

Provider Call Covid-19 – Call 24

Chairs	Sophie Chester-Glyn (Manor Community & Coproduce Care) sophie@coproducecare.com David Smallacombe (Care & Support West) david.smallacombe@careandsupportwest.com
Date	13.01.2021
Time	12:00pm – 1:50pm

(please note that the speakers have not verified these minutes)

You can watch the meeting back on this link → Recording: [Provider Call 13/01/2021 - YouTube](#)

Please fill out this survey on who you want to hear from next:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/PPFN33Z>

Email any feedback or ideas to: ella@coproducecare.com

Speakers:

- **Richard Deverson** - Care Provider at Windmill Care
- **Clare Armour** - BNSSG Programme Lead at North Bristol NHS Trust
- **Carol Slater** - Public Health lead, Bristol
- **Helen Tapson** - Public Health Registrar, South Glos
- **Jon Roberts** - Screening and Immunisation Lead, PHE South West
- **Sarah Weld** - Deputy Director/Consultant in Public Health, South Glos
- **Lucy Murrell** - Nurse Advisor, Avon Local Medical Committee
- **Dr Andrew Davidson** - Virologist from Bristol University

Sophie Chester-Glyn ([Coproduce Care](#) and [Manor Community](#))

Update from Sophie:

- Calls going to be every month now instead.
- All calls will be recorded now.
- Next month talk about long covid.
- Coproduce Care livestreams coming up – Andy Burnham 19th January at 7pm and Maternity livestream 20th January at 6:30pm.
- Skills for Care webinars 19th January, 9th February and 23rd February. Can sign up on Skills for Care website.

David Smallacombe ([Care and Support West](#)).

Update from David:

- Quite a lot of new members joining recently.
- Still working with Bristol City Council on outbreak plan.
- Just started working with North Somerset council.
- Recently working with the learning academy, learning much more about training courses.
- Continue to meet with all directors on adult social care.
- Awards nominations for this year are open again.
- Conference dated for June, likely going to be a remote conference.

Richard Deverson (Care Provider at Windmill Care)

Update from Richard:

- Operations Director of Windmill Care. Got 3 homes Windmill House, Osborne Court and The Meadows. Provider of elderly care all in South Glos.
- Had positive cases amongst staff around 16%.
- Furlough system was a nightmare, furloughed 3 staff.
- Have experienced outbreaks. Sadly lost 3 residents in April and another 3 in October.
- Had to close the home to visitors just before Christmas.
- Staff objections of the vaccine.
- Got 60% vaccinations done so far but this will go up in the next few days.
- Expectation of all has been safety from the start. Used masks before told to which was a risk of running out.
- Testing gave huge move forward.

Clare Armour (BNSSG Programme Lead at North Bristol NHS Trust) & **Carol Slater** (Public Health lead, Bristol) & **Helen Tapson** (Public Health Registrar, South Glos) & **Jon Roberts** (Screening and Immunisation Lead, PHE South West)

Update from Clare, Carol, Helen and Jon:

- Clare giving an overview of programme. Very fast moving.
- Trying to vaccinate as many people as possible.
- Went through the different positions, which you can view on the slides.
- Prioritising over 80's and people in care homes at the moment.
- Went through mass vaccination clinical model, which you can also view on the slides.

- Have to vaccinate everyone in priority cohorts by mid February. This will be 214,000 vaccinations (just the first vaccine).
- Hospital hubs are live.
- Further hospital hubs and mobile roll outs tbc still.
- 70% of care homes have had a vaccination.

Q. We support deaf blind people in their own homes, how do we get staff on the vaccination programme?

A. At the moment it is for elderly but we can look into this if it is for clinically vulnerable so happy for you to email.

Q. Can you advise how we arrange vaccination for CVP for LD in the community that are not understanding the risks?

A. If they are clinically extremely vulnerable, they will be in one of the top cohorts. May be helpful again for you to email.

Q. We've had an outbreak, can you confirm protocol for the vaccine if there is an outbreak?

A. If you want to send an email on what home it is, I can look into it more. Risk assessment is done on each home.

Comments on how well it is being run at Southmead and Ashton Gate.

Jon Roberts (Screening and Immunisation Lead, PHE South West)

Update from Jon:

- Discuss some issues that are coming up about the vaccine.
- Hearing as the most common myths, happy to put a document together to go through more detail.
- Some of the myths are quite extreme, most common concerns are around side effects.
- The technology is already developed (myths about it taking 10 years), not starting from scratch and doesn't apply in a pandemic situation.
- If you are going to have a side effect from a vaccine, it usually occurs quite quickly.

Carol Slater (Public Health lead, Bristol)

Update from Carol:

- Sophie mentioned about setting up a Coproduce Care Q&A to discuss myth busting and it would be good to get involved. Carol said it was a really good idea

and the Deputy Mayor has set something similar up on the 26th January and has managed to get the research scientists from Pfizer on a panel, this is an open invitation.

Q. Jon, Some BAME staff have commented that they do not feel that the vaccine has been tested on people of the same background as them. Can top level data be made available on demographics of volunteers in the vaccine trials?

A. Not seen the breakdown of the trials, vaccine has been given to 2.5 million across the country so far. Can try and find out trial data. Seeing large scale rollout now so would have seen any side effects by now.

Q. Residents who live at home and are on Direct Payments, and employ their own carers, are asking when their support workers will be vaccinated?

A. Clare said these people are on the list and will definitely be contacted.

Q. Some of our service users are allergic to penicillin. I am assuming this will not be a problem for them receiving the vaccination?

A. Jon said no, only people who have a documented anaphylaxis reaction. Doctor will go through this with them.

Helen Tapson (Public Health Registrar, South Glos)

Update from Helen:

- Been asked by people once they've had the vaccine, can they go back to no PPE etc. The answer is no, not yet, not at this stage.
- Other question is what does a positive test result mean after being vaccinated. The answer is a positive test result means a positive test result even if you have just been vaccinated, still have to do all the same precautions.

Q. So is the mid Feb date for residential care services for people with learning disabilities as well?

A. Understanding is that LD is in the at risk group which is group 6. The 24/7 process will speed this up.

Sarah Weld (Deputy Director/Consultant in Public Health, South Glos)

Update from Sarah:

- Seeing increased rates within BNSSG which you may have seen on the news.
- Local data link and graph is on the slides, which will be shared.
- Starting to see a stabilise of rates, lockdown seems to be working.
- Key message is prevention. Once it gets into a setting, particularly in care homes.

- Currently supporting a number of homes with outbreaks.
- Staff must socially distance at all times.
- Keeping areas well ventilated.

Q. Was waiting for an email with a staff list for vaccinations, instead have received an email where staff have to individually book in at Ashton Gate, the booking system is not good if you don't have time, sitting on the computer all day to see when new appointments are available. System is not working for Dom Care.

A. LA's are working closely with the NHS on staff who are eligible. It's coming down the line to hopefully get a better booking system. Will feed it back as well.

Lucy Murrell (Nurse Advisor, Avon Local Medical Committee)

Update from Lucy:

- Clinical directors from each PCN have developed their own plans on how they are going to roll out the vaccinations in their local area.
- So far most have been using Pfizer, as there has been more available but more AstraZeneca available now and easier to move.
- Clinical directors would like to vaccinate all people in care homes. If there is a team in the social care setting, they should vaccinate all residents if they are over 80s but not if it's just a home with under 65s.
- Understanding there are problems with front line staff getting vaccinations so would be interesting to know what's going on to see if we can help.

Dr Andrew Davidson (Virologist from Bristol University)

Update from Andrew:

- Just over a year since Coronavirus first emerged in China.
- Been busiest year of research career so far.
- Been working on Coronaviruses for more than 20 years, different ranges of Coronavirus.
- Looking into study now with healthcare workers who have had the vaccine and how long they stay immune for.
- Heavily involved in looking into evolution of the virus and interested in looking into the new variant of the virus in the UK.

Q. PCR test, and controversy of accuracy of LFT, difference of these tests?

A. Compared them in the lab myself, LFT is more than 1000 less sensitive than PCR. If you have symptoms then you will be picked up by the lateral flow. If you get a negative test, you should act how you should be.

Q. Heard they can be affected by fizzy drinks? (LFT)

A. Not sure, if you've had a drink before testing it is possible it can dilute the virus. Don't think these should be infected by fizzy drink as it is a nasal swab.

Q. How protected people are after the first jab?

A. Depends on the vaccine, AstraZeneca, didn't actually give them a second boost until 12 weeks and they had good protection up to that point. The Pfizer vaccine hasn't really tested that. Lot of debate about this. Should be well protected after first jab.

Q. Long Covid, anything we need to look out for?

A. Can be long term affects, range of different things but still don't really understand enough. Studies showing which people are more likely to suffer from long Covid and it would be people with breathing difficulties.

Summary

- Questions efficacy /frequency of LFT and PCR testing
- Managers are doing an incredible job under the circumstances
- Current guidance around shielding and furlough
- Questions around vaccine efficacy and distribution
- Questions around what staff can and can't do after getting vaccine

Links

- Sign up for the next meeting: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/135694709529>
- Andy Burnham livestream: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dcNofi1o-Mk>
- Maternity livestream: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GgF5nnAmaKw>
- 19th January Skills for Care sign up:
<https://events.skillsforcare.org.uk/skillsforcare/frontend/reg/thome.csp?pageID=336134&eventID=1080>
- <https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/publication/guidance-for-covid-19-vaccination-in-care-homes-that-have-cases-and-outbreaks/>

Chat

- Hi, a question on LFT please. Hearing mixed feedback around the testing you should do following a period of a positive PCR staff test and after the isolation period. Guidance says

not to retest for 90 for PCR, but can do LFT. However, some homes have phoned PHE for guidance for what to do if same staff get a positive LFT? You aren't able to then do a confirmatory PCR. Some have been told to not do either for 90 days. Thoughts please so we are forearmed for this event. thanks

- If you are interested in sending in a clip of yourself asking a question for a livestream we may play it live! you email hi@coproducecare.com or send it to the Copro phone over whatsapp on +44 7537 130213. Thanks again and hope you enjoy the streams!
- We have been really lucky and all our residents have had both vaccines. All staff have been offered the vaccine and almost all staff have had theirs (2 waiting for 2nd vaccine, 2 refused and 1 has to wait for Oxford vaccine c/o allergies)
- We support deafblind people in their own homes and have to get close for communication. We was wondering how we can get our staff on the local vaccination programme as we support in various areas around the country
- This squares exactly with what Q Training's assessors and myself see when we visit your three homes. Home managers etc and yourselves are doing an amazing job and the role of Home Managers as Expectation Manager is so very true
- Can anyone help? Apparently there is current guidance that states: 'If you have staff costs that are publicly funded (even if you're not in the public sector), you should use that money to continue paying your staff, and not furlough your staff.' As I recall we had this last time staff were being asked to shield and further guidance was published that excluded social care as it recognised that this would be unviable for these services as they would not only have to pay that staff member but also their replacement ...
- I asked this on the WhatsApp group yesterday ... I'm still trying to find out whether there is any definitive guidance this time around that states that social care services can furlough their staff.
- Can you please advise how we arrange vaccination for CEV people with LD living in the community. Higher risk as do not fully under the risks and regulations so not effectively shielding. Not over 70, but very complex health.
- Is there any more news on funding? We saw that more information should be coming out but I've seen nothing as yet. The last amount given was allocated to support our changing room and doesn't cover full costs of that so no scope to support anything else at present. Seeing that we should be paying for the additional time for LFT etc so

assume this new fund would go towards that, be great to know details and what is coming.

- We are continuing to furlough and will fight it down the line if there is an issue. Have you checked with Royds for confirmation?
- We have an outbreak in a home and have been told that we can't have the vaccine until that is over. I know other providers, in similar positions, have had the vaccines despite outbreaks. Can you confirm what the protocol is or point to guidance that we can share?
- I just wanted to say how well run the vaccination process set up at Southmead Hospital has been organised. very smooth process with very helpful staff
- I would echo that at Ashton Gate. Exceptionally well organised with kind and enthusiastic staff.
- So is the mid Feb date for residential care services for people with learning disabilities as well?
- Residents who live at home and are on Direct Payments, and employ their own carers, are asking when their support workers will be vaccinated.
- Jon, Some BAME staff have commented that they do not feel that the vaccine has been tested on people of the same background as them. Can top level data be made available on demographics of volunteers in the vaccine trials?
- Some of our service users are allergic to penicillin. I am assuming this will not be a problem for them receiving the vaccination
- That document would be good
- What date was that again please for the Q&A?
- I think it is about high level comms
- Can CEV staff come back to work once they are vaccinated, working in a care home?
- am I right in thinking that once receiving the vaccine you are not immune from getting the virus but the impact of the virus should be less?

- Clinical extremely vulnerable (CEV)
- I am not sure why NHS staff working in back office jobs, working from home are receiving vaccinations NOW when health and social care workers working in supported living with vulnerable LD adults are lower down the list?
- apologies I need to leave for another meeting, if you can capture these questions we can ensure they are addressed in the FAQ that Jon will develop
- I heard they can be affected by soft/fizzy drinks - is this a myth?
- LFT
- Yes showing positive on LFT
- Bristol Health & Wellbeing Board Stakeholder event on Feb 2nd. Info will be going out shortly, and all welcome.