

NHS Board Meeting
October 2021

Lanarkshire NHS Board
Kirklands
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SUBJECT: CARE HOMES UPDATE

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this paper is to provide Board Members with an update on the support being provided to Care Homes in NHS Lanarkshire.

For approval	<input type="checkbox"/>	For endorsement	<input type="checkbox"/>	To note	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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2. ROUTE TO THE BOARD

This paper has been prepared by Gwen Macintyre, Senior Nurse, Care Home Assurance & Support, on behalf of Eddie Docherty, Executive Director NMAHP's.

3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

Collaborative Support Visits (Cohort 3)

The Care Home Assurance Team have reviewed the process, recording and feedback of these support visits following a feedback exercise which gave the care home managers an opportunity to reflect on what went well and what could be better. The revised support template allows for improved collaboration and feedback from Health & Social Care partners along with IPC and care home assurance team.

Cohort 3 of the programmed visits commenced on 29th September and has been planned using the RAG rating system to prioritise home selection based on previous results and/or current concerns in conjunction with Care Inspectorate findings. It is expected for this planned programme to take up to August 2022 to complete.

IPC Assurance Visits, Outbreak Management & Support

The IPC team have commenced the next cohort of collaborative assurance visits as noted above, and are providing specialist feedback and support to homes during outbreaks. These IPC visits are helping managers identify potential improvements to practices for both during and after outbreaks for sustainable practices personalized to each home and their environment.

Winter Preparedness event

Public Health, Care Home assurance and Clinical Psychology will host a collaborative event on 26th October 2021 with Care Home Managers and Providers to explore how the Care Sector and supporting services would manage the response to a significant outbreak of a respiratory illness in a Care Home. The main objectives of this event is to:

- Raise awareness of the potential issues that may arise this Winter.
- Exercise Business Continuity and Outbreak Management Plans

- Identify gaps in surge capacity and potential remedies.
- Familiarise all agencies with the structures, roles and responsibilities of those involved in the response to Covid-19 in a health care setting.

Care Home Staff Wellbeing

The Care Home Staff Wellbeing Group have been sending links to The Pulse where a series of online articles have focused on a key area each week such as mindfulness, anxiety and sleep. These articles provide useful tips and advice on supports. We have asked the care homes to share their stories and the final edition in the series will feature examples of things that they said have made a difference and got them through.

The multi-agency group aims to improve the narrative surrounding care homes by highlighting good news stories. The use of the pulse to communicate the articles demonstrated the importance of including care homes as they are part of the wider partnership.

The care home members of the group highlighted that they were having to deal with staff who had suicidal thoughts and felt ill equipped to support them therefore a program of suicide assessment training dates were organised and signposting information given. Moral injury sessions were also organised to support staff.

The care home staff survey conducted by the last year is about to be repeated to gauge the current wellbeing of staff and gain information to inform the next steps for the group.

Vaccination Covid 19 booster and Flu Programme

The vaccination programme commenced on 20th September and this year has been a combination programme for Covid Booster and Flu injection at the same time. Some restrictions have inhibited blanket vaccination of a number of residents (and staff) due to outbreaks, lack of consent in place and some persons being under the 24 week criteria since second vaccination. The teams are currently carrying out repeat visits to homes where residents could not be vaccinated until now and will continue over the coming weeks to maximise the uptake for all. However, to date the care home liaison team along with public health mass vaccination staff have completed:

	Residents	Staff
Covid Booster	77.30%	52.41%
Flu Vaccination	85.08%	49.37%

Testing

The Care Home Assurance Team continue with oversight of testing and review of test results, including support for the development and implementation of a range of testing approaches for care homes.

Weekly PCR testing data via TURAS

Reporting week	Number of care homes submitting data	Number of staff tested	Number of staff declined testing
w/c 13/09/21	87	3866	45
w/c 20/09/21	85	3664	106
w/c 27/09/21	86	3672	28
w/c 04/10/21	81	3708	176

81/92 care homes submitted data for weekly PCR testing.

Homes which do not submit data on any given week are contacted and the managers (and providers) contacted by the Care Home Assurance Team, likewise homes with data inaccuracies

that affect their overall compliance percentage are also contacted and asked to review the data for accuracy prior to submission.

Lateral Flow Testing

The Care Home Assurance team continue to encourage the uploading of test results and are supporting managers and staff to register on the portal. 2117 staff uploaded LFD results onto the portal from 79 care homes and 876 visitor’s results were uploaded from 60 homes in the last week.

Attendance Avoidance & Building a Better Journey

The Care Home Assurance team continue to review the weekly Milan data which highlights care home attendees to Emergency Department. The team follow up on any presentations that may be considered as avoidable, discussing concerns & cases with care homes.

Opportunities have been identified to reduce general attendances to the ED’s across Lanarkshire by providing education and training in areas such as continence, catheter care, deteriorating patient, realistic medicine and anticipatory care planning.

The CHA team now review the data with professional advice from colleagues in Hospital at Home, physiotherapy falls specialist and are aiming to work collaboratively with members of ICST moving forward. This will allow the team to review any developing trends which will enable a structured and planned education and training program for the 6 -12 months. The aim is to avoid unreasonable and distressing attendances whilst enabling safe, effective, person centered care at home for the residents by upskilling staff in practical and theoretical knowledge.

Note of Concern - Notification of Closure

The Care Inspectorate have advised us of their intention to cancel registration for a stand-alone care home in North Lanarkshire. A multi-agency team has been established to work with the CI and the provider to ensure residents receive safe and appropriate care, whilst supporting staff and families as this process is followed. It is anticipated this work could take some time to complete due to number of residents and their health related complexities.

4. STRATEGIC CONTEXT

This paper links to the following:

Corporate objectives	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AOP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Government policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Government directive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Statutory requirement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AHF/local policy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Urgent operational issue	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

5. CONTRIBUTION TO QUALITY

This paper aligns to the following elements of safety and quality improvement:

Three Quality Ambitions:

Safe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Effective	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Person Centred	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Six Quality Outcomes:

Everyone has the best start in life and is able to live longer healthier lives; (Effective)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
People are able to live well at home or in the community; (Person Centred)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Everyone has a positive experience of healthcare; (Person Centred)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Staff feel supported and engaged; (Effective)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Healthcare is safe for every person, every time; (Safe)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Best use is made of available resources. (Effective)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

6. MEASURES FOR IMPROVEMENT

These are monitored on a weekly basis by the Support Team and issues escalated appropriately.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Additional resources have already been committed to the support team until May 2023 and a new funding bid is being considered by CMT. These funds are included in the additional COVID costs being incurred by the Board.

8. RISK ASSESSMENT/MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There is a significant risk if care homes are not fully supported, and for any reason are unable to continue to look after residents appropriately.

9. FIT WITH BEST VALUE CRITERIA

This paper aligns to the following best value criteria:

Vision and leadership	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Effective partnerships	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Governance and accountability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Use of resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Performance Management	<input type="checkbox"/>	Equality	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sustainability Management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				

10. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT / FAIRER SCOTLAND DUTY

Not Applicable.

11. CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

The team consult with care homes on an ongoing basis through weekly conference calls, weekly supportive calls and short life working groups.

12. ACTIONS FOR THE BOARD

Approve	<input type="checkbox"/>	Endorse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Identify further actions	<input type="checkbox"/>
Note	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Accept the risk identified	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ask for a further report	<input type="checkbox"/>

13. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information about any aspect of this paper, please contact:

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