



*Pennaeth Comisiynu (plant ac oedolion)*  
*Head of Commissioning (children & adults)*  
*Dylan Owen*

Neuadd y Sir / County Hall  
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Powys  
LD1 5LG

To all recipients of a Direct Payments via  
Powys County Council

*Ffôn / Tel : 01597 826058*

*E-bost / E-mail :*

[PCCSSCommissioning@powys.gov.uk](mailto:PCCSSCommissioning@powys.gov.uk)

*Eich cyf / Your ref :*

*Ein cyf / Our ref :*

*Dyddiad / Date : 9<sup>th</sup> April 2020*

*Os yn galw gofynnwch am /*

*If calling please ask for: [Chris Gough/Joanna Harris](#)*

Dear Sir/Madam,

### **Social Care testing for COVID-19**

Please find attached details regarding Social Care testing for COVID-19, which is now available for frontline social care staff. This letter contains information regarding the process to be followed in order to access the testing, which is being coordinated by the local authority.

The COVID-19 testing is currently **ONLY** available to staff (Personal Assistants) who meet **all three** of the following criteria outlined below (first priority stage).

### **COVID-19 Symptomatic staff within 4 days of onset**

Staff with either:

- A high temperature, where you feel hot to touch on your chest or back, equal to or greater than **37.8°C**
- A new or continuous cough, this means coughing a lot for more than an hour or three or more coughing bouts in 24 hours. If you usually have a cough it may be worse than usual.

**AND**

### **Area of Work <sup>\*\*</sup>**

Social Care workers involved in frontline resident facing care working in the **following areas** can be considered for testing:

- Residential and Nursing home including Children Homes/Fostering

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- Domiciliary care workers/Personal Assistants, including those procured through a direct payment
- Safeguarding
- Mental Health Act Assessment

**AND**

**Job Role \*\***

Social care workers in frontline resident facing care roles in one of the following occupations:

- Foster Carers
- Front line care staff
- Personal Assistants working through a direct payment
- Staff in extra care/supported living environment
- Catering/cleaning staff in care homes
- Critical Social Workers
- AMPHS

**COVID-19 self-isolating staff in the areas of work / occupations identified \*\* & whose household contact is COVID symptomatic (within 4 days of onset) and aged 16 years or over.**

Testing may be considered of the household contact (subject to the consent of the contact). Based on the result being negative this may release the care worker to return to work before the 14 days isolation period.

Please also find attached the privacy notice and referral form. Please ask staff members who meet the above criteria and who are requesting testing to complete this form in full and return to [PCCSSCommissioning@powys.gov.uk](mailto:PCCSSCommissioning@powys.gov.uk).

Completed forms will be triaged, prioritised and forwarded on to the relevant officers so that testing can be arranged. Staff members will be contacted directly to arrange for testing.

Yours faithfully

Dylan Owen

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