

Dear

### Care Home Visiting Guidance

You will be aware of the government guidance published 22 July 2020. It will be welcome news to friends and family of the loved ones you have been caring so well for during the last four months. We understand many people will want to spend time with family they have missed so much but we are writing to you to urge you to work with us to make sure any visiting you put in place follows the agreed guidelines.

You will see from the guidance you **must** have the local Director of Public Health (DPH) and Local Authority approval to allow any visiting within your home. You have all worked incredibly hard, many getting ill yourselves too. The care you have given to so many Wolverhampton residents has been very much appreciated.

We are working as fast as we can to understand the guidance and how the Local Authority including Public Health, Wolverhampton CCG and the Infection Prevention team at Royal Wolverhampton Trust can support visiting in your Care Home. In light of this new guidance we must now insist you do not allow visitors (other than essential Health visits) to your Care Home until the guidance has been reviewed and we all understand the implications before approval from the DPH and Local Authority recommends visiting can be reinstated.

Through an incredible amount of hard work from you the Covid-19 situation in Wolverhampton Care Homes is currently under control. Your actions have kept your residents as safe as possible. We must review the infection rate data and you must follow the relevant risk assessments outlined in the agreed guidance before we can allow visits across Wolverhampton.

We are reviewing the data available with the Director of Public Health to understand whether we are in a situation where visiting can resume in Wolverhampton as soon as possible. Until this is complete we advise that you do not allow non-essential visitors but in the meantime encourage you to begin your risk assessments and planning for allowing visiting to commence as soon as advised by the Director of Public Health.

Thank you for your patience and continued support and we are working to review the guidance quickly and will advise accordingly on any best practice arrangements that will assist on minimising risk to your residents and staff.

Regards,



David Watts  
Director of Adult Services  
City of Wolverhampton Council



Sally Roberts  
Chief Nursing Officer  
Black Country and West Birmingham CCGs