

# Kent Adult Social Care Provider Bulletin



Friday 17 September 2021

## Adult Social Care Strategy Consultation

After successful early public engagement and co-production workshops in Spring and Summer, we are now running a public consultation on our draft Adult Social Care Strategy.

Our person-focused vision and strategy summarise how we plan to make changes over the coming years to put the person first, improve all the time and measure what matters. The aim is to work with people in Kent and all our partners to turn our ambitions into reality.



We have heard feedback from people we support and carers that want to build a social care model in Kent that keeps the person at the heart of what we do, meets our duties under the law and promotes inclusive and innovative ways of working. This is just the beginning of our conversation over the next five years.

Take part in the consultation to have your say before 24 October. More information can be found here: [Adult Social Care Strategy | Let's talk Kent](#)

## Free annual National Care Association Membership for Kent Providers

Funded by Kent County Council's Infection Control Fund.

[nationalcareassociation.org.uk/members/kent-providers-membership-offer](https://nationalcareassociation.org.uk/members/kent-providers-membership-offer)

Kent providers  
**FREE** membership offer

**FREE** annual National Care Association Membership for  
**Kent Providers** Funded by Kent County Council's Infection Control Fund

We are delighted to be able to offer all care providers in Kent the prestigious associate membership to National Care Association free for one year.

This offer has been funded by KCC to enable all Kent providers to remain up-to-date with the latest infection prevention and control guidance and information to support your care service with through this difficult time.

To take up this offer please complete the application form on the link below and return to [info@nationalcareassociation.org.uk](mailto:info@nationalcareassociation.org.uk)

Associate membership includes:

- Latest industry changes, guidance and news in your inbox in real time
- Members only information communicated via email
- Monthly round-up newsletter
- Benefits from discounted deals from our sponsors and suppliers
- Access to secure DBS service

Note: If you are a current National Care Association Member (on 13/10/2020) you are still eligible for this funding. You do not need to do anything! This 100% discount will be automatically applied to your next renewal!

More information can be found here: [Free annual NCA Membership for Kent Providers-736328](#)

## Supporting providers who have potential leavers due to compulsory vaccinations

### A letter from KCC commissioning

#### To all managers



We are aware of the potential impact the compulsory vaccination requirement may have on some care homes in the county.

We would therefore like to highlight support available to providers to assist in filling any type of vacancy created by workers who leave, and by offering support to potential leavers, if required, to ensure valued and experienced workers remain within our local care sector.

#### Support for providers

The KCC Innovation Delivery Team is currently setting up a Prince's Trust programme to run from 20 October - 18 November for the care sector, which will highlight vacancies to 18-30 year olds looking for care work. Prior to interviews on 18 November, each candidate will receive a three-week programme, learning about the care certificate theory, employability skills and their unique strengths and values.

To include your vacancies in this programme, please email [kentregisteredmanager@kent.gov.uk](mailto:kentregisteredmanager@kent.gov.uk) and you will receive a vacancy form to complete.

#### Support for leavers

For care workers who unfortunately may decide to leave their current role, the Innovation Delivery Team can offer support in signposting them to other local care work opportunities so they can continue to work within the sector.

For care workers who require this support, please advise them to email [kentregisteredmanager@kent.gov.uk](mailto:kentregisteredmanager@kent.gov.uk) with a contact number and someone will call them to offer advice.

We do hope that your workers decide to take up the vaccination and continue working within your service, but for those who do not, we aim for this support to be helpful to you both.

## Kent and Medway's Health and Care Staff Wellbeing Support Hub



Has the Covid-19 pandemic left you feeling low, anxious, or out of sorts?

Is your sleep disturbed, or are you finding it hard to concentrate?

There is no doubt that throughout the past 18 months many of us have experienced far greater pressures than usual, whether that be concern about the health of a loved one or for the wellbeing of ourselves.

If you do feel your mental health and wellbeing has been adversely impacted in any way, our new service is here to support you.

Come and visit our website at <https://www.kentandmedwayccg.nhs.uk/staff-wellbeing-support> and find out how our team of trained clinicians can help you.

You'll also find self-help tips, information about local services, and a chat function to help you easily access our services. So, if you are struggling in any way please don't put off contacting us because this might be just the service you need to help pick you up.

## Out of Hours Clinical Home Visiting Services – complete the survey by 24 September

NHS Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group would like to hear from staff working in care homes of their experiences in using Out of Hours Clinical Home Visiting Services on behalf on their residents.

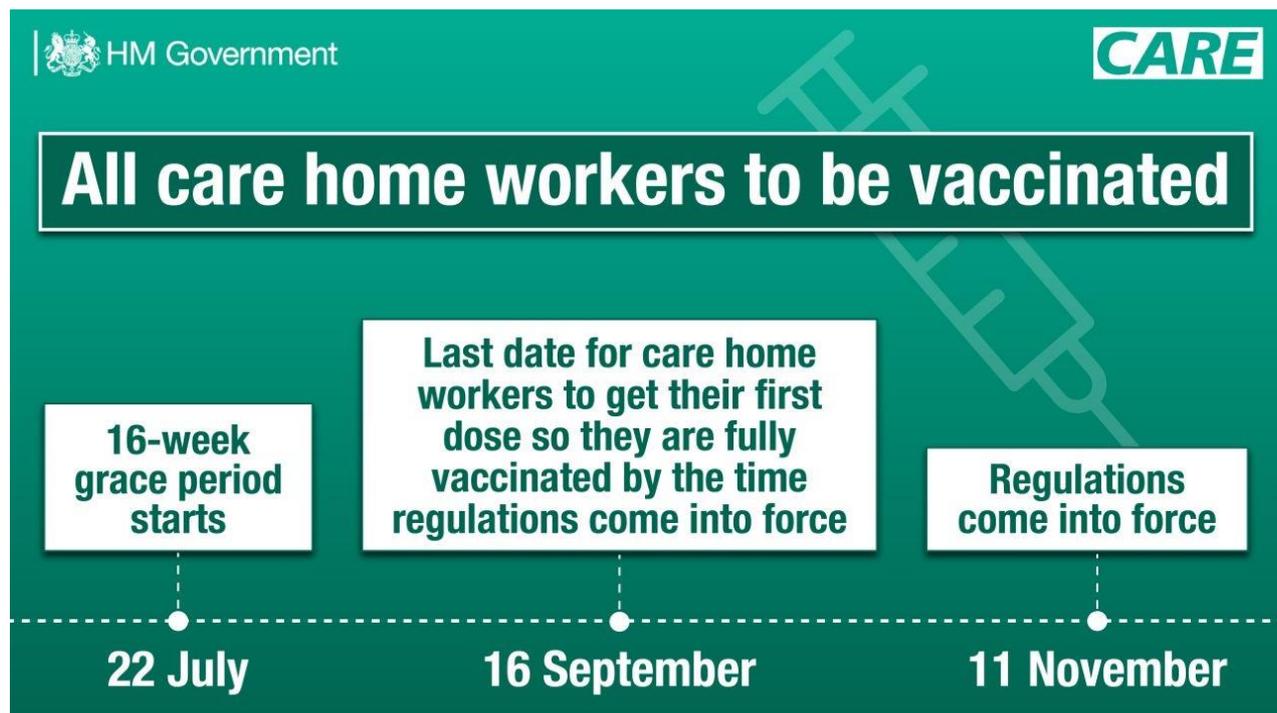
Please note that this survey will close on **Friday 24 September 2021**.

**Take part now:** <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/57TLIS/>

## 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**.



Updated guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-admission-and-care-of-people-in-care-homes/coronavirus-covid-19-admission-and-care-of-people-in-care-homes>

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

The Kent Integrated Care Alliance (KiCA) is delighted to announce that due to funding received from Kent County Council, we are able to offer free KiCA membership from July 2021 - July 2022 for all CQC registered Adult Social Care providers in our county.



The sector has faced the most challenging times over the last 18 months and we will continue to support providers and be your voice for care in Kent. We represent all areas of the sector, residential, homecare, learning disabilities and mental health.

Don't miss this fantastic opportunity to join your local care association.

For further information, please visit [www.kica.care](http://www.kica.care) or to register your organisation as a KiCA member, please contact [louise.faulkner@kica.care](mailto:louise.faulkner@kica.care)

We look forward to working with you all again over the coming year.

## Free Support to Complete the Data Security and Protection Toolkit

Kent County Council (KCC) in Partnership with Kent Integrated Care Alliance (KICA) are supporting social care providers across Kent and Medway to register on and complete the Data Security and Protection Toolkit (DSPT).

The DSPT is a free online self-assessment of your organisation's data and cyber security and is recognised as the official tool to evaluate your compliance with legal requirements, Data Security Standards and good practice. It is also required in order to access key services such as NHSmail, proxy ordering for medication and shared care records.



[Watch our introductory webinar online](#)

[Sign up to small-group virtual workshops and 1:1 sessions on our website](#) – free support to help you register and work through the toolkit.

Not sure where to start with this? Or got some questions? Please send us an email: [dspt@kent.gov.uk](mailto:dspt@kent.gov.uk)