

DRAFT

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Issue

1. This submission seeks approval from DHSC SoS and MHCLG SoS to make a further drop of PPE to Local Resilience Fora w/c 13 April 2020. Subsequent drops are expected to be needed over the next 4 weeks whilst the new on-line portal is tested and developed, and we will come back you for further approval.

Initial PPE drops to LRFs

2. The provision of PPE to non-NHS settings has been an issue with providers unable to source adequate supplies of PPE from the supply chain or the National Supply Disruption Response (NSDR) helpline.
3. Consequently, on 4 April 2020 a significant release of PPE to LRFs was authorised to help relieve local pressures on non-NHS settings. That PPE was aimed primarily at social care (care homes, home care, personal assistants etc) but also at children's homes, funeral directors, police, and others with a critical clinical need (including GPs). The release included 4m type IIR masks, 8 million aprons, 20m gloves, 2m eye protection, and 200k FFP3 masks.
4. That PPE was delivered in two phases over a week and we have since provided more guidance to LRFs in line with the agreed PPE prioritisation framework to help them with requests (see annex 2) – for example, clarifying that PPE could be distributed to GPs and to hospices. Data is being returned by the LRFs to MHCLG on stock distributed to the different provider types.
5. Logistics support is being provided to LRFs under an existing MACA for the receipt of stock and data returns.

Proposal

6. Subject to your approval, an initial drop on Wednesday 15 April 2020 can be made to 10 LRFs in the volumes set out in Annex 1. These 10 have been determined as a high priority based on their data returns and local intelligence.
7. It is proposed to send further stock to LRFs over the next week up to a maximum of 1m Type IIR masks, 1m aprons, 1m goggles and 4m gloves plus a smaller number of FFP3 masks (totals include volume to 10 priority LRFs above). This volume will need to be agreed with NHSE on 14 April 2020 but looks possible at present and is a much smaller volume than that sent in w/c 06/04. Further work is ongoing with MHCLG based on LRF data returns to determine the next set of LRFs that require PPE this week.
8. We will consider tomorrow if we need to provide LRFs with further guidance on prioritisation of this next delivery based on clinical advice and the stocks available for distribution. Further advice will be provided to DHSC and MHCLG SoS on this point if necessary but will be based on prioritising staff in contact with people with either confirmed or suspected symptoms of Covid-19.
9. Further advice will be provided on the need for further drops to LRFs in the coming weeks pending the new on-line PPE portal being available, and approval