



**To all Social Care Providers
working in Oxfordshire**

Oxfordshire County Council
County Hall
New Road
Oxford
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**Stephen T Chandler
Corporate Director for Adult
Services & Housing**

2 November 2020

Dear Colleague

New national restrictions from 5th November

As you will be aware, the Prime Minister has announced a four-week national lockdown for England, with strict new measures coming into force from Thursday. The move comes in the wake of rapidly rising infection levels across the country and a significant rise in hospital admissions and you can read more about the new restrictions on the [gov.uk website](#). The lockdown measures, which are subject to a vote in Parliament on Wednesday, are expected to last until 2nd December 2020, although this date will undoubtably be kept under review.

Whilst we are awaiting further details and guidance regarding this new period of restriction, we do recognise that the introduction of strict new measures will not be easy for our residents or our providers. Until such time as we receive confirmation of the decision and new guidance from government the current escalation levels remain in force including the Tier 2 Level for Oxford City area.

When I heard the announcement, I reflected on the way in which we had collectively responded in Oxfordshire to the last period of national restrictions. I know and have heard how you and your staff carried out some fantastic work to support those most vulnerable and I know that we can respond in the same way again. I do feel that we have the learning and experience from the 'First Wave' to help us through the coming weeks and I know that this learning will be used to good effect.

In Adult Services we have retained the Provider Hub within Commissioning that will continue to act as the focal point for any questions or escalations. It can be contacted using asccovid19@oxfordshire.gov.uk. I would encourage you to use this email address as the main contact point for enquiries, and any questions received will be logged and responded to as soon as possible.

I want to assure you that we are working alongside our partners in Public Health, Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust, Oxford Health NHS Trust and with our District Council colleagues to make sure that we are best prepared for the winter period and have a robust response to any challenges that we may face during the coming weeks and months.

I will write to you again regarding the above, but in the meantime I know that I can rely on you to work alongside us to support and care for those most vulnerable, often going 'the extra mile' as you have done throughout this year.

Please do pass on my thanks and best wishes to all your staff for the commitment they are showing and the great work they are doing.

Best wishes



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