

Provider Call Covid-19 – Call 32

Chairs	David Smallacombe (Care & Support West) david.smallacombe@careandsupportwest.com Sophie Chester-Glyn (Coproduce Care/ Manor Community) sophie@coproducecare.com
Date	13.10.2021
Time	12:00pm – 1:20pm
Attendees	18

(please note that the speakers have not verified these minutes)

You can watch the meeting back on this link → Recording: <https://youtu.be/4c-Y28EZKzE>

Please fill out this survey on who you want to hear from next:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/PPFN33Z>

Email any feedback or ideas to: ella@coproducecare.com

Speakers:

- **James Sage** - Employment Partner, Royds Withy King
- **Vicky Charalambous** - Acting Head of Quality & Assurance, Brandon Trust
- **Councillor Tim Wye** - Green Party Councillor, Bristol City Council
- **Tamsin Mauri** - Project Manager BNSSG Healthier Together Support Network

David Smallacombe ([Care and Support West](#))

Update from David:

- C&SW awards were last Saturday, 350 guests attended and 21 awards presented, all sponsors were there to present awards. If you look at the C&SW website you can see photos from the evening and can get super early bird tickets for next October already.
- Suzanne Westhead is the new director of adult social care for BANES and we have got her as a speaker for the next provider call, she has lots of experience in other LA's as well.

- Provider forums in Bristol – the next one is Wednesday 20th October (C&SW led), the BCC one is on the 26th October (this one incorporates everyone).
- DSPT project has been extended until March 2022.
- Got funding in for workforce development project and registered managers network.
- About to gain 4 more commercial partners - architect, pharmacy, recruitment firm and workplace IT support.

Sophie Chester-Glyn ([Coproduct Care](#) and [Manor Community](#))

Update from Sophie:

- Thanks to C&SW for the gala dinner at the weekend.
- Care show being held in Birmingham over next couple of days. Tomorrow I will be speaking about women in care.
- We are running an online conference live in November, link below to sign up and information on our website. Will be talking about the out of sight report by CQC.
- Arnie is running a project supported by the health foundation looking at artificial intelligence and data and how it can be used in the sector. Would like to get some engagement so we can get good data, get in contact, details below.
- Wonder whether there needs to be local planning about the shortages.
- Vaccine coach available for anyone who is struggling with staff who are still hesitant about the vaccine, more than happy to share with anyone.

James Sage (Employment Partner, Royds Withy King)

Update from James:

- Exemptions – got temporary medical exemption process now where staff can self-certify to say they are exempt. This now includes pregnant employees. If staff sign this they will have until the 23rd December to go through formal exemption process which has now been launched. Then will then get an outcome of whether they are exempt or not, there will be no right to appeal the decision.
- Lots of involvement of unions in this process. Some are advising members not to sign the DHSC self-certification form even if they believe they are medically exempt. They have created their own form which they are asking them to fill out instead. The right form is the DHSC one.
- Currently temp exemption for staff who have been vaccinated overseas, a different form for them to fill out but still deadline of 23rd December.
- Seen a number of staff who don't want to be vaccinated put in grievances or lengthy letters. Take care in how you deal with these.
- Unlikely that the 11th November deadline is going to be pushed back.

- As long as had both jabs by 11th November, you can enter the service.
- Govt is currently consulting on extending the mandatory vaccination requirement.
- CQC said they are going to be using the capacity tracker as a means of instigating inspections for providers who don't have high levels of covid vaccinated staff, if the capacity tracker is saying for a particular service they have low take up they are likely to be target for inspection.

Q. We have 2 staff members who were hesitant for the vaccine, but they had decided to get the jabs but then contracted covid which pushed their 1st jabs beyond 16/09/21, Can they use the 'temporary exemption' to cover the gap until there second jab?

A. Don't think they would be eligible as they have had covid, unless they have had a reaction but if it's just caused a delay, don't think they'll be eligible.

Vicky Charalambous (Acting Head of Quality & Assurance, Brandon Trust)

Update from Vicky:

- Job role has changed - was area manager and now doing acting head of quality and assurance role.
- Brandon trust is a charity who supports children and adults with LD and autism.
- In Bristol we have 4 registered care homes, 1 nursing home, 10 supported living and 2 outreach services and just added another outreach service as well.
- In South Glos we have 1 nursing home, 1 registered care home, 3 supported living, 1 outreach and run the play scheme, buddy scheme and summer camps for school children.
- In BANES and North Somerset we have 1 nursing home, 5 supported living houses and 3 outreach services.
- We provide service to 350 children and young adults and working age adults ages 5-91 and employ 235 staff and 85 temporary play workers (summer holidays in play schemes).
- We cover all the way from Cornwall, to London, to Warwickshire.
- Support 1,524 people overall and 2,018 employees all of which we are trying to get vaccinated. 616 people who are living in supported living.
- Challenge – recruitment of support workers. Really crucial that we get engagement with candidates quickly.
- Public perception of social care getting praise during the pandemic didn't last very long.
- Have huge competition, main one being NHS.
- Recovery from the pandemic, realised we are never going to go back to normal and this is now the recovery period on the new way of working.

- Continued pressure we face – making sure people are vaccinated, testing, capacity tracker, PPE, etc.

Councillor Tim Wye (Green Party Councillor, Bristol City Council)

Update from Tim:

- A lot of the newly appointed councillors don't know a lot about social care.
- Have been trying to think how to engage the green councillors how to engage in the city.
- Looking for some volunteers who are willing to talk to our councillor group, representing different parts of the adult social care industry. Details will be below.
- Conversation between Tim and Cllr Helen Holland about the recent ADAS response to the govt in relation to the situation. If you want to hear more, listen to the recording above.

Tamsin Mauri (Project Manager BNSSG Healthier Together Support Network)

Update from Tamsin:

- Been given some finance by NHS England and Improvement to support Healthier Together.
- Tamsin shared her screen on the Healthier Together website and went through the pages.
- Who's eligible? Community care, the social care sector, mental health care and more if you check out the website.
- Can look for support available on the website.
- Can book on to any courses through the website.
- Building an online navigation which is coming soon.
- Really keen to get the word out to social care.

Links:

- Link to book your tickets for Care and Support West Gala 2022 - <https://www.careandsupportwest.com/events/care-awards-2022>
- Care show link: <https://www.careshow.co.uk/welcome>
- Sign up on Eventbrite for updates and the links to join the event: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/cqcs-out-of-sight-report-restraint-segregation-seclusion-1-year-on-tickets-170456483932>
- Providers can book here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/social-care-providers-how-will-dataai-change-social-care-tickets-182739186827>
- Contact Arnie - arnie@coproducecare.com if you have any questions

- Visit <https://www.coproducecare.com/> for more information
- Support network link: <https://bnssghealthiertogether.org.uk/support-network/>

Chat notes:

- We have 2 staff members who were hesitant for the vaccine, but they had decided to get the jabs but then contracted covid which pushed their 1st jabs beyond 16/09/21, Can they use the 'temporary exemption' to cover the gap until there second jab?
- Staff have already expressed more concern for flu jab then covid
- Happy to join
- 3 Trees Community support will be happy to join also - I will email
- Looks great, 3 Trees will be sharing this to our staff as well.
- Recent confusions over testing - LFTs' /PCRs