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Joined Up Care
Derbyshire

Stakeholder Bulletin

4 June 2020

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19): Derby and Derbyshire stakeholder bulletin #10



Dear partners

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

It's been three months since the first UK coronavirus death and on Monday the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Matt Hancock, confirmed that there were 1,570 new recorded cases of people testing positive on Sunday which is the lowest figure since the lockdown began on 23 March. To put this figure in context, at the peak, around 6,000 new cases a day were being seen. These figures are encouraging but the numbers are, however, still a little higher than other countries in Europe, including Spain and Italy. With the relaxation in some lockdown rules coming into effect on Monday and government science advisers reporting that only half of those who develop coronavirus symptoms are self-isolating for at least a week, now, more than ever, we must continue to heed the social distancing and personal hygiene advice to help ensure we remain in control of the virus.

In Derbyshire work continues to align our restoration and recovery work with the restoration and recovery phases set out by NHS England and NHS Improvement. The system restoration plan we submitted on May 14th has received positive feedback and we are doing further work on this alongside work to understand the impact of service changes as a result of the pandemic.

At our all staff briefing this week I was asked for more information about how people might be contacted should they be identified during any 'test and trace' processes following the introduction of the programme

last week. We are aware of some scams emerging claiming to be calling about this process and so we provided our staff with definitive guidance about the process which I am pleased to share with you [here](#) as you may find it useful too.

For the last few weeks we have highlighted the importance of people accessing help if they have serious conditions or concerns. For more information about the work the NHS in Derbyshire is doing to ensure that essential services are safe and available to you when you need them and for information about the range of wellbeing and other support that is available to you please [click here](#).

With best wishes and stay safe.

Chris

Chris Clayton
Chief Executive Officer
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National Update

National advice – stay alert to stay safe

The national advice continues to be [stay alert, control the virus, save lives](#).

Case numbers

As described in the introduction the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care confirmed on Monday that the number of people testing positive with the virus on Sunday – 1570 -was the lowest since the lockdown began. He also reported that the number of patients on mechanical ventilators was also at its lowest level since 23 March. He said that it was these numbers that were allowing the modest steps to relaxing lockdown restrictions but reinforced that anyone who has any of the three core symptoms of coronavirus - a persistent cough, fever, or a loss or change of sense of smell or taste - should get a test by going to the NHS website or dialling 119.

Lockdown

Monday saw the relaxation of some lockdown rules. Some primary school pupils in reception, year 1 and year 6 returned to school and the especially vulnerable, who have been shielding since lockdown began, were able to go outdoors with a family member or to meet a friend. Shielders must still remain socially distant from everyone, apart from those in their household, and continue to follow advice.

In other changes, groups of up to six people from different households could meet in parks and private gardens, staying two metres apart, and individuals could leave home without needing a “reasonable

excuse”.

Test and trace

Many of the questions at Monday’s Downing Street briefing were about the recently launched ‘test and trace’ programme. Numbers for the scheme have not yet been published but Test and Trace Coordinator, Professor John Newton, confirmed that they would be soon. Matt Hancock said that those who are being asked to isolate are generally doing so and acknowledged that they have more capacity than they need but said he saw this as a good thing and a reflection of the rate of incidents coming down.

Read our definitive [guidance](#) about the test and trace process.

Economy and furlough

At the Downing Street briefing on Friday, Chancellor Rishi Sunak, provided more detail about the future of the furlough scheme. He confirmed that the scheme will continue to offer those eligible 80 per cent of their salary. However, taxpayer contributions will change. From August, employers will be asked to pay National Insurance and pension contributions. Then in September they will be asked to pay 10 per cent of pay, rising to 20 per cent in October after which the scheme will end. For more information visit www.gov.uk/coronavirus

Coronavirus: Increased risk of infection behind higher ethnic minority deaths, Sage report suggests

According to a report requested by the government’s Sage committee last month, black and minority ethnic groups – abbreviated to BAME - are more at risk of being admitted to hospital, with their occupation and other non-medical factors potentially increasing risk.

First COVID-19 rehabilitation centre accepts first patients

NHS Seacole, the first Covid rehab centre, designed to help patients recovering from the virus, [took its first patients](#) on Friday 29 May.

Statistics

As of 9am BST on 03/06/2020, the Department of Health and Social Care confirmed that there have been 4,786,219 tests, of which 279,856 tested positive. 153,376 positive cases were identified as being in England.

Update for Derby and Derbyshire

Local response

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

Local activity

The total number of acute beds occupied in Derby and Derbyshire by confirmed COVID-19 cases as at 8am on 28 May was 122 – the lowest position since the pandemic started.

GP and A&E activity is increasing, and we believe this to be the result of the population beginning to return to pre-pandemic use of services, but we are going to be speaking with patients to understand this in more detail so that we can learn more about why service use changed during the height of the pandemic.

We now have significant data relating to referrals and waiting lists in comparison to pre-pandemic months and are working with trusts and practices to understand the details and potential quality implications for patients.

Antibody Testing Update

Last week we reported that antibody testing was beginning to be rolled out for NHS staff and this programme has now started in earnest. The programme is focused on the introduction of voluntary antibody testing which shows whether people have already been infected with COVID-19. This type of testing is designed to help us understand the prevalence and the spread of the disease and it’s important to note that a positive test does not guarantee protective immunity, nor that someone cannot be re-

infected. The Derbyshire system has submitted its detailed plan to NHSE/I outlining our approach for antibody testing. For more information please see the [media release](#) issued today.

Restoration and recovery

Please see the introduction for an update on the restoration and recovery work in Derby and Derbyshire.

Test and trace

Read our definitive [guidance](#) about the test and trace process.

Performance of ambulance services during the pandemic

East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust is currently delivering all national performance standards which means patients are getting a timely response. There has been a reduction in 'see and convey' activity (where a paramedic sees a patient and makes the decision to take to another health care facility such as a walk-in-centre or A&E) and an increase in 'see and treat' activity (where a paramedic is able to offer treatment to the patient at the scene). Patients have been more responsive to staying at home or being referred to alternative services, such as GP, walk in centres and minor-injuries units during the pandemic. All divisions of the ambulance service have thanked those working in primary and community care for the support they have given the crews which has supported patients being able to stay at home.

Facility to ask questions of the NHS Derby and Derbyshire CCG Governing Body pending new meeting in public arrangements

We expect to launch our virtual Governing Body meetings in public shortly but in the meantime our Governing Body colleagues are aware that our public and patients will have questions and concerns that they wish to raise. If you have a question for our Governing Body please email it to ddccg.enquiries@nhs.net with "Governing Body Question" in the subject line. We will endeavour to provide an answer which will also be published on our website within five working days.

Care homes

Our care homes cell (the group dedicated to this area of work) continues to work to ensure that care homes are receiving the required level of support to manage through the pandemic. Chief Nursing Officer Ruth May launched the 'Care Home Infection Prevention and Control Training Call to Action' three weeks ago with an aim for super trainers and trainers to support Care Homes in Derbyshire. Since then, we identified four super trainers and 30 local trainers, delivering through a 'train the trainer' cascade. 81 homes were trained virtually and seven were trained face to face. The vast majority of the remaining care homes reported that they had already received enough training and support.

Last week also saw us submit a return to NHS England and NHS Improvement outlining the primary care support available to each care home across Derbyshire.

Statistics

As at 2pm on 27/05/2020 there were 592 confirmed cases in Derby and 1,714 confirmed cases in Derbyshire. A total of 616 deaths of Derby and Derbyshire patients have sadly been confirmed via the daily national announcements.

Breakdown of 1,714 Derbyshire confirmed cases: South Derbyshire: 244; NE Derbyshire: 322; High Peak: 216; Erewash: 189; Derbyshire Dales: 158; Chesterfield: 228; Bolsover: 156; Amber Valley: 201

Figures for 29 May - 2 June are subject to change.

Local Services Updates

The NHS is here to help

We know that there are a lot of people with health concerns who are not accessing NHS services for advice and treatment at the moment. This is putting their health and even their lives at risk and leading to people presenting with more acute conditions further down the line which is putting avoidable pressure on the system.

We also know that this could be for a variety of different reasons, e.g. not wanting to be a burden on the NHS, or fear of getting exposed to the virus. For more information about the work the NHS in Derbyshire is doing to ensure that essential services are safe and available to you when you need them and for information about the range of wellbeing and other support that is available to you please [click here](#).

Service changes

To help you keep up-to-date with any service 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

Dental Practices Phased Reopening

Dental practices are beginning to reopen from 8th June 2020, with the priority to ensure public and patient safety.

Practices will be observing social distancing, so patients should continue to telephone their practice, rather than attending in person without an appointment. Practices will look different as they will be operating in a way that observes COVID-19 social distancing and hygiene rules, as part of measures taken to ensure safety and patients and the dental team.

The range of treatments offered may be different to those received before the lockdown and may vary from practice to practice, depending on the staff and equipment available to the team at the time. The dental team may also be wearing different protective equipment to what patients are used to seeing. It will likely be some months before the services return to providing care in a similar manner to that previously experienced and will be dependent on the further easing of COVID-19 control measures.

More information about how to access urgent dental care in the meantime is available [here](#).

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.

Pharmacy

Below is a reminder of options for patients to access and order their repeat prescriptions across Derbyshire:

[Online from GP Practices](#) – patients can check out their practice's website for details of how to register.

Using the [free NHS App](#) on a smartphone.

[Via the Medicines Order Line](#) (if your practice is aligned with the order line).

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

Carers Week 8-14 June

This year health, social care and voluntary organisations across Derbyshire are coming together during Carers Week to share the message that #CarersMatter

During Carers Week, Derbyshire Carers Association is encouraging carers to try to take the time to look after their own health and wellbeing and has organised a number of events to support this.

For more information about carers week, details of the services available to carers during the pandemic and for other helpful information, advice and support please visit www.carersinderbyshire.org.uk

Severn Trent to donate £1m to charity if customers cut daily demand by 150 million litres to the end of June

With the demand for water increasing by over 20% as a result of the sustained dry weather and the effects of COVID-19, Severn Trent Water is [asking the people of Derbyshire to use water wisely and to think about what consumption they can reduce](#).

Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service

[Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service](#) are asking people to be safe around water, not only in respect of Harpur Hill/Hoffman quarry but also in relation to other open water ways in Derbyshire. They are also promoting BBQ fire safety, asking people not to have garden fires and to take care in countryside to prevent wildfires by not dropping litter or cigarettes.

Visit Peak District

[Visit Peak District](#) has issued advice to help make sure any visits do not compromise either the efforts to contain the virus or the lives of local communities. Visitors are asked to:

- Avoid hotspots
- Park only in approved areas
- Leave the BBQ at home
- Take their litter with them
- Keep dogs on leads
- Stay two metres apart from those outside their household

They are also reminding visitors that most facilities, such as toilets, remain closed.

Support, guidance, advice and wellbeing

Resources to help people with a learning disability or autism access NHS services

Two new documents about accessing NHS services during coronavirus are now available. One is in [easy read for people with a learning disability](#) and the other in [plain English for those with autism](#). More patient information for vulnerable groups is available [here](#).

Support for people with diabetes

A new [diabetes advice helpline](#) has been launched to support people living with insulin-treated diabetes during the COVID-19 pandemic. The helpline offers clinical advice for people who cannot access their usual care teams due to local service disruption.

Help Us to Help You - useful information about pregnancy and coronavirus

Pregnant women are [encouraged to attend their antenatal appointments and continue to seek advice from their midwife or maternity team](#).

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

Support in relation to the COVID-19 virus is available on the Joined Up Care Derbyshire website [here](#).

What you can do to help

Help us to save lives by reinforcing key messages in this bulletin with your key contacts. This should include the updated Government message to stay alert to stay safe. Please use your social media accounts to share only official messages from Government and NHS websites and accounts as there is a lot of misinformation about coronavirus being shared online.

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.

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