

# COVID19 CARE HOME SUPPORT

## *LOCAL PLANNING RETURNS*

Briefing session

Integration and  
Better Care Fund

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Department  
of Health &  
Social Care



Ministry of Housing,  
Communities &  
Local Government



# INTRODUCTION

Rosie Seymour – Better Care Support Team

**Integration and  
Better Care Fund**

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# AIMS OF THE SESSION

Overview of government commitments to support care homes

Local care home support planning return

Regional review and support

Answer your questions



# CONTEXT AND OVERVIEW

Rosie Seymour – Better Care Support Team

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# CONTEXT

## COVID 19 in care homes

- Significant spread of COVID 19 in care homes – outbreaks in 33% of homes
- Evidence that asymptomatic transmission is a big driver
- Stopping spread now a top priority

## Government commitments

- Government and NHS offer set out over the last 2 weeks including
- Clinical support
- Infection control fund testing of asymptomatic staff and residents
- Testing of asymptomatic staff and residents

## Expectations

- Ministers want to have:
  - Clarity and data on implementation across homes
  - To be assured that support is being made available by local statutory bodies

# ASKS OF SYSTEMS

## Information from care homes

- Update to capacity tracker
- Collect data to inform local area return
- Will collect information on whether homes can implement actions, and/or access support

## Support implementation template

- Each local authority area to complete template and return to departments
- Number of homes where commitments are met
- Local implementation issues and notes

## Covering narrative

- Local authority chief executive to send overall system response – but clear expectation that CCG AO and Director of Nursing will contribute
- Set out overall approach

# SUPPORTING LOCAL SYSTEMS

We recognise that everyone in Local Government, the NHS and local Care Providers are working exceptionally hard to support their residents at this difficult time, facing very real challenges with accessing testing and PPE and in supporting staff, residents and families in very challenging circumstances. We welcome the focus on social care and the resources that will support this.

We believe that this is an opportunity, through the covering letter, for local systems to demonstrate the excellent work being done with care providers and between the Local Authorities and the NHS while also identifying the financial and operational challenges, some out of local control, in managing staff groups and residents to keep them safe.

We are keen to support Local Authorities and local systems in delivering on the requests in this letter and want to work with you to resolve concerns that may be highlighted through your local discussions and the completion of the template.

# NHS MUTUAL AID SUPPORT OFFER TO THE CARE HOMES – EXEC SUMMARY

On 28 April, the COVID-19 National Incident Response Board (NIRB) agreed a **mutual aid support offer for care homes**. This offer was summarised in the NHS CEO and COO letter to the system on 29 April, which stated:

“Given the scale of the challenges they face, we must also continue to partner with local authorities and Local Resilience Forums (LRFs) in providing mutual aid with our colleagues in social care, including care homes. This includes:

- Continuing to ensure that all patients safely and appropriately being discharged from hospital to a care home are first tested for Covid19; care homes can also check that these tests have been carried out.
- Under the direction of the LRF, local authority public health departments and CCG infection control nurses can help ‘train the trainers’ in care homes about PHE’s recommended approach to infection prevention and control - particularly focusing on those care homes that lack the infrastructure of the bigger regional and national chains.
- To further support care homes, the NHS will implement a revised Clinical Support model based on key elements of the primary and community health service-led Enhanced Health in Care Homes service. Each home will be provided with a lead clinician
- Opportunities to support care homes will also be provided to younger health professional ‘returnees’ and public volunteers who have offered to help”
- The mutual aid offer continues to include the provision of the Capacity Tracker to Care Homes as well as continuing to make available NHS Mail for secure email transmission.

# COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS



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# CARE HOME SUPPORT > LOCAL PLANNING RETURN

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# CARE HOME SUPPORT – LOCAL PLANNING RETURN

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## Cover letter (outline of local plans)

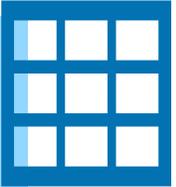


Letter to describe:

- Joint work to ensure care market resilience locally
- Your system's collective level of confidence that these actions are being implemented or plans are in place to urgently implement
- short description of the approach that commissioners (LAs and CCGs) are taking to address short-term financial pressures
- approach agreed locally to providing alternative accommodation
- Local co-ordination for placing returning clinical staff or volunteers into care homes

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## Support implementation status template (support actions in place)



- Confirmation of the current **level of access to the support offer** covering:
  - Infection prevention and control
  - Testing
  - Personal Protective Equipment and Equipment supply
  - Workforce support
  - Clinical support
- Details of **support needs and any issues**

Three fields:

1. **Number of care homes that have support actions in place**  
(Taken from Capacity tracker template as a direct voice from care homes)
2. Any **support that the system would benefit** from to progress the implementation of support to care homes
3. (optional) any particular **issues** that the LA would like to highlight to regional and national teams

# SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION STATUS TEMPLATE

No of Care Homes in your local area, where the corresponding action or support is in place

- Capacity tracker is being expanded for Care Homes to directly indicate level of access to support and actions to control and prevent infections

- Y/N questions corresponding to the implementation status template

- This would enable an extract from the Capacity Tracker to furnish this information at Local Authority level



- Work in progress

## COVID19 Care Home Support > Implementation Status

Key COVID19 Support Actions for Care Homes	*Number of Care Homes (Please see note above)	Would additional support be helpful to progress implementation further? (Yes/No) If Yes, please offer a brief description of the type of support that would be helpful	Please indicate any issues that you would like to highlight (optional)
<b>Focus 1: Infection prevention and control measures</b>			
1.1) Support for cohorting and/or isolation of residents		<Please select>	
1.2) Measures to reduce movement of staff between care homes where feasible		<Please select>	
1.3) Support on infection control from primary and community health providers		<Please select>	
<b>Focus 2: Testing</b>			
2.1) Access to testing for all residents and asymptomatic staff		<Please select>	
2.2) Testing of all residents discharged from hospital to care homes		<Please select>	
<b>Focus 3: Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Clinical Equipment</b>			
3.1) Access to appropriate PPE		<Please select>	
3.2) Access to appropriate clinical equipment		<Please select>	
<b>Focus 4: Workforce support</b>			
4.1) Access to training in the use of PPE from clinical or PH teams		<Please select>	
4.2) Access to training on the use of any medical equipment		<Please select>	
4.3) Access to training on testing procedures and use of testing kits		<Please select>	
4.4) Access to training for infection prevention and control		<Please select>	
4.5) Access to additional capacity including from locally coordinated returning healthcare professionals or volunteers		<Please select>	
<b>Focus 5: Clinical support</b>			
5.1) Named Clinical Lead in place for support and guidance		<Please select>	
5.2) Access to mutual aid offer (primary and community health support)		<Please select>	

Highlight any support that LAs consider beneficial to receive to be able to support care homes better in turn

Highlight any particular issues to regional and national teams (optionally)

# SUBMISSION AND TIMEFRAMES

Local plans (covering letter and template) should be sent by **29 May** to [CareandReform2@communities.gov.uk](mailto:CareandReform2@communities.gov.uk) and should be published on the local authority website in parallel.

# COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

# CARE HOME SUPPORT > REGIONAL REVIEW AND SUPPORT

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# PROCESS AND ROLES

## Local

### Narrative on local plan and template completion

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- Narrative assessment of current state of the care home market, action taken to date, and specifics on approach to short term funding
- Template showing number of homes able to implement or access support to implement commitments and any notes on reasoning completed.
- LA CEO agrees with DASS, DPH, director of nursing and community providers that assessments are accurate and considers further actions required locally.
- Submits to Care and reform inbox by 29 May 2020

## Regional

### Review returns and identify concerns

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- Review narrative returns and templates. Consider self assessment against wider data and background knowledge and any LRF feedback
- Agree and implement any regional support or brokerage that can take place
- Send a return to departments setting out
  - Places where there are concerns over implementation (resourcing, pace, relationships)
  - Thematic concerns (commitments where confidence is low in several places)
  - Summary of planned regional action – addressing local issues, support requested from CHIP or NHS.
  - Any action that NHS regional teams are planning

## National

### Oversight

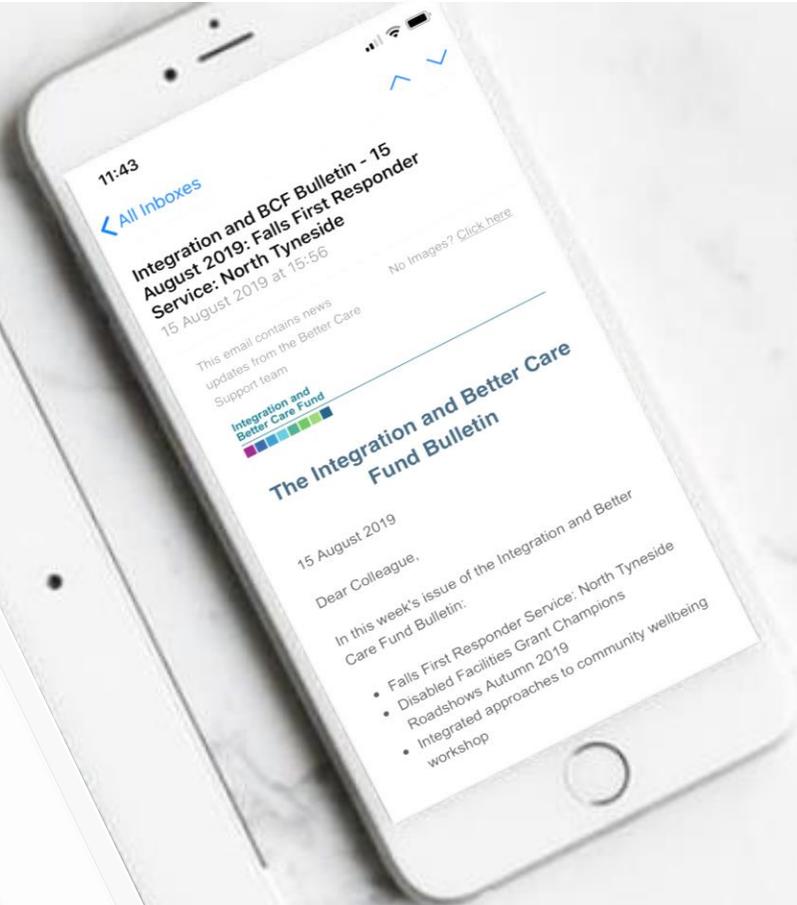
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- Overview of national picture – review returns against national data
- Report to ministers
- Agree (BCST) any further national support to areas
- Consider policy implications – funding, further measures on workforce

# COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

# THANK YOU

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND REGULAR UPDATES, SIGN UP TO THE BULLETIN AND THE BETTER CARE EXCHANGE



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