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FAO All Somerset Residential and Nursing Care Home providers – Funding announcement and survey requirements

Following the announcement of further funding for the social care sector last week, we continue to receive the guidance and requirements for its distribution and reporting. We have been made aware that the CQC should be writing to all care home providers with an ask to fill in some additional questions and information on the capacity tracker. This information will be automatically fed back to the Local Authority and will form part of our return and report to NHSE. The questions are not onerous but local authorities require a high completion rate in order to be able to report accurately and in accordance with the national dataset. I enclose a screenshot the draft template that has been forwarded to SCC as a guide but please **ONLY** complete the questions on the Capacity Tracker online and **do not** return this template as it will not be recorded.

Please use the following link to register for the Capacity Tracker:

<https://carehomes.necu.nhs.uk/home>

The current funding proposal is for us to receive this additional funding in tranches, and we are keen to ensure that Somerset receives its allocation as soon as possible. The distribution formula focusses heavily on care homes and bed numbers with 75% of the funding ringfenced for this purpose. We intend to discuss the remaining 25% with the RCPA and others but clearly we would like to support other types of social care provision and support where we can.

Therefore, we need all of your support to ensure the swift and fair distribution of this funding and the following steps detail what actions we need to take and a timeline. We

must stress that this information is still coming through and may be liable to change but given the tight timelines we wanted to communicate with you all as soon as possible.
Current timeline:

- CQC to write to all providers on 21/05/20 asking them to complete the additional information on the capacity tracker portal
- **All responses must be filled in by close of business on 26/05/2020**
- Somerset County Council to receive and collate responses and auto-populate the NHSE template
- Somerset County Council to compose and co-produce a covering letter for the return
- Providers to be invited to comment on the draft return at a webinar from 16:00-17:00 on 28/05/2020. A link to the webinar will be posted on the [COVID-19 provider information page](#). This webinar is about the Capacity Tracker and therefore only of interest to providers of residential care and nursing care. **If you do not provide either of these services please do not join the webinar.**
- **Somerset County Council return due by close of business on 29/05/2020**

As ever we have had no control on these particular national timelines and apologise for the short notice, but we are endeavouring to do our best for our providers in Somerset, and to highlight the excellent joint working that you have all contributed to over the last couple of months.

A huge thank you to the 90% of you who are now registered with the capacity tracker and as ever a massive thank you for continuing to support our residents throughout this difficult period.

Yours sincerely



Mel Lock
Interim Director of Adults Social Care
Lead Commissioner for Adults and Health

Enc:

- Screenshot of draft questions