

## NATIONAL STEERING GROUP (CORONAVIRUS): MEETING NOTE (corrected)

WEDNESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> FEB 2020

**Action – Cheryl to take concern about care homes access to NHS111 to the relevant team in RWCS**

- Hard evidence of providers failing to get PPE they had paid for as it was requisitioned for the NHS

**Action – John to send details of the failed order for PPE to [NR]**

- Challenge in future when vaccines available – perception they have to pay and also too much effort to make an appointment at pharmacy – would like a workplace vaccination programme

**Action – [NR] (workforce) to look at option of workforce vaccination programme for social care workers**

- Providers are worried that CQC attitude to inspections. A Statement would be helpful, CQC use 3 principles to inform decisions about inspections so that CQC is focussing where there is a known risk and can make a difference. Comms are going out to providers today and is being shared with CPA in advance. This was sent out after the meeting and can be found here.
- Providers think they may have extra capacity and have found previously that such offers have not been taken up.

**Action – [NR] to discuss spare capacity in care homes with relevant person in ASC team**

### National update

- As part of ramping up arrangements in government we are formalising the governance structures for ASC. The DHSC and ADASS have agreed that we need to strengthen the well-established relationships with the social care sector that have worked so well through the work on EU Exit and broaden membership to include public health colleagues. A new formal steering group, co-chaired by Ros Roughton from DHSC and James Bullion from ADASS, will advise Government on the concerns of the sector, and steps that might be taken nationally to support commissioners and providers locally. The new group will take stock of need for one or more working groups / task and finish groups
- Separately MHCLG / DHSC have agreed to review a number of LRF plans
- Other possibilities discussed to support communications with the sector:
  - A series of workshops or shorter meetings to focus on issues that might arise in a RWCS – with operational staff from a number of different care settings
  - Webinars by sector of specific topics eg self-isolation
  - Make more use of CQC routes to get messages across
  - Tips on what to do if care provision needs to be brought in house as a result of provider failure

**Action – [NR] to provide 5 examples of great contingency plans prepared by LAs**

**Action – [NR] to follow up on what information went out to LRFs on the differences between pan-flu and coronavirus to aid contingency planning**

### AOB and next steps

**Action – [NR] to provide update on next meetings of this group after the first meeting of the national Social Care Coronavirus Planning Group**