## Issue 57 - 27 November 2020

Dear colleague,

As always, we would like to express our sincere thanks for the hard work underway across the county. Please find a number of articles below that we hope will be useful to you and your services.

## Weekly testing for home care workers

The following press release came out from the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) on Monday, setting out how home care agencies in England can order regular tests for their staff: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-testing-for-homecare-workers">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-testing-for-homecare-workers</a>

## Lateral flow testing

DHSC has announced that lateral flow testing (rapid testing) will be rolled out for care home staff and residents testing, along with visitors (family/friends). The rollout begins next week, and it is anticipated that all care homes will receive their first supply of test kits by 18 December.

Care homes will be required to continue with the current programme of testing alongside the lateral flow testing.

DHSC will contact care homes directly with expected delivery dates of kits, along with links to training, guidance and an invitation to attend a webinar to go through the process in detail.

We will update you further in future bulletins if additional information is received from DHSC.

## Skills for Care consultation on delegated health care tasks for frontline care workers and managers

Skills for Care launched the draft delegated healthcare tasks guide earlier this week. You can find the document here.

If you would like to respond they are asking for comments via <u>a short survey</u> which should take around 10-15 minutes.

Yours sincerely

Jon Wilson Mike Sandys