



# Stakeholder Bulletin

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16 April 2020

## Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19): Derby and Derbyshire stakeholder bulletin #3

Dear partners

This is the third of our regular briefings to keep you updated on the NHS response to Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Derby and Derbyshire.

The incidents of coronavirus-related inpatient activity were predicted to peak over the Easter weekend and thanks to all those working in health and care in Derbyshire, the capacity to deal with the predicted peak was there. Things ran as smoothly as could be expected in the circumstances across all providers. Hospital admissions were relatively stable, along with staff sickness absence levels, but cases of infection continue to grow.

It is important to acknowledge and thank the vast majority of the public who did heed the stay at home advice over the weekend as this helped to ensure the required capacity was there. Following the Government advice really is the single most important thing we can all do to play our part in reducing the impact of coronavirus on our communities.

There are a number of issues dominating the news at the moment and we are working closely with all our partners to either address them or consider what our response will be to them. They are:

- Availability of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), particularly the availability of hospital gowns,
- Staff testing
- The level of infection in the care homes sector

We received the updated critical care modelling from NHS England/Improvement towards the end of last week and this shows that we are now expecting demand for oxygen, oxygen+ and ventilated beds to be lower than we had planned for. It is important to note, however, that these projections are based on the

continuation of good compliance with isolation and social distancing. We are still seeing an increase in deaths daily and whilst they are not at this point as high as we expected we cannot be complacent.

We expect the provider capacity planning will continue to aim to achieve the number of beds as was required by the original modelling and will work to link to admissions and discharges so that we can understand the impact on care required outside of hospital following the acute stay.

Alongside the capacity planning work already outlined in response to the pandemic, work is also commencing to understand the non-Covid demand on services so that we can factor this into our planning to ensure we are able to meet those demands. We are also beginning to look at general medicine beds that may be treating cohorts of Covid-19 patients who aren't requiring oxygen support to ensure trusts have enough beds of all types when we arrive at the peak and throughout.

As a health and care system - by "system" I mean all the organisations involved in providing health and care to the people of Derby and Derbyshire – we continue to work at pace but in a careful, considered and coherent way. We are keen to start to think about planning for the future, not just planning for today and we are looking at how other countries have responded to coronavirus to see what we can learn and apply to our local activity.

If you have any questions following this bulletin or would like to ask about a topic please email us at: [ddccg.enquiries@nhs.net](mailto:ddccg.enquiries@nhs.net).

**Kind regards,**  
**Dr Chris Clayton**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**NHS Derby and Derbyshire CCG**

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## National

### NHS Nightingale hospitals

On Friday it was confirmed that [new NHS Nightingale hospitals](#) will be opened in Exeter and Sunderland to provide extra beds for patients with coronavirus symptoms if they are needed in the weeks ahead. The confirmed additional sites in Devon and Tyne and Wear follow the announcement of NHS Nightingale hospitals in Bristol and Harrogate six days prior. With London, Birmingham and Manchester, this brings the total to seven confirmed NHS Nightingale hospitals in a matter of weeks. Each hospital has its own model of care depending on local needs and they vary in size from a few hundred to a few thousand beds. Additional 'surge centres' are being looked into for implementation by regional teams. The Nightingale Hospital in Birmingham was originally intended to support surge capacity in the West Midlands and potentially Derby, but it is now possible that it will be able to support a broader area, including the whole of the East Midlands.

### Lockdown

During the daily government briefing on Tuesday 14 April, Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab said that the government did not expect to make changes to the coronavirus lockdown restrictions this week. Asked about the lockdown exit strategy, Mr Raab said it was "far too early" to talk about how to lift the lockdown and any talk about relaxing rules would be "getting ahead of ourselves".

The Government's FAQ on the lockdown rules can be found [here](#).

## National advice

The national advice continues to be to stay at home, protect the NHS and save lives, specifically:

- Only go outside for food, health reasons or work (but only if you cannot work from home)
- If you go out, stay 2 metres (6ft) away from other people at all times
- Wash your hands as soon as you get home
- Do not meet others, even friends or family as you can spread the virus even if you don't have symptoms.

## Statistics

As of 9am BST on 15/04/2020, the Department of Health and Social Care confirmed that 398,916 people have been tested, of which 98,476 tested positive, 76,371 of which were in England.

## Local

## Local preparedness

The local NHS and its partners continue to prepare and respond to the Coronavirus situation through the Local Resilience Forum (LRF) for Derbyshire. The LRF is the multi-agency partnership made up of representatives from local public services including the emergency services, local authorities, the NHS and others. Last week the LRF set up a new cell to look at the support for the homeless community.

## Statistics

As at 2pm on 15/04/2020 there were 374 confirmed cases in Derby, and 777 confirmed cases in Derbyshire. A total of 273 deaths of Derby and Derbyshire patients have sadly been confirmed via the daily national announcements.

\*Figures for the period 10-14 April are subject to validation at the time of writing so this figure is subject to change.

## Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Following the guidance we received from the Chief Medical Officer last Monday clarifying PPE use in a range of circumstances, there is a robust PPE distribution process now in place to support our major providers and this is running well by all accounts.

For smaller providers, an e-commerce solution is being developed. We are reaching out to these providers, especially GP practices, care homes and hospices to ensure they are able to maintain appropriate supplies of PPE. We have developed an audit/returns system so that we can track pinch points where supplies are required and where we might have providers with PPE kit they are able to share.

We are linking with the regional PPE “cell” (the group dedicated to this area of work) to find solutions, along with mutual aid working well across the county to share stocks of kit where we have it. The cell is also coordinating equipment for practices, hospices and care homes and supporting providers to access routine or emergency PPE.

## Care homes

There has been lots of coverage in the national press relating to the increasing level of infection in the care homes sector. Figures released on Tuesday 14 April by the Office for National Statistics, which include every community death linked to Covid-19 in England and Wales, showed a total of 406 such deaths registered up to 3 April had occurred outside of hospitals. Of the 406 deaths, 217 took place in care homes, 33 in hospices, 136 in private homes, three in other communal establishments and 17 elsewhere.

Locally we have a strong care homes cell coordinating the management of the infection and supporting care homes across a wide range of issues. Below are some examples of the work that is taking place:

- A multiagency operation group meets daily to identify areas of immediate and emerging concern and potential sources of support to care homes and domiciliary care agencies.
- The development of ‘virtual’ nurse support to care homes where existing nurses are unable to work.
- Utilisation of testing for care staff where large numbers in one care home are self-isolating leaving the home significantly understaffed.
- A microsite - hosted by Derbyshire County Council on behalf of NHS Derby and Derbyshire CCG and Derby City Council – has been developed to support care homes and domiciliary care agencies. The site contains a page with hyperlinks to useful information and websites. There is also a “question and answer” page and a section where useful documents are uploaded. The microsite also contains advice on the use of PPE for care homes and domiciliary care.

- A 24/7 end of life telephone support line has been established offering advice and guidance to care homes and domiciliary care agencies.
- A direct route to a NHS 111 clinician has been established

A flowchart has been sent to all care homes advising how and who they should contact in terms of sourcing PPE.

## Testing

### Staff testing for COVID-19

We have been working with colleagues in the Midlands office of NHS England to agree satellite testing stations in Derbyshire for NHS clinical staff. This will give us the ability to have more staff tested, including those staff from primary care, hospices, community care and other services from outside of hospitals. We are aiming to have this satellite up and running this week.

Sites will be based at Toyota's Burnaston site and the Proact Stadium in Chesterfield, with further sites being explored. The CCG will take on a coordination role for the system across all public sector/care environment employees for health, social care, care homes, police, fire and others.

### 'Hot hubs'

More NHS GP surgeries across Derbyshire are joining forces to support patients and hospital colleagues by creating specialist assessment centre 'hot hubs'.

The first Derbyshire NHS 'hot hub' to assess ill patients for suspected COVID-19 opened on Mon (6 April) at Derby University's Kedleston Road site.

Now a number of other specialist, stand-alone, open-air units, to support those planned in GP surgeries, are being created.

[Click here for more information](#)

## Partner Information

## Hospitals

Sadly, as confirmed via daily national announcements, a total of 273 patients at Derbyshire's Hospitals who had tested positive for COVID-19 have died. It should be noted that this is not the same as saying that 273 patients died from COVID-19.

Non-emergency, planned 'elective' surgeries at hospitals have been postponed and to protect staff,

patients and visitors strict visiting restrictions have been put in place. Specific visiting information is available on the hospital's websites.

## General practice

Local GP surgeries have changed the way in which they are delivering care to patients due to the Coronavirus pandemic. If anyone needs to get in touch with their local GP practice, they are advised to visit their practice website in the first instance to understand how best to contact them and understand how they are operating at this time. If that is not possible, then calling the practice is the next best option.

## Pharmacy

### Delivery to shielded patients

Prior to COVID-19 there were no commissioned or funded delivery services from community pharmacies for any patients. Historically many pharmacies have delivered free of charge to help patients. We are working with the Local Pharmaceutical Committee (LPC) and the community hubs to help coordinate deliveries prioritising to shielded and vulnerable patients, and all pharmacies have details how they can contact the correct hub for their geography. A national pharmacy delivery service to support shielded patients was announced last week and the government now requires all community pharmacies to ensure shielded patients can get their medication delivered to them.

## Access to dental services in the East Midlands

NHS England and NHS Improvement have issued [advice](#) for those seeking help with dental problems in the East Midlands now that dental surgeries are closed for routine face to face appointments.

## NHS 111 service

Patients who are concerned that they may have coronavirus or may have come into contact with someone who has should utilise the NHS 111 online service in the first instance as this helps to manage the unprecedented call volumes the NHS 111 service is currently experiencing. The online service has created dedicated pages for coronavirus that tells patients what they should do based on their particular circumstances. These can be accessed at: <https://111.nhs.uk/service/covid-19>.

## Care workers request for adult care

Derbyshire County Council is asking for help to obtain 120 Care Worker roles and 130 Care Worker Community roles for adult care. These roles will be for 20 hours per week and are required in locations across Derbyshire to start as soon as possible. Candidates should have experience in delivering care in homes or residential settings for older adults and will require enhanced DBS clearance. Some training will be provided where this is required. If anyone is aware of friends or relatives who may be able to support with this request please email [Resourcing.HUB@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:Resourcing.HUB@derbyshire.gov.uk).

## Find your nearest NHS service

If you want to find your GP practice, or nearest NHS Service, use [this search facility](#).

## Changes to your local services

Many of our local services have changed because NHS organisations and their staff are so focussed on efforts to combat COVID-19. This means that patients will have less access to routine and planned appointments, treatments and procedures. Please click on the links below for more information from our hospital and community NHS partners:

[University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS Foundation Trust](#)

[Chesterfield Royal Hospital NHS Foundation Trust](#)

[Derbyshire Community Health Services NHS Foundation Trust](#)

[Derbyshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust](#)

[East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust](#)

[DHU Health Care](#) (provider of the NHS 111 telephone helpline for the East Midlands as well as the out of hours GP services in Derbyshire and Leicestershire)

### **Coming soon – one-stop-shop to help keep up-to-date with changes to health services**

To help people keep up-to-date with any service changes we are in the process of creating an online resource which will act as a one-stop-shop to give you all the information you need about changes to health services in Derby and Derbyshire. The website will be updated daily to provide information as quickly as possible. In the meantime please be aware of the following updates from our partners:

### **Chesterfield Royal Hospital**

An [advice line](#) has been set up for pregnant ladies to call if they have any questions specifically about COVID-19 during their pregnancy. The number is 01246 512 361.

An advice line specifically for patients affected by Cancer is now available Monday to Friday, 9.30am to 4pm. The number is 01246 516 183.

Virtual Orthodontic clinics are being offered to reduce unnecessary trips to the hospital. You can find out more by [clicking here](#).

A number have changes have been to the Inflammatory Bowel Disease Service (IBDS), including how to access direct advice from a nurse specialist and the very latest guidance for IBD patients. The IBDS page is regularly updated and can be accessed [here](#).

## **Celebrities say thank you to NHS staff in new videos**

Olivia Colman, Stephen Fry, Cesc Fabregas and Hugh Grant are among the latest celebrities to feature in new video messages as part of a continued swell of support pouring in for NHS and social care heroes working hard in the fight against coronavirus. The full length video is available here

<https://youtu.be/SEMqYLwPykM>

## **Maintaining wellbeing**

### **Health at Home public campaign**

The COVID-19 outbreak means the public need to stay at home as much as possible. If they need an NHS service, they should try to do it online from home first (unless it is a serious or life-threatening emergency, they feel very unwell, or to attend ongoing treatment and have been told to do so). The [Health at Home campaign](#) signposts the public to useful information about how to contact their GP, order repeat prescriptions, manage their wellbeing and existing conditions – without leaving their home.

## **Further calls for support**

### **Request for mobile phones for supported housing residents**

Derventio Housing Trust is asking for donations of mobile phones with chargers. Staying connected is so important at the moment, but without a phone some people are feeling very isolated in their homes.

Mobile phone donations can be dropped off or sent to Derventio Housing Trust, 33 Boyer Street, Derby, DE22 3TB. For more information Derventio can be contacted at [info@derventiohousing.com](mailto:info@derventiohousing.com) or 01332 292776. People can also donate online at [www.localgiving.org/derventio](http://www.localgiving.org/derventio)

### **Food Parcels for the Homeless | Chesterfield**

The Chesterfield Faith Forum is looking for volunteers to provide food parcels for the homeless in the Chesterfield area. If anyone can help then please contact them directly by emailing [chesterfieldinterfaithforum@gmail.com](mailto:chesterfieldinterfaithforum@gmail.com)

### **BBC big night in appeal**

BBC big night in appeal will take place April 23rd – the Government will match £ for £ whatever public donates – starting with a Government donation of £20m to National Emergencies Trust appeal.

## **What you can do to help**

Help us to save lives by reinforcing key messages in this bulletin with your key contacts. In particular, this should include the essential message that everyone must stay at home to help stop the spread of coronavirus. This includes people of all ages – even if they do not have any symptoms or other health conditions.

Please use your social media accounts to share only official messages from Government and NHS websites and accounts. There is a lot of misinformation about coronavirus being shared online, which is causing confusion about the virus and how it spreads.

## **Contact**

If you have any feedback, or questions, please email us at: [ddccg.enquiries@nhs.uk](mailto:ddccg.enquiries@nhs.uk). We are sure you will understand that we are very busy, but we will endeavour to respond to all queries within 72 hours.