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Joined Up Care
Derbyshire

Stakeholder Bulletin

26 June 2020

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19): Derby and Derbyshire stakeholder bulletin #13



Dear partners

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

This week has seen a number of significant national updates. Last Friday saw the coronavirus alert level in the UK downgraded from 4 to 3 (though the NHS continues to be in a level 4 incident). On Monday the Government set out plans to ease guidance for over two million people currently 'shielding'. At the Downing Street briefing on Tuesday the Prime Minister announced wholesale changes to England's lockdown from 4 July. Many, I'm sure, will welcome the news that there will be full attendance of primary and secondary schools from September 2020, many more businesses, including hairdressers, will be able to re-open and two households will be able to gather indoors and stay overnight. The changes go hand in hand with a reduction in the 2m social distancing rule to "one metre plus". We provide more information on the announcements in the 'national updates' section below.

In Derbyshire we continue to see the headline figures relating to COVID-19 move in a positive direction as cases of new infections and deaths from the virus continue to fall. Alongside this we are seeing an overall reduction in all types of COVID-19 demand and a continued increase in core services, including urgent and emergency and routine surgery returning to pre COVID levels. Patients are playing their part in this too as they are helping to prevent the spread of COVID-19 by wearing face coverings in GP surgeries and hospitals. I, along with our Medical Director and other clinicians, would like to thank all the patients who have been following the new guidance since it was introduced last week.

As a CCG we continue to take stock of what we have learned as we moved through the pandemic in order to apply this to developing a “new normal”. Central to this is understanding what COVID-19 data has told us about local health needs and how the ongoing impact of the pandemic will continue to affect providers in their attempts to deliver restored services, for example as they contend with social distancing rules and PPE requirements.

If you've ever wondered what it's like to provide care while the NHS responds to coronavirus, please allow me to draw your attention to two articles that have been published in the last week on the Joined Up Care Derbyshire website. Scroll down to the 'NHS stories' tab [here](#) and read what life's been like for Advanced Support Worker, Lisa Bufton and Consultant Cardiologist, Dr Damian Kelly.

Following the national announcements this week and with the pace of change returning to something closer to the level of activity before the advent of coronavirus we will review the frequency of this bulletin this week.

With best wishes and stay safe.

Chris

Chris Clayton
Chief Executive Officer
NHS Derby and Derbyshire CCG

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National update

Easing of lockdown restrictions

On Tuesday Prime Minister Boris Johnson addressed the House of Commons to set out a series of measures to take effect from 4 July to ease lockdown in England. [Here](#) the BBC explains everything you need to know about the new measures.

Explaining the rationale behind the downgrading of the COVID-19 alert level from Level 4 to Level 3, the Prime Minister cited a number of important statistics:

- 69,000 people were infected in the first half of May 2020, falling to 22,000 in the first half of June 2020.
- There is a 2-4% decline in infections per day.
- Deaths peaked at 943 in a single day on 14 April 2020, averaging 450 deaths per day on 11 May

2020 and down to an average of 130 deaths per day on 22 June 2020.

As part of his address the Prime Minister stressed that the more we open up, the more vigilant we need to be. He explained that lockdown measures would remain under review and would be reintroduced, even at a national level, if needed. He also said that there is only one certainty as we move forward - the fewer social contacts a person has, the safer they will be.

Daily Downing Street Briefing

Tuesday's Downing Street briefing, led by Prime Minister Boris Johnson, represented the last of the daily briefings to which we have become accustomed to. The Prime Minister was joined by chief advisers Chris Whitty and Sir Patrick Vallance. Ministers and scientific advisors will now only address the public to make 'significant announcements'.

Health leaders call for politicians to be prepare for second virus wave

Following the Government's announcements to ease lockdown measures from 4th July, the presidents of the Royal Colleges of Surgeons, Nursing, Physicians and GPs have signed an open letter to British politicians saying they must prepare for a second wave of infections.

National advice – stay alert to stay safe

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

Coronavirus alert level

On Monday the Joint Biosecurity Centre recommended that the COVID-19 alert level should move from Level 4 (A COVID-19 epidemic is in general circulation; transmission is high or rising exponentially) to Level 3 (A COVID-19 epidemic is in general circulation). The NHS continues to be in a level 4 incident.

Education

On Tuesday, the Prime Minister confirmed that there will be full attendance of primary and secondary schools from September 2020.

As stated in last week's bulletin, approximately 1.3 million children in England will be able to claim free school meal vouchers during the summer holidays.

Shielding

Following the advent of coronavirus and having looked at other respiratory illnesses, and other countries, around 2.2 million people in England were identified as being clinically extremely vulnerable. These were people of all ages – with specific medical conditions identified by the NHS – deemed to be at greater risk of severe illness from coronavirus. A key part of the country's response to coronavirus was to protect this group of people from coronavirus as much as possible and they were advised to follow 'shielding' guidance. On Monday the Government set out how it is to relax advice to those shielding in two stages. Further information can be found [here](#).

NHS Contact Tracing App

Last week the Government confirmed that it had moved away from developing its own coronavirus test-and-trace app in favour of a version based on technology provided by Apple and Google. The Government has not been able to confirm a date for its deployment.

NHS Test and Trace statistics

Statistics for the NHS Test and Trace service are available [here](#).

NHS Birthday

On Sunday 5 July, the NHS will celebrate its 72nd birthday. People are being encouraged to come together for a final clap on the birthday Sunday at 12 noon.

Statistics

As of 9am BST on 24/06/2020, the Department of Health and Social Care confirmed that there have been 8,542,186 tests (not number of people tested), of which 306,862 tested positive (including tests carried out by commercial partners which are not included in the national totals). 159,435 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.

Public coronavirus testing sites now available in Chesterfield and Derby

Testing for members of the public is now available at both the Proact Stadium in Chesterfield and the Burnaston Toyota site in Derby. Both sites operate seven days per week. The Toyota site is available 08.00 - 14.00 and the Proact Stadium is available 08.00 - 16.00.

Both sites can be accessed through the [national portal](#). The portal explains the referral criteria and it is important that people follow these carefully as they are vital to ensuring that their test is valid.

Patients thanked in response to face coverings

Patients are helping to prevent the spread of COVID-19 by wearing face coverings in GP surgeries and hospitals. [Here](#), NHS Derby and Derbyshire CCG's Medical Director, along with other clinicians, thank all the patients who have been following the new guidance.

Current situation

As mentioned in the introduction to this bulletin there continues to be a uniform decline in COVID-19 demand and a continued increase in core services, including urgent and emergency and routine surgery returning to pre COVID levels.

Statistics

As at 2pm on 24/6/2020 there were 638 confirmed cases in Derby and 1,803 confirmed cases in Derbyshire.

Breakdown of 1,803 Derbyshire confirmed cases: South Derbyshire: 251; NE Derbyshire: 329; High Peak: 242; Erewash: 211; Derbyshire Dales: 162; Chesterfield: 234; Bolsover: 161; Amber Valley: 213

Sadly 5,658 deaths in the Midlands region have been reported as of 24/06/2020.

*Figures for the period 20-23 June are subject to validation at the time of writing so this figure is subject to change.

Health services

Access to primary care services (GP, Pharmacy, Dentist and Opticians)

[This document](#), produced by NHS England and NHS Improvement, provides helpful information about how primary care services are currently operating.

Hospitals

Following Matt Hancock's announcement on 5 June it became mandatory for all hospital staff to wear face masks and all visitors and outpatients to wear face coverings from 15 June 2020. Visiting restrictions remain in place. Specific visiting information is available on the hospital's websites (see below).

GP Surgeries

Although it is not mandatory to do so, GPs in Derby and Derbyshire are urging patients to provide and wear their own face covering with the exception of very young children, disabled patients and those with breathing difficulties.

The NHS is here to help

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 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)

Partner Information

Read the latest interviews from Joined Up Care Derbyshire's series looking at how the NHS has continued to offer care across a wide range of settings during coronavirus. Scroll down to the 'NHS stories' tab [here](#) and read what life's been like for Advanced Support Worker, Lisa Bufton and Consultant Cardiologist, Dr Damian Kelly.

Campaign to welcome back visitors to Derbyshire

Tourism is a huge part of the Derbyshire economy and Derbyshire County Council is looking for five businesses to feature in a high profile media campaign to remind potential visitors of the current restrictions on visiting and inspire them to return for the full Derbyshire experience once the hotel and hospitality industry gets back on its feet. [Find out more](#).

Survey to help understand experiences and choices of health and social care services within Derbyshire during the COVID-19 pandemic

Health and social care services have had to drastically change the support they offer the public during the COVID-19 response. This time has also seen the public change their choices and behaviours.

On behalf of health and care providers and commissioners and other health and social care services, [Healthwatch Derby](#) would like to gather these experiences to understand how these changes are working/have worked for people.

The survey is available [here](#) and will be available to complete up until September 2020. The survey can be completed every time you have a new or different experience of using a health and social care service within Derbyshire.

Take part in global study to help understand the mental health impact of coronavirus

Help shape how the NHS responds to future crises by sharing how COVID-19 has affected your mental health and wellbeing. Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust (CPFT) and Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust are leading the study. Anyone over 16 can take part. More information can be found on the CPFT website [here](#) and you can complete the survey online [here](#).

Diabetes and COVID conversations

Diabetes UK is hosting a [Lab](#), a series of [informal and creative online conversations](#) exploring what has been learned during the pandemic, and what it means for the future of diabetes care. The sessions are open to anyone interested in the future of diabetes care, and are held online via Zoom at 7pm on Thursdays for the next few weeks. [Click here](#) for more information.

Global Pride 2020 – Exist, persist, resist

On Saturday 27 June, Pride organisations from across the world will celebrate Global Pride 2020. With musical and artistic performances, speeches from activists and campaigners, and addresses by public figures, Global Pride will stream 24 hours of content that reflects and celebrates the diversity of LGBTI+ people everywhere. [Find out more.](#)

Support, guidance, advice and wellbeing

Warning not to leave hand sanitiser in cars due to its fire risk

The NHS has issued a warning to the public this week to not leave bottles of hand sanitiser in cars during high temperatures. The alert follows a number of reports of hand sanitiser being the cause of fires when left in vehicles in the hot weather. The alcohol hand sanitiser is becoming heated resulting in flammable vapours being released. These vapours are reaching their 'flashpoint' and then ignite in normal air conditions, setting fire to flammable components within the car.

Summer health – stay safe in the hot weather

The hot weather may have passed by the time you read this bulletin, but on its return this summer you may find [this NHS advice useful](#) on how to cope in hot weather.

Education

[BBC Bitesize](#) continues to provide daily lessons for home schooling in Maths and English for every year group, as well as regular lessons in Science, History, Geography and more. [StarLine](#) is a national home learning helpline offering expert information and advice to parents and carers

Support for carers

[Derbyshire Carers Association](#) exists to support all those in a caring role in Derbyshire.

Coronavirus information in accessible formats

The Joined Up Care Derbyshire website has a number of resources relating to the needs of specific patient groups and in accessible formats such as easy read, sign language and Makaton. You can view the page [here](#).

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](#).

We salute you

Dame Vera Lynn

Dame Vera Lynn, the Forces' Sweetheart whose songs helped raise morale in World War Two and more recently as part of lockdown celebrations for the 75th anniversary of VE Day, died aged 103 last Thursday.

Ahead of the 75th anniversary of VE Day and during the height of the coronavirus pandemic, Dame Vera said simple acts of bravery and sacrifice still define our nation. A week later, she became the oldest artist to get a top 40 album in the UK, beating her own record when her greatest hits album re-entered the charts at number 30.

Often seen as a symbol of hope and resilience, the Queen took inspiration from Dame Vera's famous WW2 anthem in her address to the nation in April when she said: "We will be with our friends again, we will be with our families again, we will meet again."

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.