

Oxfordshire County Council  
County Hall  
New Road  
Oxford  
OX1 1ND

**To all contracted Social Care  
providers working in Oxfordshire**

**Stephen T Chandler  
Corporate Director of Adults  
and Housing Services**

**27<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

Dear Colleague

### **Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

I just wanted to write to you regarding the media attention on Coronavirus and a recent precautionary school closure in Burford, Oxfordshire.

I thought it would be useful to share a communication that has come from the County Council's Director for Public Health last night in respect of Burford School and Coronavirus in general.

#### **"Message from Director of Public Health – 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

*You may be aware of the closure decision taken by Burford School in West Oxfordshire. The school made this decision as a result of a recent visit to Italy by a pupil who then developed flu like symptoms. We will continue to support the school and the community in anyway we can by working with our key partner agencies.*

*Can I take the opportunity to emphasise there is no need for concern. There are large number Coronavirus tests are carried out across the country and vast majority of these tests are confirmed negative. If you need reliable advice and information on Coronavirus please visit the website below, which will give you the most up to date information.*

[www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

*The website will provide you reliable information about when you need to self-isolate and take necessary precautions if you have travelled from an affected area. This information is updated everyday at 2pm as the situation changes. Other than this there is no need to make any changes to your normal day to day activity and living unless specifically contacted by Public Health England (PHE).*

*As of 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020, PHE have not advised any schools in Oxfordshire to close due to suspected cases of Coronavirus. All schools are provided with the following PHE DfE guidance on <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19> including section 5 and 6 on suspected and confirmed cases.*

*The Government and the NHS are fully prepared to deal with this virus. You can also help yourself by taking the usual precautionary measures that would help slow the spread of almost any germs, including Coronavirus:*

- *Always carry tissues to catch your cough or sneeze*
- *Bin used tissues as quickly as possible*
- *Wash your hands often with warm water and soap*

If you do have any questions regarding the delivery of care in Oxfordshire in light of developments around Coronavirus then you can contact my team using [contracts.admin@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:contracts.admin@oxfordshire.gov.uk) .

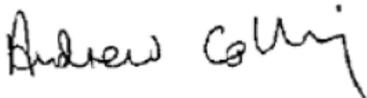
We are liaising closely with our Public Health colleagues in County Hall and we will respond accordingly.

Finally, the government has pointed to information on its website for social care providers which you may have seen already, but I am including as a link below

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-social-or-community-care-and-residential-settings-on-covid-19/guidance-for-social-or-community-care-and-residential-settings-on-covid-19>

I hope you find the above information useful and please do contact us if you have any concerns.

Yours sincerely,



Andrew Colling  
Head of Quality & Contracts, Commissioning

Email: [Andrew.colling@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Andrew.colling@oxfordshire.gov.uk)