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Joined Up Care
Derbyshire

Stakeholder Bulletin

7 May 2020

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19): Derby and Derbyshire stakeholder bulletin #6



Dear partners

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

The NHS continues to be in a Level 4 National Incident with all the altered operating disciplines that requires. It is hard to believe that in the space of the past six weeks the NHS has gone from caring for zero COVID-19 patients to 19,000 COVID-19 inpatients per day. The way we have had to change, and the way in which we have done it, has been phenomenal.

As Derby and Derbyshire continues to move forward with its response to the pandemic, I have been struck by just how well colleagues, not only in the CCG, but across every organisation that has a role to play in the response, have worked together to overcome issues in order to deliver the best possible outcome for the people of Derbyshire and I am very thankful to everyone for this.

On Wednesday 29 April we received the expected letter from Sir Simon Stevens, Chief Executive of NHS England and Amanda Pritchard, Chief Operating Officer at NHS England, setting out the immediate priorities for the NHS in the next phase of its response to COVID-19. More detail on this is included below.

Even though it looks increasingly hopeful that we have reached the peak of hospital admissions arising from the pandemic, we remain in the 'community spread' phase of this virus and we will need to keep this in the front of our minds as we look towards services potentially starting to come back online.

If you would like to show your appreciation for all those who are out there making an unbelievable difference to our lives in these challenging times, please feel free to join me at 8pm to [#clapfourcarers](https://twitter.com/clapfourcarers) along with millions of others in what has become a very special weekly ritual.

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

With best wishes and stay safe.

Chris

Chris Clayton
Chief Executive Officer
NHS Derby and Derbyshire CCG

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National update

The NHS here to help

The coronavirus pandemic has resulted in a decrease in people accessing NHS services for a range of conditions that are not related to coronavirus. Seeking medical help is one of the four reasons that people can safely leave home, in line with government guidance, and it is vitally important that if people have serious conditions or concerns they seek help. The NHS 'Here to help' campaign has been created to help address this issue by reassuring people that it's ok to use NHS services and that they won't be a burden on the NHS.

We included more information on this in last week's bulletin which is available to download [here](#).

Prime Minister's first COVID-19 briefing since his return to work

The Prime Minister presented his first COVID-19 briefing since his return to work last Thursday 30 April. He thanked everyone for their resolve during lock down and said that the effort and sacrifice is working and reiterated that it is important not to gamble away 'gains' of recent weeks by relaxing lockdown. He said that we are "past the peak" and on the downward slope with so many reasons to be hopeful for the long-term and commented that there was a huge amount of work taking place on the plan to suppress the disease and restart economy.

Anyone who has been following the daily Downing Street briefings will be familiar with the 'R' which is short for the rate of infection. As part of the briefing on Thursday, the Prime Minister showed a video that explained the rate of infection (R), and why keeping it down will be vital to our recovery. The video was published on Twitter can be found [here](#).

Test, track and trace and lockdown

Following the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care's announcements on Thursday 23 April in relation to a programme of test, track and trace, last Friday he confirmed that 18,000 contact tracers would be in place by Mid-May and would be scaled as required. He said the programme, coupled with a new contact tracing app, will help us to know where COVID-19 is spreading and so help us control it. This work is central to the strategy to eventually lift lockdown measures.

Vaccine

At the Downing Street briefing on Thursday, the Prime Minister said that the UK was leading international efforts to find a vaccine.

Restoration and recovery

Work continues at pace as part of the immediate priority of restoring services. Doing this as a whole system is key to ensure that we have an aligned strategic approach which reflects the interdependencies and the consistency of messages for system partners across our county.

Care homes and community

Care homes and hospices continue to be an extremely high priority for us and we are currently delivering a vital piece of work to ensure that Care Homes are receiving the required level of support to manage through the pandemic. We are in regular dialogue through a range of channels including Place based teleconferences to share information and listen to their concerns so that we can respond quickly to their needs.

The national advice continues to be to [stay at home, protect the NHS and save lives](#).

Statistics

As of 9am BST on 6 May 2020, the Department of Health and Social Care confirmed that 1,072,144 people have been tested, of which 201,101 tested positive, 127,799 of which were in England.

Update for Derby and Derbyshire

Local response

The local NHS and its partners continue to prepare and respond to the Coronavirus situation through the Local Resilience Forum (LRF) for Derbyshire.

On Wednesday 29 April we received the expected letter from Sir Simon Stevens, Chief Executive of NHS England and Amanda Pritchard, Chief Operating Officer at NHS England, setting out the immediate priorities for the NHS in the next phase of its response to COVID-19.

Some of the headlines from the letter are included below. Alongside the ongoing healthcare response to the pandemic, the key must dos are:

- Ongoing and consistent application of PHE/NHS Infection Prevention and Control guidance in all NHS organisations, with appropriate cohorting of COVID-19/non-COVID-19 patients.
- Continuing with the current COVID-specific logistics and distribution arrangements for PPE for the time being.
- Increased lab capacity and pace for testing of all non-elective inpatients at point of admission, the introduction of pre-admission testing of all elective patients, testing prior to discharge to a care home, as well as expanded testing for staff.
- NHS employers need to ensure their staff wellbeing and safety
- The increased demand for COVID-19 will mean:
- Community health services will need to support the increase in patients who have recovered from COVID-19 and who having been discharged from hospital and need ongoing health support.
- There will be a focus on high priority actions for mental health providers.
- General practice will need to continue to stratify and proactively contact their high-risk patients with ongoing care needs, including those in the 'shielding' cohort to ensure they are accessing needed care and are receiving their medications.

The letter includes an annex which sets out the actions recommended for urgent clinical services over the next six weeks, including steps to bring services back up to operation where they have been paused. These include services classed within:

- Urgent and routine surgery and care
- Cancer
- Cardiovascular Disease, Heart Attacks and Stroke

- maternity
- Primary Care
- Community Services
- Mental Health and Learning Disability/ Autism services
- Screening and Immunisations
- Reduce the risk of cross-infection and support the safe switch-on of services by scaling up the use of technology-enabled care

As we move forward to deliver the restoration and recovery planning required by the system we need to balance the thinking in support of the immediate restoration of some services in the next six weeks with a wider view of recovery and capacity and resources to support local health for the long-term. We can use some of the existing system architecture and governance to coordinate this work and all those involved responding to the pandemic agree that we must keep the governance flexible and as light as possible to make sure we can make fast decisions to support fast progress.

Care homes

Following publication of the DHSC/PHE letter (Further information on COVID-19 testing in social care) on the 27 April 2020, NHS Derby and Derbyshire CCG, as part of Joined Up Care Derbyshire, are developing a process for extending the provision of COVID-19 testing to care homes. We wrote to all care homes in Derby and Derbyshire on Saturday 2 May as part of a communications programme to let them know this and recap the current process for testing.

PPE, staff and patient testing

The testing of key workers across the NHS, care homes and hospices and wider public services across Derbyshire continues to be one of our highest priorities and the two staff testing sites at Toyota (Burnaston) and ProAct stadium (Chesterfield) continue to be very busy as the testing programme expands.

Testing sites for the public which form part of the Government's National Testing Programme are also appearing in our area in the form of Military Testing Units (MTUs) and between 6-9 May there will be a pop-up MTU located at Grin Low & Buxton Country Park (Grin Low Road, Buxton, SK17 6UJ). More information on other sites will follow in subsequent issues of this bulletin.

Statistics

As at 5pm on 06/05/2020 there were 508 confirmed cases in Derby, and 1,355 confirmed cases in Derbyshire. A total of 506 deaths of Derby and Derbyshire patients have sadly been confirmed via the daily national announcements.

Deaths greyed out from 1 May to 5 May - subject to change.

As of 6 May, the information on coronavirus.data.gov.uk now includes the number of confirmed cases and deaths that did not occur in hospitals. There is currently no separate breakdown available to identify cases and deaths that occurred in care homes and the community, other than the DCHS Trust deaths figure which was already available and which is currently 10 deaths.

Bank holiday GP opening times

Bank Holiday opening hours...

OPEN

NHS

- GP practice services on Friday 8 May will be available. This may be offered by your practice or another nearby service.

If you think you need to talk to your GP practice about something other than coronavirus:

1. Contact your GP practice online or by phone to be assessed. If your practice is not open for any reason you will be directed to another nearby service.
2. If a face-to-face appointment is necessary, you'll be advised on this.



Local services update

Many of our local services have changed to enable us to respond to the pressures and challenges created by the coronavirus pandemic. To help you keep up-to-date with any changes, Joined Up Care Derbyshire now has an area of their [website](#) dedicated to bringing you all the latest health service information. The website is updated daily to provide information as quickly as possible.

If you would like to access the individual websites of our hospital and community NHS partners, these are listed below:

[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)

NHS Volunteer Responder referrals

NHS healthcare professionals and social care staff can now refer people for help from NHS Volunteer Responders through an [easy-to-use weblink](#).

Health Services

Our hospitals

Sadly, as confirmed via daily national announcements, a total of 506 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 506 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

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 how they are operating at this time. If that is not possible, then calling the practice is the next best option.

New Urgent Dental Care Services for the East Midlands

People in need of the most urgent dental care can now access one of the 30 new urgent dental centres which are open in the East Midlands. More information is available [here](#).

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.

Find your nearest NHS service

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

Partner information

Derbyshire Spirit

[Derbyshire Spirit](#) shares good news, signposts people to help, advice and support and shines a light on how everyone is working together to look after our people and our place in these challenging times.

Support, guidance, advice and wellbeing

Wellbeing, health advice and support for health, social care and community staff

Wellbeing, health advice and support for health, social care and community staff in relation to the COVID-19 virus is available on the [Joined Up Care Derbyshire website](#)

The site has information to help support [your mental and emotional wellbeing](#), to give details of [someone to speak to and self-care support](#), [leadership and supporting your team](#) and [support for life outside of work](#).

[Muslim Council of Britain advice for Ramadan](#)

Derbyshire GP and GP Task Force Fellow, Dr Shehla Imtiaz-Umer, has created two ‘top tips’ for Ramadan videos:

- [Urdu](#)
- [English](#)

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.

Download previous editions of this bulletin

You can download previous editions of this bulletin [here](#).

Contact

If you have any feedback, or questions, please email us at: 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.

Disclaimer:

While every effort has been made to ensure the contents of this bulletin are accurate and up-to-date you will appreciate that the situation relating to the coronavirus pandemic can change rapidly and so NHS Derby and Derbyshire CCG do not accept any responsibility of any omission as it is not deliberate. Nevertheless, we will appreciate provision of accurate information to improve our work. Where links are provided to external content, NHS Derby and Derbyshire CCG holds no responsibility for such content or accuracy.

