

Kent Adult Social Care Provider Bulletin



Friday 30 July 2021

Covid related deaths in care homes

We are aware that the CQC recently published data on the number of people living in care homes who have passed away from Covid-19 since the start of the pandemic. As CQC says, we know that death notifications alone are not a reliable indicator of quality or safety in individual care homes.

There are many other factors to consider when understanding quality in a care home setting and our commissioning team work closely with you to understand fully these aspects for every care home in Kent. We understand that the death of anyone in our care is always very saddening and we know and truly appreciate all of the work that care home staff have done in exceptional times.

All care home workers to be vaccinated

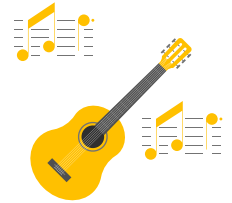
Please note that the government has now released the following timeline for the Covid-19 vaccination programme including the deadlines for receiving the vaccine before regulations come into force.

The 16-week grace period starts on 22 July and the last date for care home workers to get their first dose in time for regulations on 11 November, is **Thursday 16 September 2021**.



Virtual music entertainment played in care homes as part of the Duke of Edinburgh award

A 14 year old from Maidstone has chosen to support care home residents as part of his Duke of Edinburgh Community Service award. Conall has recorded and filmed himself playing guitar to seven well known pop and rock songs from the 1960s ranging from Elvis Presley to the Rolling Stones. He chose to do this to offer some “virtual” musical entertainment to care home residents who have experienced a very difficult time during the Covid-19 pandemic.



The videos can be found here:

https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLV8nIM4NDNJ1h3OzWeK9fG_mJC-0vOzB4

Please do share with your residents and we hope they will enjoy the music.

Research on Annual Health Checks for people with learning disabilities

Following research undertaken in 2019 about annual health checks and emergency hospital admissions in Kent, the findings are now available through Open Access. And you can [read the insights here](#).

In a first for research of this kind, the report has also been published as an easy read version, which is a meaningful step in making sure people are directly empowered with knowledge by making it accessible to the people it impacts.

The Easy Read version is available on the Kent Learning Disability Partnership Board website.

Please take the opportunity to share this with people that you support.

Developing our adult social care strategy

Following on from our early discussion workshops at the beginning of the year with members of the public, we'd like to carry on the conversation and ask **what's important to people we support, families, carers** and our partners in adult social care. Please encourage the people you support to register their interest..



How will people's views be taken forward?

These are co-production workshops and people's thoughts will contribute to the initial development of a draft five year strategy for adult social care.

Is this a public consultation?

No, not yet. This work is at its development stage, so that our stakeholders have the opportunity to test and shape our thinking. There will be a consultation later this year.

Who should attend?

We'd like to hear from people with lived experience of social care from all backgrounds in Kent aged 18 and over. Workshops are also open to members of community groups.

Join one of our online Zoom workshops in August*

- Wednesday 11 August - 2pm – 4pm
- Thursday 12 August - 10am – 12 midday
- Friday 13 August - 10am – 12 midday

(*Dates and times may change subject to demand)

Register your interest at makingadifference@kent.gov.uk with your name, area of interest within social care, organisation (if applicable) and the **date of the workshop** you'd like to attend.

[Sign up to the Your voice network](#) for regular updates and other ways to share your views. Visit www.Kent.gov.uk/yourvoice

Share your views on Kent and Medway wheelchair, technology enabled care and community equipment services – take part in our surveys

Kent County Council, NHS Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group and Medway Council would like to hear from people living in Kent and Medway about their experience of using wheelchair, technology enabled care and community equipment services in Kent and Medway.

This feedback will give us an understanding of people's experiences and can help improve the service in future. Our aim is to bring together NHS, local authority and other partners so we can work better together to meet people's needs, increase independence and improve people's quality of life.



Wheelchair Service Survey

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/wheelchair/>

Community Equipment Service Survey

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/communityequip/>

Technology Enabled Care Service Survey (TECS)

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/techcare/>

Easy read versions of these surveys are also available upon request.

Please note that this survey will close on 15 September 2021. If you would prefer to give feedback over the telephone, please email your request to:

kmccg.engage@nhs.net

Data Security and Protection Toolkit - free local support for Social Care Providers

Kent County Council (KCC) in partnership with Kent Integrated Care Alliance (KICA) has been awarded funding by the National Better Security, Better Care programme. The funding is to support social care providers in Kent and Medway to complete the nationally recognised Data Security and Protection Toolkit (DSPT).



Completing the DSPT will enable you to:

- gain access and retain use of digital tools such as, NHSmail and Proxy ordering for medicines
- evidence and demonstrate good practice by meeting data and security standards
- demonstrate compliance with data protection legislation and CQC's expectations on confidentiality and security
- help you to reassure the people you support, their families and your staff that they can trust you with their data
- evaluate and improve your data and cyber security, reducing the risk of cyber-crime and data breaches

We know that you are under enormous pressure as you continue to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic. We don't want to add any extra burden so we are offering this free support to ensure that the information you store and share with health colleagues is secure.

We will be running regular workshops for adult social care providers in Kent and Medway to help your organisation prepare for registering on, and completing, the DSPT. No technical knowledge is needed.
Sessions include:

- An introductory webinar to the Data Security and Protection Toolkit
- How to register workshop
- Sessions covering each of the 4 topic areas of the toolkit (Staffing & Roles, Policies & Procedures, Data Security, IT Systems & Devices)

1:1 support and peer support will also be available.

Find out more information about the DSPT, the support that we can offer, and sign up to our workshops on our website: dspt@kent.gov.uk

We look forward to supporting you on your digital journey.