Issue 73 - 9 February 2021

Dear Colleagues

Please find below several articles which will hopefully be useful to you and your teams. In particular there are webinars taking place later this week to answer staff queries relating to the COVID-19 vaccine.

New Leicestershire social care enquiry and bookings phone line

In the last two bulletins we have shared the new Leicestershire vaccination web page, including enquiry form, and email address, set up specifically to answer social care provider and worker queries about COVID-19 vaccination.

We now have a dedicated phone line to answer questions and make vaccination appointments. Where workers have their own email address, it is still easier and more convenient for them to book for themselves using the appointments link – however we recognise that a phone line is essential where people don't have an email address or are unable to access the internet.

The new vaccination enquiry details for social care workers are:

- Web page and enquiry form: https://resources.leicestershire.gov.uk/community-safety/priority-groups-for-vaccination
- Email address: socialcare-vaccination-enquiry@leics.gov.uk
- Phone line: 0116 305 2535

Where staff have personal clinical questions about the vaccine, they should consult their own healthcare professional.

COVID-19 vaccination now available at the Loughborough hospital hub

The Loughborough hospital vaccination hub opened yesterday and is accepting bookings. To do so, please click on the 'SwiftQueue' link previously received. Please let eligible staff based in this area of Leicestershire who have not had their first vaccine dose know that this hub is now in operation.

Webinars to answer staff questions

Two useful virtual sessions are being held this week to address any queries which your workforce may have about COVID-19 vaccination. There is also a pre-recorded webinar to access at any time.

Thursday 11 February: BAME vaccine seminar

A BAME COVID-19 vaccine seminar is taking place virtually on Thursday 11 February between 17:00 – 19:00.

The event is hosted by the NHS Race & Health Observatory and features speakers Dame Donna Kinnair (CEO, RCN), Professor Kevin Fenton (Public Health), Dr Malur Sudhanva (Consultant Virologist), Professor Jacqueline Dunkley Bent (Chief Midwifery Officer), Dr Chaand Nagpaul (Chair, BMA) and is hosted by Yvonne Coghill (Special Advisor).

You can join the seminar via the following MS Teams link: https://bit.ly/39R1Ehd

Friday 12 & 19 February: Drop-in vaccine seminar for frontline social care staff

Following the success of its first webinar last week, East Midlands ADASS are running two more virtual 'drop-in' sessions on Friday 12 and Friday 19 February between 14.00-15.00 to answer questions about the vaccine.

Staff do not have to register – they can simply use the link below. Please encourage your workers to dial in.

Are you worried or concerned about having your COVID-19 vaccination? Are there questions you'd like answered? Have you heard or read things on social media that you just don't know if it is true or not? Come and ask the experts.

- ADASS, Public Health England and NHS England are working with the Care Sector in the East Midlands to run sessions for front line social care staff to ask any questions or queries.
- The session will be hosted by staff Public Health Consultants, Doctors and Nurses all of whom are involved in the vaccination programme.
- They will answer your questions as best they can, there is no such thing as a wrong question.
- You do not need to book on to the session.
- You do not have to tell your manager you are joining.
- We will not keep a record of who has attended.
- We will however use the things you ask us and tell us to produce more information for other staff as if you have a thought or a question it is likely other people may have the same question or query.

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

Click here to join the meeting

Any time: pre-recorded vaccine webinar

You can watch this LLR session, which was recorded in late January, at any time: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eLK5Sw1wU9l&feature=youtu.be

Frequently asked vaccination questions in LLR

The Clinical Commissioning Groups in LLR have published a quick guide to the common questions people have asked about the COVID-19 vaccine. You can find it here: https://3xmatc1p0cnc3crfv93ovogp-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Vaccine_Ready_final_02.02.21_340-x-265mm.pdf. Amongst other key messages about the vaccine, it includes confirmation that religious leaders have agreed that the vaccine can be taken by Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs, as well as all other religions.

Monthly reporting - ICF2 and Rapid Testing Fund

Please ensure that your ICF2 February expenditure report is submitted by 15 February. This will summarise all actual eligible expenditure for the period 1 October to 31 January. Care home providers will see that online form has been adapted so that you can report Rapid Testing Fund expenditure at the same time, for the period 2 December to 31 January. Community providers will report in the usual way. Follow this link to complete the online form.

ICF2 Discretionary Fund

The closing date for applications to the ICF2 Discretionary Fund is Friday 12 February, so if you intend to apply for funding you must do so by 17.00 on that date. Follow this link to make an application online.

If you have any questions, please contact Dave Pruden at dave.pruden@leics.gov.uk.

As ever, thank you for your continuing support.

Yours sincerely,

Jon Wilson Mike Sandys

Director of Adults and Communities Director of Public Health

The archive of all previous COVID-19 provider bulletins released since March 2020 can be found at https://resources.leicestershire.gov.uk/adult-social-care-and-health/working-with-you-during-coronavirus