

# Kent Adult Social Care Provider Bulletin



Friday 9 April 2021

## All Change: How to work safely guidance

The adult social care 'How to Work Safely' guidance is now live. Please see links below to the two sets of revised guidance. Providers are asked to ensure all staff are aware of and adhere to the revised guidance to ensure they are working to the new minimum standard.

COVID-19: how to work safely in care homes - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk))

COVID-19: how to work safely in domiciliary care in England - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk))

In addition it is confirmed that provision of free Covid PPE has been extended until March 2022.

## Workforce Capacity Fund

The Workforce Capacity Fund grant period ended on 31 March 2021 and it is now time to report back on the benefits of the funding. If you have received the Workforce Capacity Fund, you should now have received a link to an online report to submit information about your use of the fund. This report is due back to us on 19th April 2021 so that we can collate answers and submit them to the Department of Health and Social Care.

## Infection Control and Testing Fund

On 29 March, the Department for Health and Social Care announced further funding to be made available for providers to combat Covid-19.

Due to the success of the Infection Control Fund and the Rapid Testing Fund in supporting care providers to reduce transmission and re-enabling close contact visiting, these funding streams have been consolidated and extended until June 2021, with an extra £341 million of funding as part of the new Infection Control and Testing Fund. More information can be found here: Adult Social Care Infection Control and Testing Fund: local authority circular - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk))

Kent County Council will contact providers that are eligible for this funding in due course.

## Support and communications from KCC throughout the Coronavirus crisis - survey

### Message from Kent County Council:

We are keen to understand how providers have experienced the support and communications from KCC throughout the coronavirus crisis, and we want to hear from you. We want to understand how well you have felt supported by KCC in the last

year, and how you want us to work together in the future. We would like to get your feedback [via a short survey](#), and will also be hosting a number of engagement events where we can explore themes in more depth:

- Learning Disability engagement event – jointly hosted by Kent County Council and Lara Bywater, Director LDC Care Company – Tuesday 27 April, 10am – 11am
- Care Homes engagement event – jointly hosted by Kent County Council and Adam Hutchison, Managing Director Belmont Healthcare – Wednesday 28 April, 10am – 11am
- Home Care engagement event – jointly hosted by Kent County Council and Ann Taylor, Chief Executive Officer Hilton Nursing Partners – Thursday 29 April, 9.30am – 10.30am

To book your place at one of the above events, please contact [adultspmo@kent.gov.uk](mailto:adultspmo@kent.gov.uk) by Friday 23 April 2021. Please note that places will be limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

We really look forward to hearing your insights.

## Capacity tracker - walk through of benefits of new functionality to providers

### Message from NHS North of England Commissioning Support Unit:

Dear Providers,

For some time now, we have been aware that whilst the Capacity Tracker system captures a wide variety of information which is reviewed at local, regional, and national levels within the confines of the terms of use of the system; up until now providers have not been able to see reports containing their own data, nor have they had the opportunity to see National data sets to compare their status against.

You have asked, we have listened and this changes with the launch of the new Provider Access functionality.

From the evening of Monday 12 April Capacity Tracker data will be made available to all provider groups – Care Homes, Home Care, Hospices, Substance Misuse and Community Rehabilitation organisations, giving reports at organisation level and National level. We are also introducing a new report; Comparative Analysis, which will allow users to view their location data against a local or regional geographical data set

This invite is one of six scheduled sessions, for all Provider types during April. These will provide the opportunity of a walk-through of the new functionality and will aid understanding of the benefits that this new access will bring providers as well as the opportunity to ask questions about the changes.

## Kent Care Hub Masterclass: Ideas to start improving staff well-being now

Thursday 29 April 2021 (1pm - 1:45pm)

Presented by Thomas Jeffs, Changing Minds Kent CIC



Tom Jeffs from Changing Minds Kent CIC is a Positive Psychology Coach and Trainer. In this webinar he shares 3 things you can start doing now to help improve the mental wellbeing of staff. From how to start generating a more supportive work environment to improving empathic connection and taking stock of stress and developing healthier coping strategies.

This is a 30 minute presentation followed by questions.

**To book your free place please email [ellie.reynolds@kica.care](mailto:ellie.reynolds@kica.care)**

## **Briefing for care providers (in residential care homes, supported living or individuals own homes)**

**EU settlement scheme: Helping EEA nationals with Care and Support needs apply for settled status (to be allowed to stay in the UK and access benefits and the NHS)**

This briefing is for Care Providers who provide support to adults on behalf of KCC.

### **A reminder of the context:**

Very simply put, since the UK left the EU, resident EEA nationals (see annex 1 for a list of countries concerned) Swiss citizens and their families must apply for the UK immigration status (known as “settled status”) in order to remain in the UK (this will entitle them to access benefits and the NHS).



They have until **30 June 2021** to do so and the application is free. The application is a digital application process.

### **What does this have to do with you?**

You may be employing staff who are EEA nationals or you may be providing care/support to an individual who is an EEA national (see what this means in annex 1 below). You may know their nationality because they have told you so or it is in their care records. Ask them if they need to apply for settled status and whether they have done so.

It is in everyone’s interests to check whether the person has applied for settled status. It means they can access benefits (which in turn means they may be able to contribute towards the cost of their care) and they can access the NHS.

If they have not applied for settled status, and they are able to do it themselves, direct them to <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

If they are not able to do it themselves (because they are not digitally competent) but they have the capacity to consent to someone else helping them to apply, either (if you are a care home manager) check whether anyone in their support network is willing to support them to do so and direct them to <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

Or you may be able to direct them to one of the support organisations you can find when entering a postcode on this webpage: <https://www.gov.uk/help-eu-settlement-scheme>

If you are a contracted home care or Supported Living provider, contact the relevant Adult Social Care locality team to let them know the person will need support to apply. If they do not have the capacity to make the decision to apply, then the principles of MCA come into play and the applicant’s legal representative should make an

application on their behalf. This means either an LPA or a Deputy appointed by the court of protection.

For full details please consult:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/953873/main-euss-guidance-v9.0ext.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/953873/main-euss-guidance-v9.0ext.pdf)

### **Annex 1. Who can apply?**

If you're an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen, you and your family can apply to the EU Settlement Scheme to continue living in the UK after 30 June 2021. You can also apply if you're the family member of an eligible person of Northern Ireland.

### **There are 27 EU countries:**

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Republic of Cyprus, Czech republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden.

The EEA (The European Economic Area) includes EU countries and also Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway. It allows them to be part of the EU's single market. Switzerland is not an EU or EEA member but is part of the single market. This means Swiss nationals have the same rights to live and work in the UK as other EEA nationals.

You must have started living in the UK by 31/12/2020.

## **Stephen Lawrence day**

A legacy for change.

**Thursday 22 April 2021**

**1pm – 2pm**

On what will be the 28th anniversary of the murder of Stephen Lawrence in a racially motivated attack whilst waiting for a bus in Eltham, this event will explore the lasting legacy of his death. Marking Stephen Lawrence day is even more important at a time where we are still in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic which has had a disproportionate impact on BAME communities, and the ongoing impact of Black Lives Matter.

There are a range of speakers from the community, cultural, policing and charity sectors.

(Programme) Guest speakers include:

- Michelle Bramble – Chair, North Kent Caribbean Network
- Gurminder Sandher – Artistic Director, Cohesion Plus
- Sunder Katwala – Director, British Future
- Tim Smith – Deputy Chief Constable, Kent Police
- Errole Francis – Artist Director, Culture
- Matthew Dunkley CBE – Corporate Director, Kent County Council

To learn more and register, please follow this link:

<https://www.cohesionplus.com/stephen-lawrence-day/>

## KiCA: free membership for all CQC registered Adult Social Care providers in Kent

Following recent funding received from Kent County Council, KiCA are able to offer free membership to ALL CQC registered Adult Social Care providers in Kent until July 2021.



They represent all areas of the sector, residential homecare, Learning Disabilities and Mental Health. KiCA are your voice for care in Kent.

Do not miss this opportunity to join your local Care Association. For further information, please visit: [www.kica.care](http://www.kica.care) or contact: [louise.faulkner@kica.care](mailto:louise.faulkner@kica.care)

KiCA look forward to continuing to support you and your organisation through these difficult and challenging times.

## Covid-19 vaccination: Support for managers

The Skills for Care locality Manager, Pia Rathje-Burton, can offer resources and support for managers on how to have difficult conversations with your staff on vaccine uptake.

Please contact Pia Rathje-Burton [Pia.Rathje-Burton@skillsforcare.org.uk](mailto:Pia.Rathje-Burton@skillsforcare.org.uk) for more information.

## Provider Surveys – All Residential & Nursing Care Homes

KCC Commissioning are sending out emails to all care home providers shortly (this week).

KCC Commissioning periodically send out these surveys to the care home market to better understand what each home is able to provide, both physically as a building (accessibility) and the staff team (training).

There is one survey for those homes focussing their services at Older People, and another for those focussed on Disability provision (learning disabilities, mental health, physical disabilities). You do not need to complete both, just the one most suited to your home.

Even if you have completed this survey in the past for your home, could you please take the 15-20 minutes to complete it again, as we haven't been sending the surveys out regularly due to the impact and workload for all of the pandemic.

The information will be used by the purchasing/placements teams to better understand each home and ensure that referrals are as appropriate as possible. Commissioning use the information to understand which homes have particular specialisms, or where there may be gaps in the market in a local area for a certain need.

None of this information is made public or shared outside of KCC. If you complete the survey using the link below, you don't have to complete it again when the email arrives, they are the same surveys.

**Both surveys will close on 30/04/2021.**

Older Persons Homes.

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=DaJTMjXH\\_kuotz5qs39fkleHjRG9b3ZltZLi18fz-gtUNkhCN1dNVkIFUFNSWVVFUENYVTc2QURTUi4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=DaJTMjXH_kuotz5qs39fkleHjRG9b3ZltZLi18fz-gtUNkhCN1dNVkIFUFNSWVVFUENYVTc2QURTUi4u)

Disability Homes (LD, PD, MH).

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=DaJTMjXH\\_kuotz5qs39fkleHjRG9b3ZltZLi18fz-gtUOFpUTjY0RDBTQ0VBVDNRWUZYQTdPRVk5QS4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=DaJTMjXH_kuotz5qs39fkleHjRG9b3ZltZLi18fz-gtUOFpUTjY0RDBTQ0VBVDNRWUZYQTdPRVk5QS4u)