



ISLINGTON

# Update to Health & Social Care Scrutiny

## Adult Social Care: Covid-19 - Update

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June 2021



- **Work has been underway since mid-December 2020 with local partners to prepare for and roll out COVID vaccinations to local residents and care staff. First and second doses have been offered to:**
  - **All care home residents (OP/MH/LD).**
  - **All residents living in extra care.**
  - **All supported living residents.**
  - **All residents in commissioned supported housing.**
- **Commissioners are continuing to promote vaccination to local frontline health and care staff – including via local pop-ups.**
- **The Learning Disabilities (LD) Team have been working with local health partners to vaccinate residents with LD in the community e.g. arranging specific clinics, hosting a webinar, work on desensitisation for needle-phobic residents.**
- **Officers, in partnership with local services are promoting access to vaccines for unpaid carers.**

**Officers will continue to work at pace with local and NCL partners to promote vaccination uptake amongst eligible groups.**

# 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.**
- There was an increase in care home resident cases in late December 2020/January 2021 – this was likely linked to significantly increased rates of community transmission. **Since February 2021 there have been very few cases – all of which have been asymptomatic.**
- **There have been no new deaths since the start of February.**
- **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.**
- **Staffing levels in Older People's care homes have remained generally stable** throughout the course of the pandemic.
- There has been **extensive proactive work across Adult Social Care and Public Health to support care homes** – including with provision of bespoke clinical and infection prevention and control support and advice.

## Mental Health and Learning Disabilities Care Homes

- There are **three learning disabilities care homes and five mental health care homes registered with the Care Quality Commission in Islington.**
- Over recent months there have been **small numbers of resident and staff cases identified via routine testing in these settings.** In all instances services have been supported by the local Public Health and Adult Social Care teams to ensure all appropriate steps are taken to reduce COVID risks.
- **There have been no COVID-related deaths in mental health or learning disabilities care homes in Islington.**
- **Staffing levels remain stable.**

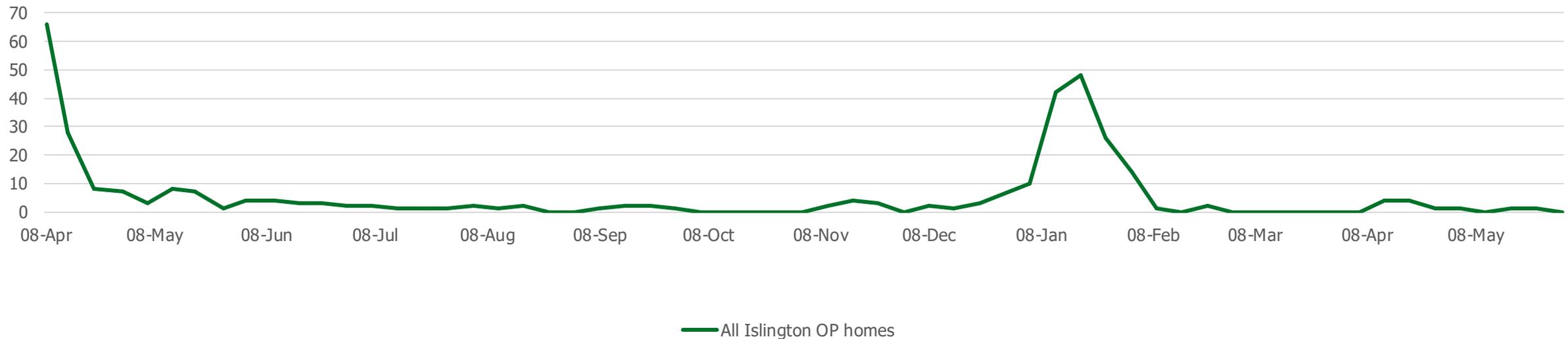
## Domiciliary care

- **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.**

# 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

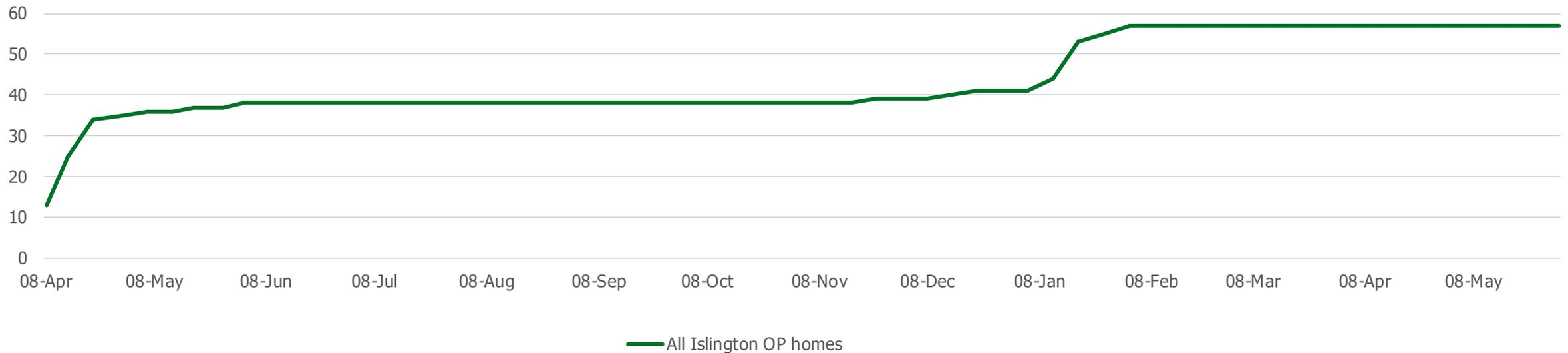


- All OP care homes have reported on the number of confirmed and suspected cases on a weekly basis to ASC commissioners since 8<sup>th</sup> April 2020. Prior to this, reporting was ad hoc, if there were cases suspected or confirmed. The above presents the total number of cases reported at weekly check 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 was an increase in care home resident cases in late December 2020/January 2021 – this was likely linked to significantly increased rates of community transmission. Since February 2021 there have been very few cases – all of which have been asymptomatic. There are no current resident cases.**

# 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 period of relative stability from April to November there was sadly an increase in the number of COVID-related resident deaths throughout December 2020 and January 2021, primarily linked to two large outbreaks. There have been no new deaths since the start of February.**



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