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Update to Health & Social Care Scrutiny

Covid-19 - Adult Social Care response

November 2020





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ASC Update



We now have a comprehensive work plan underway to ensure we are prepared for further increases in Covid 19 cases, building on the findings from the ASC Covid Taskforce, the publication of the ASC Winter Plan and two Ministerial calls. We are currently undergoing an exercise to identify all people who might be vulnerable as the situation worsens, as part of our Silver arrangements. Sitting alongside this is another piece of work identifying the responses necessary across ASC as we move into another lockdown and associated impact that would have. This gives us a very detailed overview of adult need in Islington.

Both the Winter Plan and Task Force recommendations focus on our work with providers, and particularly infection control, and how we oversee and support providers. This includes,

- distributing and reporting on the distribution of infection control funding
- supporting providers with guidance as it emerges
- ensuring access to PPE by providers, either via the Portal or elsewhere
- supporting providers with testing availability according to appropriate guidelines
- promoting the use of the flu vaccine to the social care workforce
- supporting the re-opening of day/respice services where possible. Where not possible we are developing alternatives.
- working to prevent hospital admissions and supporting safe hospital discharges.



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Older People's Care Homes and Domiciliary Care



Older People's Care Homes and Domiciliary Care Overview

Older people's care homes

- There are eight older people's care homes in Islington – over the course of the pandemic **there have been COVID situations of varying scales in all homes**. Data reported does, however, show that **variation has reduced considerably following the large early outbreaks** in some homes, **with an overall reduction in the number of cases across all homes and, at home level, considerably smaller numbers of cases where situations have emerged**. The nature of cases reported has changed over time with a decrease in symptomatic residents presenting and an increase in asymptomatic residents identified through whole setting testing.
- Similarly, after a sharp increase in the number of COVID-related deaths in older people's care homes in the early phase of the pandemic, this has subsequently stabilised. **There have been no new resident COVID-related deaths since June**.
- **Staffing levels in Older People's care homes have remained generally stable** throughout the course of the pandemic.

Domiciliary care

- **Domiciliary care agencies report that they have cared for relatively low numbers of residents who have been confirmed COVID positive or who have been COVID symptomatic**.
- **Domiciliary care agencies have reported no COVID-related deaths of residents they care for to commissioners**.
- **After some initial workforce challenges in the sector staffing levels have stabilised and there is capacity within the market**.

Please see slides overleaf for information on COVID-related trends in older people's care homes.

Domiciliary care COVID testing update

The latest guidance from Public Health England shows that the prevalence of COVID positive homecare staff is in line with the general population. On this basis, **Public Health England are not recommending routine testing of homecare staff and there is no national pathway for domiciliary care staff testing akin to that which exists for care home staff.**

In light of local political interest, officers have, however, been exploring options for how testing could be undertaken, including...

- The Council has put in an expression of interest to participate in a mass asymptomatic testing trial – this could be used in part to support domiciliary care testing but logistics would need to be worked through and this would need to be balanced against other pressing local needs (e.g. testing of the education workforce.)

Feedback from providers:

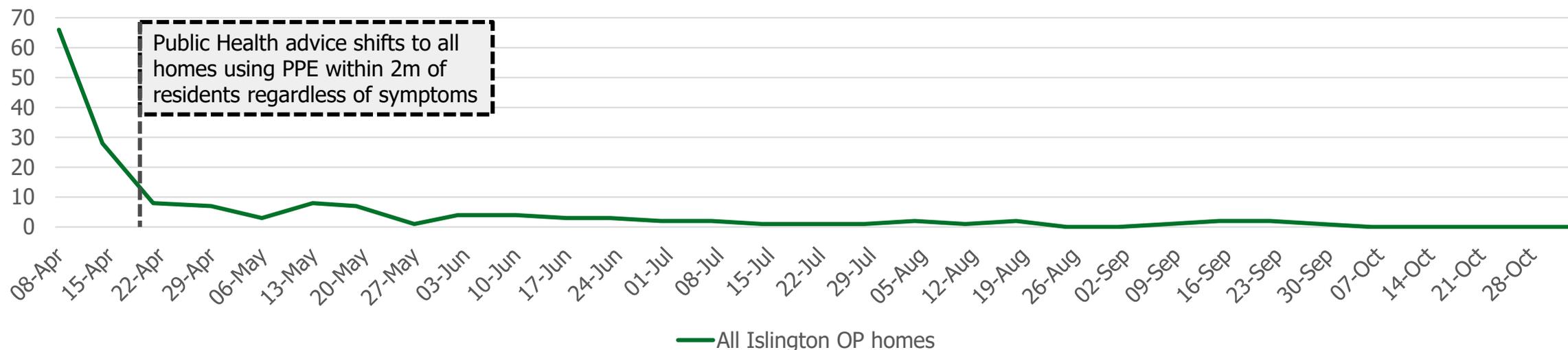
- **Temp Exchange** advise they are **routinely testing three workers a week** (at the Lea Valley test centre), **which is around 10% of their workforce.**
- Majority of homecare providers only test if; there is suspected symptoms of Covid-19, Flu symptoms or there has been contact with a symptomatic person.



In the interim, officers have shared information with providers on how to access the test site in Islington (at the Sobell Centre) in addition how to access additional testing sites via NCL arrangements.

OP home sector level trends – resident cases reported over time

COVID-19 resident cases (confirmed and suspected) reported to commissioners across all OP homes – weekly Gold report

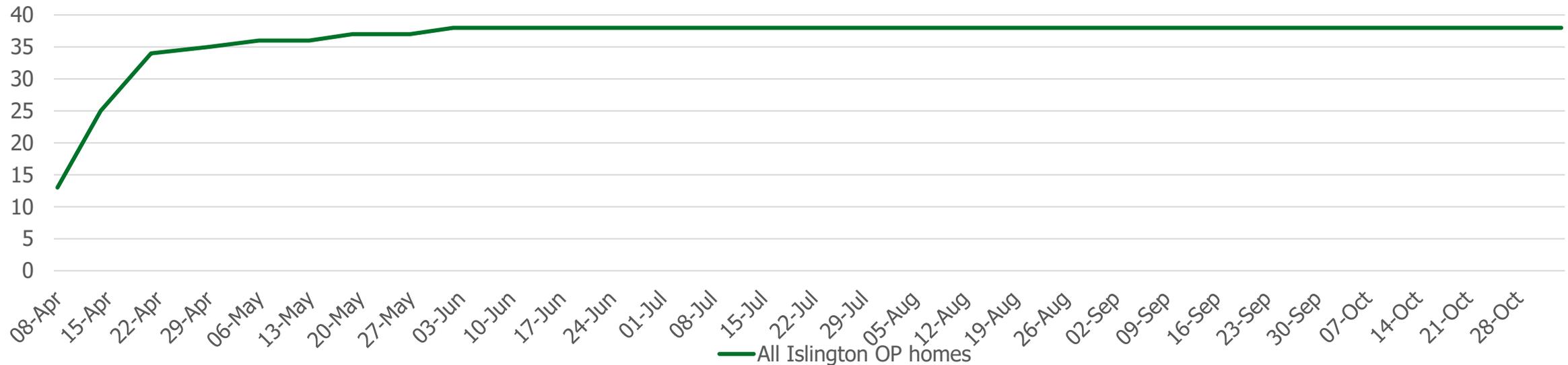


- All OP care homes have reported on the number of confirmed and suspected cases on a weekly basis to ASC commissioners since 8th April 2020. Prior to this, reporting was ad hoc, if there were cases suspected or confirmed. The above presents the total number of cases reported at weekly check ins, using the snapshot view to highlight trends. The above therefore may not accurately reflect day to day changes between value points.
- The data above includes confirmed and suspected cases – both symptomatic and asymptomatic. Changes reported week by week reflects that residents recovered, deteriorated and died, or testing clarified COVID status. It should be noted that limitations in the availability of testing and reliance on clinical judgement mean that this data, particularly earlier data, may not completely accurately reflect all COVID cases i.e. some suspected cases may not have been COVID-19 and some asymptomatic cases may not have been identified and there may variation in reporting.

There has been a considerable reduction in the overall number of COVID-19 cases reported in OP care homes from a peak of 66 suspected or confirmed cases reported in the first Gold report of the crisis to there being consistently no more than 8 cases reported in weekly snapshots since 21 April. The nature of cases reported has changed over time with a decrease in symptomatic residents presenting and an increase in asymptomatic residents identified.

OP home sector level trends – cumulative COVID-related resident deaths

Cumulative COVID resident deaths (confirmed and suspected) reported to commissioners all OP homes – Gold report



- All OP care homes have reported on the number of COVID-related resident deaths on a weekly basis to ASC commissioners since 8th April 2020. In the first report, commissioners asked providers to report on deaths that had occurred since 25 March 2020. The above presents the cumulative total COVID-19 deaths reported at weekly check ins, using the snapshot view to highlight trends. The above therefore may not accurately reflect day to day changes between value points.
- The data above includes both confirmed and suspected COVID-19 deaths. It should be noted that limitations in the availability of testing and reliance on clinical judgement mean that this data, particularly earlier data, may not completely accurately reflect all COVID deaths. Determining COVID's role in cause of death (e.g. where it was a secondary cause) is complex and there may be variation in reporting.

After a sharp increase in the number of confirmed and suspected COVID-related deaths early in the pandemic during widescale outbreaks in some homes, the number of new COVID-related deaths has stabilised with no new deaths reported since June 2020.



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Covid-19 Mental Health Care Homes Update



Home level COVID-19 impact table

| Home | Occupancy / Capacity | Current COVID-19 cases (03/11/20) | Total deaths to date (25/03/20 – 03/11/20) | Notes |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| Cardinal's Way – Havenbell | 3/3 | 0 cases. | No deaths to date | No new cases. No deaths. Testing as per national guidance. |
| Hilldrop Rd – St Mungo's | 27/29 | 0 cases. | No deaths to date | No new cases. No new deaths. Testing as per national guidance. |
| Hornsey Lane - Peabody | 12/12 | 0 cases. | No deaths to date | No new cases. No deaths. Testing as per national guidance. |
| New North Road – St Martin's of Tour | 12/12 | 0 cases. | No deaths to date | No new cases. No deaths. Testing as per national guidance. |
| Wilton Villas - – St Martin's of Tour | 12/12 | 0 cases. | No deaths to date | No new cases. No deaths. Testing as per national guidance. |

No resident or staff cases were reported in mental health care homes this week and there have been no deaths to date. Staffing levels remain steady. All homes are testing as per national guidance.



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Covid-19 Learning Disabilities Care Homes Update



Home level COVID-19 impact table

| Home | Occupancy / Capacity | Current COVID-19 cases (03/11/20) | Total deaths to date (25/03/20 – 03/11/20) | Notes |
|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| King Henry's Walk | 3/10 | 1 confirmed current staff case. | No deaths to date | No new cases – confirmed case reported on last week coming to end of isolation period. No deaths. Testing as per national guidance. |
| Wray Court | 8/8 | 0 cases. | No deaths to date | No new cases. No deaths. Testing as per national guidance. |
| Orchard Close | 6/7 | 0 cases. | No deaths to date | No new cases. No deaths. Testing as per national guidance. |

No new resident or staff cases. Staffing levels remain steady. All homes are testing as per national guidance.



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Thank You for listening

Any Questions?

