers that meet the requirements of BS14476, paying attention to all surfaces but especially ones that are touched frequently, such as door handles, light switches, work surfaces etc.

Cleaning should be more frequent depending on the number of people using the space, whether they are entering and exiting the setting and access to handwashing and hand-sanitising facilities. Cleaning of frequently touched surfaces is particularly important in bathrooms and communal kitchens.

Use disposable cloths or paper roll and disposable mop heads, to clean all hard surfaces, floors, chairs, door handles and sanitary fittings

When items cannot be cleaned using detergents or laundered, for example, upholstered furniture and mattresses, steam cleaning should be used.





PPE Reminder continued

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