

Winter Plan 2020/21

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1								
2		Theme 1: Preventing and controlling the spread of infection in care settings						
3	Reference	Actions Required by Local Authorities	Current status	Requirement fully met (Y/N)?	Actions required to fill gaps/Comments	By Who?	By When?	
4	1.1	Continue to implement relevant guidance and circulate and promote guidance to adult social care providers in their area, including for visitors	Green	Yes	Weekly newsletters and regular provider forums in place to disseminate all relevant guidance and discuss and resolve any associated challenges	SMBC	Ongoing process	
5	1.2	Directors of public health should work with relevant partners including Public Health England and local health protection boards to control local outbreaks and should refer to the contain framework	Green	Yes	Health Protection Board and Outbreak Engagement Board in place and functioning on a weekly basis	SMBC		
6	1.3	Support care homes, working with local partners to carry out learning reviews after each outbreak to identify and share any lessons learned at local, regional and national levels	Green	Yes	Currently done for larger outbreaks of over 6 cases. Will consider process for smaller outbreaks.	SMBC PH Team	Ongoing process	
7	Managing staff movement							
8	1.4	Distribute money from the Infection Control Fund, and submit returns on how the funding has been used in line with the grant conditions	Green	Yes	Process in place and well established.	SMBC	30-Oct	
9	1.5	Consult the guidance available on redeploying staff and managing their movement, and support providers in their area to access other initiatives – for example Bringing Back Staff	Green	Yes	Staffing levels and concerns captured as part of daily sit rep calls. Outputs considered, and any required action undertaken through Care Home Support Group	SMBC	31-Mar	
10	1.6	Continue to review contingency arrangements to help manage staffing shortages, within social care provision, through the winter, with the aim of reducing the need for staff movement	Amber	Yes	Staffing levels and concerns captured as part of daily sit rep calls. Outputs considered, and any required action undertaken through Care Home Support Group	SMBC	31-Mar	
11	1.7	Provide clear communication to social care providers regarding the importance of implementing workforce measures to limit COVID-19 infection, signpost relevant guidance, and encourage providers to make use of additional funding where appropriate	Green	Yes	There is a well established process for regular communication and engagement with providers. This includes individual contact, regular forums and twice weekly communication / information emails.	SMBC	Ongoing process	
12	1.8	Actively monitor Capacity Tracker data to identify and act on emerging concerns regarding staff movement between care settings, including following up with care providers who are not limiting staff movement	Amber	Yes	Staffing levels and concerns captured as part of daily sit rep calls. Outputs considered, and any required action undertaken through Care Home Support Group	SMBC	Ongoing process	
13	Personal protective equipment (PPE)							

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22	1.15	Support communications campaigns encouraging eligible staff and people who receive care to receive a free flu vaccine	Green	Yes	Communications have been sent to every home, care provider, & PA's directing them to their GP, Pharmacist or Mass Imms drive through	SMBC	31-Mar		
23	1.16	Direct providers to local vaccination venues	Green	Yes	Communications have been sent to every home, care provider, & PA's directing them to their GP, Pharmacist or Mass Imms drive through	SMBC	31-Mar		
24	1.17	Work with local NHS partners to facilitate and encourage the delivery of flu vaccines to social care staff and residents in care homes	Green	Yes	Communications have been sent to every home, care provider, & PA's directing them to their GP, Pharmacist or Mass Imms drive through. Homes can also commission pharmacies to undertake immunisations and will be reimbursed by the Council	SMBC	31-Mar		
25	Theme 2: Collaboration across health and care services								
26	Reference	Actions Required by Local Authorities	Current status	Requirement fully met (Y/N)?	Actions required to fill gaps	By Who?	By When?		
27	Safe discharge from NHS settings and preventing avoidable admissions								
28	2.1	Jointly commission care packages for those discharged (including commissioning of care home beds). The local authority should be the lead commissioner unless otherwise agreed between the CCG and the local authority	Amber	No	Establish optimum bed capacity required and determine if additional ones are needed on block booked basis.	SMBC/CCG	15 Nov		
29	2.2	Establish an Executive Lead for the leadership and delivery of the discharge to assess model;	Green	Yes	The DASS for SMBC is undertaking this role	SMBC	N/A		
30	2.3	Establish efficient processes to manage CHC assessments in line with the guidance on the reintroduction of NHS continuing healthcare (as well as the discharge guidance), which includes extending the use of the Trusted Assessor Model and digital assessments	Green	Yes	Trusted assessor process in place for CHC assessments and digital assessments in place. All guidance RE: reintroduction of CHC in place and assessments commenced	CHC	NA		
31	2.4	Secure sufficient staff to rapidly complete deferred assessments, drawing on discharge funding but without negatively impacting on care home support	Green	Yes	Additional staff sourced for CHC and Care act assessments. CCG and LA working together to ensure backlog assessments are completed jointly.	CHC/SMBC	N/A		
32	2.5	Work with partners to coordinate activity, with local and national voluntary sector organisations, to provide services and support to people requiring support around discharge from hospital and subsequent recovery		Yes	Work in progress to redesign the D2A pathways- this is a collaborative piece of work between system partners	SMBC/CCG/SHFT	TBC		
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34	2.6	Actions for Health colleagues, but LAs should assure themselves arrangements are in place	Green	Yes	There is an established group undertaking a work programme to ensure primary care support can be enhanced with technology.	SMBC/CCG	N/A		
35	Technology and digital support								
36		Social prescribing							
37	2.7	Work closely with SPLWs (social prescribing link workers) to co-ordinate support for people identified by health and care professionals as most needing it, especially those impacted by health inequalities and autistic people and people with learning disabilities		Yes	Adult social care has strong links with SPLW's employed within PCN's and provide a direct line to support the needs of vulnerable individuals and enhances existing care packages. Through our VCSE preventative approach WIN/TPA social prescribing is commissioned through these services. In these networks there is a strong emphasis on locality/neighbourhood working based on strength based approach.	SMBC/CCG/Viaduct	Ongoing Process		
38	2.8	Ensure SPLWs have the support and equipment to work remotely and access GP IT systems		Yes	The SPLW's are based within all GP practices and benefit from access to GP IT systems.	Viaduct			
39	Theme 3: Supporting people who receive social care, the workforce, and carers								
40	Reference	Actions Required by Local Authorities	Current status	Requirement fully met (Y/N)?	Actions required to fill gaps	By Who?	By When?		
41	Supporting independence and quality of life								
42	3.1	Give a regular assessment of whether visiting care homes is likely to be appropriate, within their local authority, or within local wards, taking into account the wider risk environment	Amber	Yes	There is a robust process set up to review individual risk assessments from the homes in the Borough. There is also ongoing work to agree a GM wide approach that limits the use of blanket bans on visiting of care homes. However, due to the current status of tier 3 level of concerns visits are limited to window visits.	SMBC	Ongoing process		
43	3.2	If necessary, impose visiting restrictions if local incidence rates are rising, and immediately if an area is listed as 'an area of intervention'	Green	Yes	This has been ongoing in Stockport and unfortunately has been necessary to impose.	SMBC	Ongoing process		
44	Direct payments								

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45	3.3	Consult the new guidance for the actions that they should undertake to ensure that people receiving direct payments, their families and carers are able to meet their care and support needs this winter	Green	Yes	Letters have been sent to people who receive a DP earlier in the pandemic along with a summary and copy of the DP government guidance. A second letter is under development in relation to ongoing PPE and support available through the Council. This letter will capture the essence of the new guidance and commitment to supporting people who have a DP over the winter period.	SMBC	Ongoing process	
46	3.4	Give people with direct payments the level of flexibility and control as envisaged in the Care Act and NHS Direct Payment regulations and accompanying guidance, allowing them to stay well, and get the care and support they need	Green	Yes	Flexibility around the use of direct payments is being encouraged following discussions with social workers in relation to changing needs and outcomes brought about by the pandemic	SMBC	Ongoing process	
47	Support for unpaid carers							
48	3.5	Make sure carers, and those who organise their own care, know what support is available to them and who to contact if they need help		Yes	For those that organise their own care a service has been commissioned through the voluntary organisation Signpost for Carers to provide additional carers assessments on top of the statutory duties of the Council. In addition all carers who receive a Care Act assessment will routinely be offered support and relevant signposting to other organisations/services	SMBC	31-Mar	
49	3.6	Follow the direct payments guidance and be flexible to maximise independence		Yes	There is well established practice ensuring that direct payments are used flexibly allowing for person centred approaches to maximise independence.	SMBC	Ongoing process	
50	3.7	Ensure that assessments are updated to reflect any additional needs created by COVID-19 of both carers and those in need of social care		No	There is a backlog of reviews and we are working on a triage basis. However a plan is in place and additional capacity is being commissioned to manage this situation.	SMBC		

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51	3.8	Work with services that may have closed, over the pandemic, to consider how they can reopen safely or be reconfigured to work in a COVID-19 secure way and consider using the Infection Control Fund to put in place infection prevention and control measures to support the resumption of services	Amber	Yes	Ongoing work has been in place to support day services to operate and maintain at least 50% capacity to support individuals. This has been in the shape of support financially in particular paying on planned support as well as practical support e.g. IPC advice.	SMBC	31-Mar	
52	3.9	Where people who use social care services can no longer access the day care or respite services that they used before the pandemic, work with them to identify alternative arrangements that meet their identified needs	Amber	Yes	Ongoing work has been in place to support day services to operate and maintain at least 50% capacity to support individuals. This has been in the shape of support financially in particular paying on planned support as well as practical support e.g. IPC advice.	SMBC	31-Mar	
53	End-of-life care							
54	3.10	Ensure that discussions and decisions on advanced care planning, including end of life, should take place between the individual (and those people who are important to them where appropriate) and the multi-professional care team supporting them. Where a person lacks the capacity to make treatment decisions, a care plan should be developed following where applicable the best interest check-list under the Mental Capacity Act	Green	Yes	Established practice amongst professionals and undertaken as part of multi-disciplinary approaches	CCG/ SMBC	Ongoing process	
55	3.11	Implement relevant guidance and circulate, promote and summarise guidance to the relevant providers. This should draw on the wide range of resources that have been made available to the social care sector by key health and care system partners and organisations including those on the NHS website and those published by the Royal Colleges of GPs	Green	Yes	Established pathway and practice has been in place in the borough for many years. We will continue to implement and promote throughout all care settings.	CCG/ SMBC	Ongoing process	
56	Care Act easements							
57	3.12	Only apply the Care Act easements when absolutely necessary		Yes	A process is in place should Care Act easements be required however this would only be enacted should SMBC be unable to meet Care Act requirements. Adult Social Care have contingency plans to allocate staff and resources to avoid easements if at all possible.	SMBC	N/A	

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58	3.13	Notify DHSC of any decisions to apply the Care Act easements		Yes	The Principal Social Worker in conjunction with the DASS will follow DHSC guidelines and would contact DHSC as part of the Easements protocol should this be necessary.	SMBC	N/A	
59	3.14	Communicate the decision to operate under easements to all providers, people who need care and support, carers and local MPs in an accessible format		Yes	would be commenced to inform providers, service users and carers along with key stakeholders and elected members/MP's should easements be enacted. This will be led by the PSW and DASS	SMBC	N/A	
60	3.15	Meet the needs of all people where failure to do so would breach an individual's human rights under the European Convention on Human Rights		Yes	Adult Social Care is committed to ensuring Care Act compliance via business as usual. Should easements be enacted ongoing assessment of Human Rights would be key to the approach taken. The assessment forms and support plans which would be utilised should easements be enacted will identify any risk to human rights and will give consideration to the Ethical Framework	SMBC	N/A	
61	3.16	Follow the Ethical Framework for Adult Social Care when making decisions regarding care provision, alongside relevant equalities-related and human rights frameworks		Yes	Relevant staff in Adult Social Care have been briefed on the Ethical Framework for Adult Social Care and this is embedded in approaches to assessments and interventions being undertaken during the COVID19 pandemic.	SMBC	N/A	
62	3.17	Work closely with local NHS CHC teams, to ensure appropriate discussions and planning concerning a person's long-term care options take place, as early as possible after discharge	Amber	Yes	A process is in place with CCG colleagues to ensure timely review and adjustments to care plans following discharge. The initial priority is those that fell under the relevant covid discharge protocols.	SMBC/ CCG	Ongoing Process	
63	Supporting the workforce							
64		Staff training						

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65	3.18	Ensure providers are aware of the free induction training offer and encourage them to make use of it	Green	Yes	Weekly newsletters and regular provider forums in place to disseminate all relevant guidance and discuss and resolve any associated challenges			
66	3.19	Promote and summarise relevant guidance to care providers	Green	Yes	Weekly newsletters and regular provider forums in place to disseminate all relevant guidance and discuss and resolve any associated challenges	SMBC		
67	3.20	Maintain, where possible, the additional staff support services which they put in place during the first wave of the pandemic	Green	Yes	Stockport has commissioned Beacon counselling as support for all provider staff and links into the wider GM offer of support. This is continually promoted to all providers in the borough.	SMBC	31-Mar	
68	3.21	Review current occupational health provision with providers in their area and highlight good practice	Amber	No	As part of regular engagement a canvassing of providers will be undertaken to highlight gaps and identify best practice.	SMBC	30-Nov	
69	3.22	Promote wellbeing offers to their staff and allow staff time to access support, as well as promoting to providers in their area	Green	Yes	Stockport has commissioned counselling and support for all provider staff and links into the wider GM offer of support. This is continually promoted to all providers in the borough.	SMBC		
70		Workforce capacity						
71	3.23	Continue to review contingency arrangements to help manage staffing shortages within social care provision through the winter	Amber	Yes	Forms part of sit reps and dashboard which is reviewed and responded to through Care Home support group	SMBC		
72	3.24	Consult the guidance available on deploying staff and managing their movement, and support providers in their area to access other initiatives – for example Bringing Back Staff	Amber	Yes	Staffing levels and concerns captured as part of daily sit rep calls. Outputs considered, and any required action undertaken through Care Home Support Group	SMBC		
73	3.25	Consider how voluntary groups can support provision and link-up care providers with the voluntary sector where necessary	Amber	Yes	Information has been provided to care providers and linked into the Council's Mutual Support and VCSE working group.	SMBC		

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74	3.26	Support providers, in their area, to complete the capacity tracker and update their adult social care workforce data set (ASCWDS) records to help ensure effective local capacity monitoring and planning	Green	Yes	This system has been in place now for over 6 months and regular contact and liaison with providers ensures that there is good compliance and follow up on any concerns.	SMBC		
75	Shielding and people who are clinically extremely vulnerable							
76	3.27	Local authorities will coordinate local support if shielding is reintroduced in a local area. This includes provision of enhanced care and support for CEV people on the shielded persons list	Green	Yes	There is an established working group that has developed a comprehensive plan that can be implemented at short notice if required. All relevant areas within the Health and Social Care system are involved and aware of the arrangements. Within the plan are the details of over 11,000 who had been previously shielding and the capacity to identify more if needed.	SMBC	Ongoing process	
77	Social work and other professional leadership							
78	3.28	Ensure that their social work teams are applying legislative and strengths-based frameworks (including those based on duties under the Care Act and Mental Capacity Act) and support partner organisations such as the NHS to do the same		Yes	Regular training and updates undertaken. Staff receive regular supervision and management support. Work force development plan in-situ	SMBC	Ongoing Process	
79	3.29	Ensure social work practice is fully cognisant of and acts on the issues of inequality and deprivation and the impact this has on communities and people's access to health and social care services		Yes	Regular training and updates undertaken. Staff receive regular supervision and management support. Work force development plan in-situ	SMBC	Ongoing Process	
80	3.30	Understand and address health inequalities across the sector and develop actions with partners, where required, taking into account the implications of higher prevalence of COVID-19 in Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities and inequalities experienced by people with learning disabilities, autistic adults, and people with mental health difficulties		Yes	As part of our EIA we will be refining our understanding and support for areas where there may be disproportionate impact due to Covid. We have confidence that we are able to manage emerging issues through this approach.	SMBC	Ongoing Process	

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81	3.31	Review their current quality assurance frameworks and governance oversight arrangements to ensure that winter and COVID-19 pressures do not reduce the ability to deliver high-quality social work practice		Yes	There is ongoing senior management level review and governance of services in terms of current circumstances and developing issues in relation to Covid. We are confident we can adapt to future developments through this process as required.	SMBC	Ongoing Process	
82	3.32	Develop and maintain links with professionals across the health and care system to ensure joined-up services		Yes	Established networks are already in-situ to ensure that services remain joined up. This includes co-located working arrangements and hospital social work support.	SMBC	Ongoing Process	
83	3.33	Lead local application of the Ethical Framework for Adult Social Care, ensuring that NHS partners fully understand their responsibilities to apply the ethical principles and values as part of discharge to assess delivery		Yes	The Council will take responsibility for the local application of the Ethical Framework not just with Adult Social Care but also with NHS partners. As part of the project to implement a new operating model the ethical framework will be embedded within D2A approach.	SMBC	Ongoing Process	
84	3.34	Ensure that the application of new models and pathways are offering the best possible outcome for individuals, their families and loved ones, advocating for them and advising commissioners where these pathways cause a conflict		Yes	Ongoing senior level management oversight to monitor and adapt to evolving circumstances and pathways. Covid has required significant flexibility within systems already, we are confident that with arrangements in-situ this will continue to be the case.	SMBC	Ongoing Process	

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85	3.35	Review any systemic safeguarding concerns that have arisen during the pandemic period and ensure actions are in place to respond to them, enabling readiness for any increased pressures over the winter period		Yes	Safeguarding issues have been noted as a result of some system developments – ie hospital discharge pathways and changes in responsibility. These have been and will continue to be addressed with the safeguarding protocol and discussions continue with health partners as regards all issues noted. An additional process has been developed with the Acute Trust by which concerns around hospital discharge are reported routinely and in a timely way to health services in addition to existing safeguarding activity.	SMBC	Ongoing Process	
86	3.36	Support and lead social workers and safeguarding teams to apply statutory safeguarding guidance with a focus on person-led and outcome focused practice						
87	Theme 4: Supporting the system							
88	Reference	Actions Required by Local Authorities	Current status	Requirement fully met (Y/N)?	Actions required to fill gaps	By Who?	By When?	
89	Funding							
90	4.1	Provide DHSC with information about how the money Infection Control Fund has been spent by 30 September 2020	Green	Yes	Reporting completed and sent to DHSC.	SMBC	Completed	
91	4.2	Continue to maintain the information they have published on their websites about the financial support they have offered to their local adult social care market	Green	Yes	Plans are underway to update the dedicated website with the winter plan when completed.	SMBC	05-Nov	
92	4.3	Provide regular returns to DHSC on the spending of the extended Infection Control Fund in line with the grant conditions	Green	Yes	A robust system is in place with dedicated finance and commissioning management oversight.	SMBC	Ongoing process	
93	Market and provider sustainability							
94	4.4	Work with local partners to engage with the Service Continuity and Care Market Review, and – when requested – complete a self-assessment of the health of local market management and contingency planning leading into winter	Green	Yes	All self-assessments will be completed within timescale such as the recent ADASS/LGA Questionnaire on market sustainability	SMBC	Ongoing process	
95	4.5	Continue to work understand their local care market; and to support and develop the market accordingly	Green	Yes	Stockport is in an advanced position with respect to understanding and managing it's care market. A risk and sustainability tool has been developed. Our annual fee setting process has	SMBC/CCG	31-Mar	

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96	4.6	Continue to support their provider market as needed, to secure continuity of care, including promoting the financial support available	Green	Yes	As above but in addition we have ensure IPC monies have been distributed promptly and equitably.	SMBC/CCG	31-Mar	
97	CQC support: Emergency Support Framework and sharing best practice							
98	4.7	Work with the CQC to promote and inform providers about monitoring processes	Green	Yes	Through our Quality Issues and Concerns process Stockport meets fortnightly with CQC and ensures any developments are communicated and disseminated appropriately.	SMBC/CCG	Ongoing process	
99	Local, regional and national oversight and support							
100	4.8	Write to DHSC by 31 October confirming they have put in place a winter plan and that they are working with care providers in their area on their business continuity plans, highlighting any key issues if needed, in order to receive the second instalment of the Infection Control Fund. These plans should consider the recommendations of this Winter Plan, and involve NHS and voluntary and community sector organisations where possible	Green	Yes	Plans in place and on target to ensure the necessary assurance is provided to DHSC	SMBC/CCG	31-Oct	
101	4.9	Continue current oversight processes, including delivery of Care Home Support Plans and engagement with regional feedback loops	Green	Yes	Process in place and well established.	SMBC	Ongoing process	
102	4.10	Continue to champion the Capacity Tracker and the CQC community care survey and promote their importance as a source of data to local providers and commissioners	Green	Yes	Regular engagement and support ensures this is kept up to date and completed. This monitored on a weekly basis.	SMBC	Ongoing process	
103	4.11	Establish a weekly joint communication from local directors of adult social services and directors of public health to go to all local providers of adult social care, as a matter of course, through the winter months	Green	Yes	This will be incorporated into our weekly newsletter.	SMBC	15-Nov	
104	Care home support plans							
105	4.12	Whether care homes were able to implement infection prevention and control measures	Green	Yes	Part of assurance process through SMBC Quality Team	SMBC	Ongoing process	
106	4.13	Access to support, including clinical support from primary care	Green	Yes	Part of assurance process through SMBC Quality Team	SMBC	Ongoing process	
107	4.14	The expanded offer of COVID-19 testing for all residents and asymptomatic staff	Green	Yes	Part of assurance process through SMBC Quality Team	SMBC	Ongoing process	
108	4.15	Their overall supply of medical and personal protective equipment and training to use it effectively	Green	Yes	Part of assurance process through SMBC Quality Team	SMBC	Ongoing process	