THIS IS A WEB VERSION OF THE LETTER. IF YOU WOULD LIKE ANY DETAILS/DOCUMENTS MENTIONED IN THIS LETTER – PLEASE CONTACT Jayne.vincent@sefton.gov.uk

Date: 28th May 2021

Dear Care and Community Support Provider,

Thank you for everything you are doing to help prevent transmission of COVID-19. Please continue to report any outbreaks to the Community Infection Control Team on 0151 295 3036.

We would like to remind you that the national booking service for health and social care workers has now reopened to allow people to book onto specific vaccine appointments at the larger vaccination centres. It is important for staff to go for their second vaccine to have full protection.

We understand that there may be staff who haven’t yet had a vaccine and there may be different reasons for this. Please find attached the Vaccine FAQ document, which we hope will help your staff with their decision. More information and resources can also be found at this link: <https://www.sefton.gov.uk/social-care/social-care-provider-information/covid-19-vaccination-information/>

Please also continue to complete the Capacity Tracker daily as this helps us to understand the current levels of staff and resident vaccine uptake, vacancies and absence from work.

We also wanted to share with that the Capacity Tracker received a nomination for the 2021 Management Consultancy Association (MCA) Data and Innovation in the Public Sector Award and is through to the final round. This achievement recognises your hard work and contributions during the pandemic. The Capacity Tracker would not be in consideration without you and the Capacity Tracker Central Team thank Providers for their engagement and support in the face of the pandemic.

The winner will be announced on 1st November 2021.

The Department for Health and Social care have announced a new award to recognise exceptional practice in adult social care workforce. The new award was launched by the Chief Nurse for Adult Social Care. Please see following link for further information and to access nomination forms.

New award to recognise exceptional practice in adult social care workforce - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

There has been some enquires about equality and diversity training ensure that adult social care providers are able to provide correct care based on culture, religion and as an employer to promote inclusivity within the workforce. On the Me Learning system, there are three eLearning courses that Adult Social Care providers can access:

* Equality and Diversity Awareness for Staff - <https://seftonclc.melearning.university/course_centre/course_details/112>
* Equality and Diversity for Managers - <https://seftonclc.melearning.university/course_centre/course_details/46>
* Unconscious Bias - <https://seftonclc.melearning.university/course_centre/course_details/115>

Course charges per user, per course for providers are as follows:

* Individual license - £20 per person
* Group license (more than 10) - £15 per person

If you need assistance to access the courses or would like to purchase a license, please email training.services@sefton.gov.uk or ring 0151 934 2872.

Information for Care Homes

To help social care and NHS organisations make the switch to Digital Social Care Records, NHSX has launched a new Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS), providing care homes with quicker and easier access to a list of quality-assured, accredited supplier solutions for digital social care records.

The accredited supplier list presents a marketplace where suppliers have been assured, reassuring organisations that their preferred products have met a minimum set of requirements around functionality, standards and interoperability to ensure they are compatible with both social care and NHS systems.

The attached bulletin about the DPS launch provides more information but you can also visit the [Digital Social Care](https://www.digitalsocialcare.co.uk/social-care-technology/digital-social-care-records-dynamic-purchasing-system/) website or email dscr.enquiries@nhsx.nhs.uk.

North West Directors of Adult Social Services are organising ten webinars from July onwards focusing on care homes and quality. They have worked with providers, NHSEI, CQC, NICE and local authority quality teams to develop this programme which will be:

• Free

• Short, practical, provider-led

• An opportunity to hear from CQC about inspection and ask questions

Please find attached the flyer which includes the registration link <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/nw-adass-care-home-quality-webinars-tickets-154842936391>.

 Everyone who signs up will receive a short summary note for the full programme and will be able to sign up for the topics that most interest them.

The four webinars in July are:

• Pressure Ulcers and Tissue Viability

• Oral Health

• Medications Optimisation

• Grow Your Workforce / recruitment

They are also looking for providers to take part and are keen to speak at upcoming Provider Forums. If you are involved in any of the following initiatives and would like to showcase the work you are doing, please email Andrew.Burridge-nwadass@wigan.gov.uk

We would like to remind you about the Online Proxy Ordering Quick Survey, which is live until 31st May 2021.Thequick 3 question Proxy Ordering survey can be located from the Main Menu by selecting the Care Home Providers Setup / Details tile and then going to the Surveys column.

If you need help and guidance please email England.carehomesgpproxy@nhs.net or visit the

Online Proxy Ordering FAQ’s - Capacity Tracker/Help/What’s New menu. <https://capacitytracker.com/resource-center/category/61/whats-new>

As part of the Care Home Improvement Grant awards there were 26 requests for interactive tables. It was originally proposed that the local authority scoped the market place and current suppliers for the interactive tables utilising a bulk purchase model in order to achieve optimum spend and value for money for Sefton Care homes wishing to purchase such items.

Unfortunately, the council has been advised that it would not be able to purchase the tables on behalf of the homes due to the conditions placed on how capital funding monies can be utilised and spent. However, we are still committed to undertaking soft market research and scoping of the market place and we have currently met with some suppliers who have demonstrated the tables and discussed in detail what may or may not be included as part of the purchase cost. We are currently collating our findings and we will be communicating these to providers for comment and feedback. Please find attached a summary update which provides more information.

This week Sefton has sent an update letter to care homes regarding the fee setting proposals.



We would like to inform you that due to staff being on annual leave, there will be no letter next week. We will however, keep you informed of any news, by email.

From us, all the Health and Care partners and Councillor Paul Cummins, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, we would like to thank you and your staff once again for all your hard work and everything you are doing at this time.

Yours sincerely



Deborah Butcher

Executive Director for Adult Social Care and Health



Fiona Taylor

Chief Officer, NHS South Sefton and NHS Southport and Formby CCGs