

**FOR PUBLICATION**

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**CABINET MEMBER**

**23 June 2022**

**Report of the Executive Director for Adult Social Care & Health**

**Review of urgent officer decisions  
taken to support covid-19 response**

**Adult Care**

**1. Divisions Affected**

1.1 County-wide

**2. Key Decision**

2.1 This is not a Key Decision.

**3. Purpose**

3.1 The purpose of the report is to provide the Cabinet Member with an update in relation to those actions which were the subject of Officer's Decisions utilising emergency decision making powers as detailed in the constitution and to provide assurance in relation to the reviews which have been undertaken.

**4. Information and Analysis**

4.1 The challenges relating to the COVID-19 pandemic necessitated urgent decision-making processes by the Executive Director for Adult Social Care and Health to be implemented to ensure the welfare of service users and the public and to safeguard the interests of the Council. The decisions have been made under the urgent delegated powers to Executive Directors as set out in the Constitution.

- 4.2 In the main, the decisions relate to short-term temporary arrangements which are subject to regular review. This is particularly important where subsequent Government guidance has been issued notably in the area of Adult Social Care.
- 4.3 However, it is important that officer decisions are kept under regular review by elected members and officers. At the 4 June 2020 Cabinet meeting it was agreed that Cabinet would formally delegate review decisions to the relevant Cabinet Member meeting as these were meetings held in public, virtually if necessary, to ensure maximum transparency. A summary of review decisions made by Cabinet members will be reported to Cabinet every two months. As a further safeguard any significant reductions in service that have been reviewed and substantially maintained over any eight-week period will be referred to Cabinet as soon as possible after the eight-week period for ratification.
- 4.4 Below, in table 1, is an update on the review that has taken place since the last Cabinet Member meeting week beginning 16 May 2022. All review decisions to date have been discussed with the Executive Director and Cabinet Member following review by the Departmental Management Team. Since the start of the Covid Pandemic, decisions within this report have been reviewed by Cabinet Member every 2 weeks. From 24 June 2021 onwards, this moved to a monthly review, by both the Senior management Team and Cabinet Member.
- 4.5 A copy of the most up to date version of the Officer Decision Records is attached as Appendix 1.

**Table 1: Summary of officer decision record reviews.**

<p>Cessation of planned respite breaks services for Older Adults and people with a Learning Disability (ASCODR4)</p>	<p>This has been reviewed on forty seven occasions by the Adult Social Care and Health Senior Management Team.</p> <p>The latest review on week beginning 20 June 2022 notes that short break placements are being offered at three of the four residential units for people with a learning disability (Newhall Bungalow, Petersham and Morewood). Work continues to resume the offer of placements at the remaining unit.</p> <p>For Older Adults, communications have been shared across our DCC and private care home providers and assessment teams to confirm that conversations can resume with people about their requirements for respite and arrangements can be supported for people to access pre-arranged respite where this is appropriate.</p>
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	As such there is no further decision to review and this will now be removed from the Officer Decision records.
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4.6 Feedback from Principal Social Worker. The Principal Social Worker has been engaged and consulted with over the initial decisions and has reviewed these latest updates. The Principal Social Worker is satisfied that the original decisions have been made with due regard for the Department of Health and Social Care Ethical Framework.

## **5. Consultation**

5.1 Consultation was not required due to the nature of these Officer Decisions.

## **6. Alternative Options Considered**

6.1 There are two options available with regards the reporting of Urgent Officer Decisions – not to report them or to report to the Council’s cabinet, neither of which would not be in line with the Council’s Constitution.

## **7. Implications**

7.1 Appendix 1 sets out the relevant implications considered in the preparation of the report.

## **8. Background Papers**

8.1 Officer Decision Records considered by Cabinet on 23 April 2020, 14 May 2020 and 4 June 2020 and published on the county council website.

8.2 Officer Decision Record considered by Cabinet Member 25 June 2020 and published on the county council website.

8.3 Decision making process during Covid Epidemic – report to Cabinet 4 June 2020

8.4 Review of urgent officer decisions taken to support COVID-19 Response – report to Cabinet Member 11, 25 June and 9 and 24 July 2020.

8.5 Cabinet Report - 30 July and associated Equality Impact Assessments

8.6 Equality Impact Analysis – Urgent decisions in relation to council services, functions and assistance

8.7 Withdrawal of bi-weekly review of specific Urgent Officer Decisions during the Coronavirus Pandemic - Report to Cabinet 11 March 2021

## **9. Appendices**

9.1 Appendix 1 – Implications

9.2 Appendix 2 – Copy of Officer Decision Records

## **10. Recommendation(s)**

That the Cabinet Member for Adult Care:

- a) Notes the remaining review of a decision made under urgent delegated powers arising from the COVID-19 Pandemic has been closed and no further reviews will be required.

## **11. Reasons for Recommendation(s)**

11.1 During the Covid-19 pandemic several urgent officer decisions were made by the Executive Director for Adult Social Care and Health. These decisions could not be made through the Council's normal democratic procedures due to the impact of the pandemic on democratic procedures. The two decisions remaining are currently static.

11.2 The Officer Decisions have been continually reviewed on a fortnightly and now monthly basis by the Executive Director for Adult Social Care and Health and their Senior Management Team. These are routinely reported to the Cabinet member at their monthly meeting. Where a decision no longer requires to remain in place this will be reported to the Cabinet Member and removed from future summary reports.

## **12. Is it necessary to waive the call in period?**

12.1 No

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**This report has been approved by the following officers:**

**On behalf of:**

Director of Legal Services and Monitoring  
Officer

Director of Finance and ICT  
Managing Executive Director  
Executive Director(s)

## **Implications**

### **Financial**

- 1.1 As part of the urgent officer decision-making process, regard has been had to financial implications and these are detailed where appropriate on the original Officer Decisions.

### **Legal**

- 2.1 The reviews of the Officer Decisions made under powers delegated to officers in accordance with the Constitution have ensured that timely consideration is given to the necessity and proportionality of the continuation of those actions outlined in the Officer Decision Records.
- 2.2 The Council's Constitution provides that "notwithstanding any other provision of the Constitution Strategic Directors shall have the power, after discussion, if practicable, with the Leader of the Council or the relevant Cabinet Member or Chair, to take such actions deemed to be necessary and expedient in matters requiring urgent consideration and which, because of the timescale involved, or the need to safeguard the interests of the County Council, cannot be dealt with by submission to the next following meeting of the Council, Cabinet, Cabinet Member or Committee."
- 2.3 The preparation of an Equalities Impact Assessment in relation to all the Officer Decisions made using urgent delegated powers has been undertaken and will continue to inform decision making.

### **Human Resources**

- 3.1 As part of the urgent officer decision-making process, regard has been had to human resources implications and these are detailed where appropriate on the original Officer Decisions.

### **Information Technology**

- 4.1 There are no Information Technology considerations associated with this report

## Equalities Impact

5.1 As part of the urgent officer decision making process, regard has been given to equality implications within the demand time scales applying. A consolidated Equality Impact Assessment is in development and was reported to the 4 June 2020 Cabinet meeting. Specific EIAs in relation to the decisions that affect visiting restrictions at older people's care homes, the closure of day centres and the closure of respite provision have been developed alongside a more comprehensive covering report.

## Corporate objectives and priorities for change

6.1 There are no Corporate objectives and priorities for change considerations associated with this report.

## Other (for example, Health and Safety, Environmental Sustainability, Property and Asset Management, Risk Management and Safeguarding)

7.1 In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: Social Value, Human Rights, equality of opportunity, health, environmental, transport, property, social value and crime and disorder considerations.

## Report Sign Off and Version Control

Report Title	Review of urgent officer decisions taken to support covid-19 response
Author	Rebecca Toms- Service Manager ASCH Transformation
Meeting and Date	Week beginning 10 January 2022
Version	0.1
Key Decision (published)	No
Exempt item (notice of private meeting published)	No

Implications	Name and Comments	Date Approved
Finance		
Legal		
Human Resources		
Information Technology		

Equalities		
Corporate Objectives and priorities for change		
Consultation		
Other – please specify		

Author's Directorate Sign Off

		Date
Managing Executive Director/Executive Director		
DMT – if applicable		
CMT – if applicable		
Cabinet Member briefed		
Other – please specify		



Copy of Officer Decision Records

Derbyshire County Council  
Officer Decision and Decision Review Record

Officer: Simon Stevens	Service: Adult Social Care
Delegated Power Being Exercised: Significant management decisions which could have an adverse or controversial impact on the delivery of services or achievement of agreed targets	
Day Care - Temporary Closure / cessation of Service	
Subject of Decision: (i.e. services affected)	Service closure – planned respite.
Is this a review of a decision? If so, what was the date of the original decision?	Yes, review of decision made 23/03/2020
Key decision? If so have Democratic Services been notified?	Yes – it will be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more electoral divisions in the county area.
Decision Taken (specify precise details, including the period over which the decision will be in place and <b>when it will be (further) reviewed</b> ):	Cessation of planned respite breaks services for Older Adults and people with a Learning Disability with effect from 23/03/2020  <b>Review process</b> Decision is subject to a minimum of fortnightly review by SMT and Cabinet Member, being reported to Cabinet Member on a fortnightly basis.
Reasons for the Decision (specify all reasons for taking the decisions including where necessary reference to Council policy and anticipated impact of the decision) Where the decision is subject to statutory guidance please state how this has been taken into consideration.	Government and Public Health England advice in relation to reducing the risk of infection spread in relation to COVID-19 states that those aged 70 and over 70 should self-isolate and adhere to social distancing requirements.  We need to reduce the risk of cross infection for both those using respite and long-term care home residents to reduce the number of individuals coming in and out of the services to reduce risks in relation to infection. As the vast majority of users of our older adult respite care services are used by people aged 70 and over it is not possible to continue to operate those services safely.  Similarly, significant numbers of the people using our learning disability respite services are likely to fall into the category of having an underlying 'high risk' health

	<p>condition that means they would be advised to socially distance and minimise contact with others from outside of their household.</p> <p>In order to protect them and other residents within our residential care homes non-urgent respite provision remains closed.</p>
<p>Alternative Options Considered (if appropriate) and reasons for rejection of other options</p>	<p>All individuals are being monitored and reviewed during the period the provision does not operate as normal to ensure that the withdrawal of planned respite does not lead to significant risks to their health and wellbeing.</p>
<p>Has a risk assessment been conducted- if so what are the potential adverse impacts identified and how will these be mitigated</p>	<p>Individual risk assessments have been undertaken in relation to this decision and concerns relating to long term emergency respite if appropriate and alternative arrangements are being considered.</p>
<p>Would the decision normally have been the subject of consultation with service users and the public. If so, explain why this is not practicable and the steps that have or will be taken to communicate the decision</p>	<p>Yes it would have been subject to consultation with service users. Consultation did not take place due to national advice being issued from the Government regarding the COVID-19 pandemic response which stated that vulnerable groups needed to undertake social distancing to protect their health and wellbeing. Therefore, an urgent decision needed to be taken.</p>
<p>Has any adverse impact on groups with protected characteristics been identified and if so, how will these be mitigated?</p>	<p>The decision will have had an impact on older adults, people with a learning disability and their families and carers. The temporary suspension of the service, and the ongoing assessment of people's care packages brings with it the potential for further risks to those who make use of the service. However, this risk needs to balance with the risk of infection from COVID 19 and adherence to national guidelines.</p> <p>Mitigations have been put in place through the regular review of people who would normally access the provision, and where appropriate care packages have been adjusted to accommodate the temporary cessation of the service. Emergency respite services have continued to operate from a number of the Council's establishments, or as an outreach services for some people, to support both older adults and people with a learning disability and their family / carers – particularly in order to reduce the risk of carer breakdown.</p>

	<p>The Community Response Unit, a partnership between the County Council and a range of voluntary organisations and local businesses, has been established to make sure vulnerable residents are supported through the coronavirus outbreak. Whilst it is not known if people who have previously accessed respite services have been referred to or used the Unit, it is known that older adults and people with a learning disability who use other services such as building-based day care have accessed this Unit's services.</p> <p>Derbyshire Carers Association has continued to offer support to carers who may have seen their caring duties increase as a result of the cessation of planned respite and carers emergency plans are being offered.</p> <p>Whilst the Council continues to review the access restrictions imposed on all its buildings, in line with national guidance concerning social distancing and self-isolation requirements for vulnerable people, it is not expected that the building-based planned (bookable) respite service will return to normal operating arrangements in the short to medium term.</p> <p>An EIA was completed on 30 June and is being kept under review.</p>
<p>Background/Reports/Information considered and attached (including Legal, HR, Financial and other considerations as required))</p>	<p>Any excess staffing capacity generated as a result of this cessation of service will be temporarily redeployed to support other service areas responding to the COVID-19 pressures</p> <p><b>Feedback on original Officer Decision:</b>  <b>Legal</b>  Decision is not time limited, if the problem persists in the longer term report would be beneficial to highlight longer term strategy to manage the needs of the affected cohort.</p> <p>Response: Two-week review process is now in place and captured on RODR pro forma</p> <p>ODR indicates that individual assessments are to be undertaken to ensure affected person receive the support necessary – update and assurance could be given in the report to confirm timescales and outcomes for these assessments</p>

	<p>Response: This will be detailed in Cabinet report and RODR document, but reviews have taken place and are being actively reviewed by P&amp;P teams every two weeks where it continues to be appropriate to do so.</p> <p><b>Finance</b> There are no additional financial considerations in relation to this proposal.</p> <p><b>Principal Social Worker</b> The Principal Social Worker has been engaged and consulted with this decision. The Principal Social Worker is satisfied that this decision has been made with due regard for the Department of Health and Social Care Ethical Framework. Whilst this decision was informed by the government’s guidance about social distancing and COVID-19 guidance in relation to residential care and supported living full consideration has been given to contingency discussions and planning for alternative support evidenced by the following statement: ‘All individuals will be monitored and reviewed during the cessation period to ensure that the withdrawal of planned respite doesn’t lead to significant risks to their health and wellbeing’. Guidance has been issued to frontline assessment staff to inform their person-centred conversations when exploring equivalent levels of support. Associated RAG rating records have been regularly completed and updated.</p>
<p>Consultation with relevant Cabinet Member (s) – please note this is obligatory.</p>	<p>Discussion between Helen Jones and Cllr Jean Wharmby on 22/03/2020  Consultation with Cllr Wharmby on Review 19/05/2020  Consultation with Cllr Wharmby on Review 27/05/2020  Consultation with Cllr Wharmby at Cabinet Member Committee <u>11/06/2020 ,25/06/2020, 9/07/2020, 24/07/2020</u> and <u>6/8/2020, 3/09/2020, 17/09/2020, 1/10/2020, 15/10/2020, 12/11/20, 26/11/2020, 10/12/2020, 21/12/2020, 7/01/2021, 21/01/2021, 4/02/2021, 18/2/2021, 3/03/2021, 18/03/2021, 1/04/2021, 15/04/2021, 29/04/2021, Week beginning 03/05/2021 – SMT report only during the election period, 27/05/2021,</u>  Consultation with Cllr Hoy at Cabinet Member Committee 24/06/2021, 22/07/2021, 25/08/2021, 16/09/2021, 14/10/2021, week beginning 15/11/2021, week beginning 13/12/2021, week beginning 10</p>

	January 2022, week beginning 31 January 2022, 3 February 2022
Decision:	<p>Agreed</p> <p><b>Review agreed by CMT 7/04/2020 and SMT 8/04/2020</b></p> <p><b>Review by SMT 22/04/2020, 6/05/2020, 21/05/2020, 4/06/2020, 18/06/2020 and 2/07/2020:</b> It is considered necessary to continue to cease planned respite activity due to ongoing social distancing requirements in line with national Government guidance. Clear evidence that spread within care homes is due to bringing people in from the community.</p> <p>We continue to need to reduce the risk of cross infection for both those using respite and long-term residents and so reducing the number of individuals coming in and out of the service is essential.</p> <p>Clients who would normally attend a planned respite break have had their care package reviewed and it is continuing to be reviewed on a minimum of a fortnightly basis to check that no additional support is required as an alternative to the support which would have normally been received via respite. Derbyshire Carers Association is also offering support to carers who may have seen their caring duties increase as a result of day centre provision being closed and carers emergency plans are being offered.</p> <p>In addition, the respite beds are being utilised to support hospital discharge and increase bedded capacity in residential care.</p> <p>Urgent respite provision is still in place as a mitigation where this is considered appropriate.</p> <p><b>Review by SMT 16/07/2020:</b> Following ongoing work by officers the current position is that building-based planned respite services will remain closed.</p> <p>Emergency respite provision continues to be offered, both through building-based services or through outreach services to an individual's home where safe and appropriate to do so (in line with Government guidelines for use of PPE and infection control).</p> <p>The following mitigations have been put in place since the original decision was approved, including:</p> <p>Regular review of people who need to access respite provision, and where appropriate care packages have been adjusted</p> <p>Parkwood Centre in Alfreton has been providing emergency day service provision for those people for</p>

whom it has been identified as being appropriate to do so.

Derbyshire Carers Association has continued to offer support to carers who may have seen their caring duties increase as a result of day centre provision being closed and carers emergency plans are being offered.

**Review by SMT 30/07/2020 notes:** following ongoing work by officers that the current position is that building-based planned respite services will continue to remain closed. Emergency respite provision continues to be offered, both through building-based services or through outreach services to an individual's home where safe and appropriate to do so (in line with Government guidelines for use of PPE and infection control).

The following mitigations have been put in place since the original decision was approved, including:

Regular review of people who need to access respite provision, and where appropriate care packages have been adjusted

Parkwood Centre in Alfreton has been providing emergency day service provision for those people for whom it has been identified as being appropriate to do so. This is in order to provide a period of respite during the day to support Carers as far as is possible to do currently.

Derbyshire Carers Association has continued to offer support to carers who may have seen their caring duties increase and therefore their ability to have any respite during the day reduce as a result of day centre provision being closed and carers emergency plans are being offered.

**Review by SMT 12/8/2020 notes:** that following ongoing work by officers the current position is that building-based planned respite services will continue to remain closed. Emergency respite provision continues to be offered, both through building-based services or through outreach services to an individual's home where safe and appropriate to do so (in line with Government guidelines for use of PPE and infection control).

The following mitigations have been put in place since the original decision was approved, including:

Regular review of people who need to access respite provision, and where appropriate care packages have been adjusted

Parkwood Centre in Alfreton has been providing emergency day service provision for those people for whom it has been identified as being appropriate to do so, with staff from other centres providing outreach services to people in place of opening a building (and in doing so following appropriate guidelines about use of PPE).

Derbyshire Carers Association has continued to offer support to carers who may have seen their caring duties increase and therefore their ability to have any respite during the day reduce as a result of day centre provision being closed and carers emergency plans are being offered.

**Review by SMT on week beginning 24 August 2020**

**notes that** following ongoing work by officers the current position is that building-based planned respite services will continue to remain closed. Emergency respite provision continues to be offered, both through building-based services or through outreach services to an individual's home where safe and appropriate to do so (in line with Government guidelines for use of PPE and infection control). There is currently no change to this position.

The following mitigations have been put in place since the original decision was approved, including:

Regular review of people who need to access respite provision, and where appropriate care packages have been adjusted

Five building based day services across the County for people with a learning disability have been providing emergency day service provision for those people for whom it has been identified as being appropriate to do so, with staff from other centres providing outreach services to people in place of opening a building (and in doing so following appropriate guidelines about use of PPE) in order to provide an element of respite to support Carers in their increased role. The bungalow at Newhall, which is a learning disability resource has also supported one individual with respite care.

Derbyshire Carers Association has continued to offer support to carers who may have seen their caring duties increase and therefore their ability to have any respite reduce as a result of day centre provision being closed and cessation of planned respite within

residential care. Carers emergency plans are being offered.

The next review of this decision will take place by Adult Care Senior Management Team on 10 September 2020.

**Review by SMT on week beginning 7 September 2020 notes that** following ongoing work by officers the current position is that building-based planned respite services will continue to remain closed. Emergency respite provision continues to be offered, both through building-based services or through outreach services to an individual's home where safe and appropriate to do so (in line with Government guidelines for use of PPE and infection control). There is currently no change to this position.

The following mitigations have been put in place since the original decision was approved, including:

Regular review of people who need to access respite provision, and where appropriate care packages have been adjusted

Derbyshire Carers Association has continued to offer support to carers who may have seen their caring duties increase and therefore their ability to have any respite reduce as a result of day centre provision being closed and cessation of planned respite within residential care. Carers emergency plans are being offered.

The next review of this decision will take place by Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 21 September 2020.

**Review by SMT on week beginning 21 September 2020 notes that** following ongoing work by officers the current position is that building-based planned respite services will continue to remain closed. Emergency respite provision continues to be offered, both through building-based services or through outreach services to an individual's home where safe and appropriate to do so (in line with Government guidelines for use of PPE and infection control). There is currently no change to this position.

The following mitigations have been put in place since the original decision was approved, including:



Regular review of people who need to access respite provision, and where appropriate care packages have been adjusted

Derbyshire Carers Association has continued to offer support to carers who may have seen their caring duties increase and therefore their ability to have any respite reduce as a result of day centre provision being closed and cessation of planned respite within residential care. Carers emergency plans are being offered.

The next review of this decision will take place by Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 5 October 2020.

**Review by SMT on week beginning 5 October 2020**

**notes that** following ongoing work by officers the current position is that building-based planned respite services will continue to remain closed. Emergency respite provision continues to be offered, both through building-based services or through outreach services to an individual's home where safe and appropriate to do so (in line with Government guidelines for use of PPE and infection control). There is currently no change to this position.

The following mitigations have been put in place since the original decision was approved, including:

Regular review of people who need to access respite provision, and where appropriate care packages have been adjusted

Derbyshire Carers Association has continued to offer support to carers who may have seen their caring duties increase and therefore their ability to have any respite reduce as a result of day centre provision being closed and cessation of planned respite within residential care. Carers emergency plans are being offered.

The next review of this decision will take place by Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 19 October 2020 and will take account of the newly published Adult Social Care: COVID Winter Plan 2020- 2021.

**Review by SMT 19 October 2020 notes that**

following ongoing work by officers the current position is that building-based planned respite services will continue to remain closed.

Emergency respite provision continues to be offered, both through building-based services or through outreach services to an individual's home where safe and appropriate to do so (in line with Government guidelines for use of PPE and infection control). There is currently no change to this position.

The next review of this decision will take place by Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 2 November.

**Review by SMT week beginning 2 November 2020**  
**notes that** there is currently no change to this position

The next review of this decision will take place by Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 16 November 2020.

**Review by SMT week beginning 16 November 2020**  
**notes that** following ongoing work by officers the current position is that most building-based planned respite services will continue to remain closed. Emergency respite provision continues to be offered, both through building-based services or through outreach services to an individual's home where safe and appropriate to do so (in line with Government guidelines for use of PPE and infection control).

Currently officers are working towards re-opening a centre within the County to offer respite in a Covid-secure environment. This planning is currently in the preliminary stages and a location is yet to be fully finalised.

The following mitigations have been put in place since the original decision was approved, including: Regular review of people who need to access respite provision, and where appropriate care packages have been adjusted to reflect the additional care provision. Derbyshire Carers Association has continued to offer support to carers who may have seen their caring duties increase and therefore their ability to have any respite reduce as a result of day centre provision being closed and cessation of planned respite within residential care. Carers emergency plans have been offered.

The next review of this decision will take place by Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 30 November 2020.

**Review by SMT week beginning 30 November 2020**

**notes that** following ongoing work by officers the current position is that most building-based planned respite services will continue to remain closed.

Emergency respite provision continues to be offered, both through building-based services or through outreach services to an individual's home where safe and appropriate to do so (in line with Government guidelines for use of PPE and infection control).

Currently officers are working towards re-opening a centre within the County to offer respite in a Covid-secure environment. This planning remains in the preliminary stages and a location is yet to be fully finalised.

The following mitigations have been put in place since the original decision was approved, including:

Regular review of people who need to access respite provision, and where appropriate care packages have been adjusted to reflect the additional care provision.

Derbyshire Carers Association has continued to offer support to carers who may have seen their caring duties increase and therefore their ability to have any respite reduce as a result of day centre provision being closed and cessation of planned respite within residential care. Carers emergency plans have been offered.

The next review of this decision will take place by Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 14 December 2020.

**Review by SMT week beginning 14 December 2020**

**notes that** Currently officers are working towards re-opening a centre within the County to offer respite in a Covid-secure environment. This planning continues to remain in the preliminary stages and a location is yet to be fully finalised.

The next review of this decision will take place by Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 28 December 2020.

**Review by SMT week beginning 28 December 2020**

**notes that** the position remains unchanged in that currently officers are working towards re-opening a centre within the County to offer respite in a Covid-secure environment. This planning continues to remain in the preliminary stages and a location is yet to be fully finalised.

The next review of this decision will take place by Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 11 January 2021.

**Review by SMT week beginning 11 January 2021**

**notes that** following ongoing work by officers the current position is that most building-based planned respite services will continue to remain closed. Emergency respite provision continues to be offered, both through building-based services or through outreach services to an individual's home where safe and appropriate to do so, however we are reviewing the safety of continuing this during the new national lockdown.

Officers will continue working towards re-opening a centre within the County to offer respite in a Covid-secure environment when it is safe to do so. This planning continues to remain in the preliminary stages and a location is yet to be fully finalised.

The following mitigations have been put in place since the original decision was approved, including: Regular review of people who need to access respite provision, and where appropriate care packages have been adjusted to reflect the additional care provision. Derbyshire Carers Association has continued to offer support to carers who may have seen their caring duties increase and therefore their ability to have any respite reduce as a result of day centre provision being closed and cessation of planned respite within residential care. Carers emergency plans have been offered.

The next review of this decision will take place by Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 25 January 2021.

**Reviewed by SMT week beginning 25 January 2021**

The latest review on week beginning 25 January 2021 notes that following ongoing work by officers the current position is that most building-based planned respite services will continue to remain closed. Emergency respite provision continues to be offered, both through building-based services or through outreach services to an individual's home where safe and appropriate to do so, however we are reviewing the safety of continuing this during the new national lockdown.

Officers will continue working towards re-opening a centre within the County to offer respite in a Covid-secure environment when it is safe to do so. The following mitigations have been put in place since the original decision was approved, including: Regular review of people who need to access respite provision, and where appropriate care packages have been adjusted to reflect the additional care provision. Derbyshire Carers Association has continued to offer support to carers who may have seen their caring duties increase and therefore their ability to have any respite reduce as a result of day centre provision being closed and cessation of planned respite within residential care. Carers emergency plans have been offered.

The next review of this decision will take place by Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 8 February 2021.

**Review by SMT week beginning 8 February 2021**

**notes that** following ongoing work by officers the current position is that most building-based planned respite services will continue to remain closed. Emergency respite provision continues to be offered, both through building-based services or through outreach services to an individual's home where safe and appropriate to do so, however we are reviewing the safety of continuing this during the new national lockdown.

Officers will continue working towards re-opening a centre within the County to offer respite in a Covid-secure environment when it is safe to do so. The following mitigations have been put in place since the original decision was approved, including: Regular review of people who need to access respite provision, and where appropriate care packages have been adjusted to reflect the additional care provision. Derbyshire Carers Association has continued to offer support to carers who may have seen their caring duties increase and therefore their ability to have any respite reduce as a result of day centre provision being closed and cessation of planned respite within residential care. Carers emergency plans have been offered.

The position in relation to respite remains unchanged.

The next review of this decision will take place by Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 22 February 2021.

**Review by SMT week beginning 22 February 2021**

**notes that** following ongoing work by officers the current position is that most building-based planned respite services will continue to remain closed. Emergency respite provision continues to be offered, both through building-based services or through outreach services to an individual's home where safe and appropriate to do so, however we are reviewing the safety of continuing this during the new national lockdown.

Officers will continue working towards re-opening a centre within the County to offer respite in a Covid-secure environment when it is safe to do so. The following mitigations have been put in place since the original decision was approved, including: Regular review of people who need to access respite provision, and where appropriate care packages have been adjusted to reflect the additional care provision. Derbyshire Carers Association has continued to offer support to carers who may have seen their caring duties increase and therefore their ability to have any respite reduce as a result of day centre provision being closed and cessation of planned respite within residential care. Carers emergency plans have been offered.

The position in relation to respite remains unchanged.

The next review of this decision will take place by Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 8 March 2021.

**Review by SMT week beginning 8 March 2021**

**notes that** following ongoing work by officers the current position is that most building-based planned respite services continue to remain closed. Emergency respite provision has been offered, both through building-based services or through outreach services to an individual's home where safe and appropriate to do so.

Officers will continue working towards re-opening a centre within the County to offer respite in a Covid-secure environment when it is safe to do so.

The following mitigations have been put in place since the original decision was approved, including: Regular review of people who need to access respite provision, and where appropriate care packages have been adjusted to reflect the additional care provision. Derbyshire Carers Association has continued to offer support to carers who may have seen their caring duties increase and therefore their ability to have any respite reduce as a result of day centre provision being closed and cessation of planned respite within residential care. Carers emergency plans have been offered.

As part of the Governments roadmap to ease lockdown restrictions from 8 March 2021 onwards, Adult Social care will begin to review its approach to re-opening respite.

The next review of this decision will take place by Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 22 March 2021.

**Review by SMT week beginning 22 March 2021 notes that** following ongoing work by officers the current position is that most building-based planned respite services continue to remain closed. Emergency respite provision has been offered, both through building-based services or through outreach services to an individual's home where safe and appropriate to do so.

Officers will continue working towards re-opening a centre within the County to offer respite in a Covid-secure environment when it is safe to do so.

The following mitigations have been put in place since the original decision was approved, including: Regular review of people who need to access respite provision, and where appropriate care packages have been adjusted to reflect the additional care provision. Derbyshire Carers Association has continued to offer support to carers who may have seen their caring duties increase and therefore their ability to have any respite reduce as a result of day centre provision being closed and cessation of planned respite within residential care. Carers emergency plans have been offered.

As part of the Governments roadmap to ease lockdown restrictions from 8 March 2021 onwards,

Adult Social care is beginning to review its approach to re-opening respite.

The next review of this decision will take place by Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 05 April 2021.

**Review by SMT week beginning 05 April 2021**  
**notes that** following ongoing work by officers the current position is that most building-based planned respite services continue to remain closed. Emergency respite provision has been offered, both through building-based services or through outreach services to an individual's home where safe and appropriate to do so.

Officers will continue working towards re-opening a centre within the County to offer respite in a Covid-secure environment when it is safe to do so. The following mitigations have been put in place since the original decision was approved, including: Regular review of people who need to access respite provision, and where appropriate care packages have been adjusted to reflect the additional care provision. Derbyshire Carers Association has continued to offer support to carers who may have seen their caring duties increase and therefore their ability to have any respite reduce as a result of day centre provision being closed and cessation of planned respite within residential care. Carers emergency plans have been offered.

As part of the Governments roadmap to ease lockdown restrictions from 8 March 2021 onwards, Adult Social care continues to review its approach to re-opening respite.

The next review of this decision will take place by Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 19 April 2021.

**Review by SMT week beginning 19 April 2021**  
**notes that** following ongoing work by officers the current position is that most building-based planned respite services continue to remain closed. Emergency respite provision has been offered, both through building-based services or through outreach services to an individual's home where safe and appropriate to do so.



Officers continue working towards re-opening a centre within the County to offer respite in a Covid-secure environment when it is safe to do so.

The following mitigations have been put in place since the original decision was approved, including:

Regular review of people who need to access respite provision, and where appropriate care packages have been adjusted to reflect the additional care provision. Derbyshire Carers Association has continued to offer support to carers who may have seen their caring duties increase and therefore their ability to have any respite reduce as a result of day centre provision being closed and cessation of planned respite within residential care. Carers emergency plans have been offered.

As part of the Governments roadmap to ease lockdown restrictions from 8 March 2021 onwards, Adult Social care is continuing to review its approach to re-opening respite.

This decision will continue to be reviewed on a fortnightly basis by the Adult Care Senior Management Team.

**Review by SMT on week beginning 03 May 2021 during the election period notes that** following ongoing work by officers the current position is that most building-based planned respite services continue to remain closed. Emergency respite provision has been offered, both through building-based services or through outreach services to an individual's home where safe and appropriate to do so.

Officers continue working towards re-opening a centre within the County to offer respite in a Covid-secure environment when it is safe to do so.

The following mitigations have been put in place since the original decision was approved, including:

Regular review of people who need to access respite provision, and where appropriate care packages have been adjusted to reflect the additional care provision. Derbyshire Carers Association has continued to offer support to carers who may have seen their caring duties increase and therefore their ability to have any respite reduce as a result of day centre provision being closed and cessation of planned respite within residential care. Carers emergency plans have been offered.

As part of the Governments roadmap to ease lockdown restrictions from 8 March 2021 onwards, Adult Social care is continuing to review its approach to re-opening respite.

This decision will continue to be reviewed on a fortnightly basis by the Adult Care Senior Management Team.

**Review by SMT week beginning 17 May 2021 notes that** this has been reviewed on thirty occasions by Adult Social Care and Health Senior Management Team and a discussion between the Executive Director and Cabinet Member.

The latest review on week beginning 17 May 2021 notes that following ongoing work by officers the current position is that most building-based planned respite services continue to remain closed. Emergency respite provision has been offered, both through building-based services or through outreach services to an individual's home where safe and appropriate to do so.

Officers continue working towards re-opening a centre within the County to offer respite in a Covid-secure environment when it is safe to do so.

The following mitigations have been put in place since the original decision was approved, including:

Regular review of people who need to access respite provision, and where appropriate care packages have been adjusted to reflect the additional care provision. Derbyshire Carers Association has continued to offer support to carers who may have seen their caring duties increase and therefore their ability to have any respite reduce as a result of day centre provision being closed and cessation of planned respite within residential care. Carers emergency plans have been offered.

As part of the Governments roadmap to ease lockdown restrictions from 8 March 2021 onwards, Adult Social care is continuing to review its approach to re-opening respite.

There is no change to this decision at the current time and it will continue to be reviewed on a fortnightly basis.

The next review of this decision will take place by the Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 31 May 2021 .

**Review by SMT week beginning 31 May 2021 notes that** following ongoing work by officers the current position is that most building-based planned respite services continue to remain closed. Emergency respite provision is being offered, both through building-based services or through outreach services to an individual's home where safe and appropriate to do so. Officers continue working towards re-opening respite in a Covid-secure environment when it is safe to do so.

At the current time there is little change to the position and the majority of respite provision remains closed as people entering residential care provision are still required to isolate for 14 days. However, in line with the Governments roadmap to ease lockdown restrictions Adult Social care continues to review its approach to re-opening respite and a letter to Users of respite services and their Carers is due to be sent shortly to discuss how we can move forward safely.

The following mitigations have been put in place since the original decision to temporarily close respite provision was approved, including:

Regular review of people who need to access respite provision, and where appropriate care packages have been adjusted to reflect the additional care provision. Derbyshire Carers Association has continued to offer support to carers who may have seen their caring duties increase and therefore their ability to have any respite reduce as a result of day centre provision being closed and cessation of planned respite within residential care. Carers emergency plans have been offered.

The next review of this decision will take place by the Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 14 June 2021.

**Review by SMT week beginning 14 June 2021 notes that** following ongoing work by officers the current position is that most building-based planned respite services continue to remain closed. Emergency respite provision is being offered, both through building-based services or through outreach services to an individual's home where safe and appropriate to do so. Officers continue working towards re-opening respite in a Covid-secure environment when it is safe to do so. Work is taking place to risk assess the County wide re-opening of day services, however at the current time there is little change to the position

and the majority of respite provision remains closed as people entering residential care provision are still required to isolate for 14 days.

The following mitigations have been put in place since the original decision to temporarily close respite provision was approved, including:

Regular review of people who need to access respite provision, and where appropriate care packages have been adjusted to reflect the additional care provision. Derbyshire Carers Association has continued to offer support to carers who may have seen their caring duties increase and therefore their ability to have any respite reduce as a result of day centre provision being closed and cessation of planned respite within residential care. Carers emergency plans have been offered.

The next review of a summary of this decision will take place by the Adult Care Senior Management Team only in the week beginning 28 June 2021.

**Review by SMT week beginning 28 June 2021**

**notes that** due to updated Government Guidance issued on 14 June 2021 in relation to Service Users entering residential care from the community and easements in restrictions in relation to the previously required period of isolation prior to admission. Work has taken place to plan the re-opening of respite support within Learning Disability and Older Adults services week beginning 21 June 2021. Updated Government guidance is referenced in relation to this easing of restrictions at:

Care home residents can stay overnight as visiting restrictions ease - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))

This guidance only relates to Service Users accessing respite from the Community and is not relevant to hospital discharge.

It will provide much needed support to Service Users and Carers who had previously accessed regular respite in addition to those carers who have not had any respite from their caring responsibilities where day services in their area have remained closed. It will also increase the availability of emergency respite where required.

Risk assessments have been developed to ensure strict LFT testing requirements prior to and during any

period of respite. A letter has been drafted to be sent out to Users and Carers.

It is important to ensure that we continue to maintain the safety of Service Users and staff, therefore any individual admitted for respite will need to undergo an enhanced testing regime.

This will be a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) COVID19 test 3 days before the planned admission and upon receiving a negative result; a PCR test on the day of admission and a further PCR test 7 days later.

The next review of this decision will take place by the Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 12 July 2021.

**Review by SMT week beginning 12 July 2021 notes that** updated Government Guidance was issued on 14 June 2021 in relation to Service Users entering residential care from the community, and easements in restrictions in relation to the previously required period of isolation prior to admission.

Planning work remains ongoing for re-opening respite support within Learning Disability and Older Adults services. Updated Government guidance is referenced in relation to this easing of restrictions at:

Care home residents can stay overnight as visiting restrictions ease - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))

Risk assessments have been developed to ensure strict LFT testing requirements prior to and during any period of respite once we are in a position to re-open services.

It is important to ensure that we continue to maintain the safety of Service Users and staff, therefore any individual admitted for respite would potentially be required to undergo an enhanced testing regime.

This will be a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) COVID19 test 3 days before the planned admission and upon receiving a negative result: a PCR test on the day of admission and a further PCR test 7 days later. Plans are ongoing for where an individual does not have the capacity to consent to testing or cannot tolerate it.

The next review of a summary of this decision will take place by the Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 26 July 2021.

**Review by SMT week beginning 26 July 2021 notes that** updated Government Guidance was issued on 14 June 2021 in relation to Service Users entering residential care from the community, and easements in restrictions in relation to the previously required period of isolation prior to admission.

Planning work remains ongoing for re-opening respite support within Learning Disability and Older Adults services. Updated Government guidance is referenced in relation to this easing of restrictions at:

Care home residents can stay overnight as visiting restrictions ease - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))

Risk assessments have been developed to ensure strict LFT testing requirements prior to and during any period of respite once we are in a position to re-open services.

It is important to ensure that we continue to maintain the safety of Service Users and staff, therefore any individual admitted for respite would potentially be required to undergo an enhanced testing regime.

This will be a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) COVID19 test 3 days before the planned admission and upon receiving a negative result: a PCR test on the day of admission and a further PCR test 7 days later. Plans are ongoing for where an individual does not have the capacity to consent to testing or cannot tolerate it.

In addition, Government guidance has also been updated on 19 July 2021 regarding frontline staff exposed to people who have a confirmed case of Covid and the requirements to self-isolate. Guidance can be found here:

COVID-19: management of staff and exposed patients or residents in health and social care settings - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))

The guidance includes the following:

*If there is a likelihood that staff absence creates a significant risk to the health or safety of patients or service users, health and social care staff whose activities are critical to the on-going provision of care and who have been identified as a contact of a case of COVID-19 may be able to attend work rather than self-isolate if they are fully vaccinated (more than 14 days after the second dose).*

Guidance also states that:

*Staff members should only attend work after having a negative PCR test and daily negative LFT antigen tests. This must only occur in exceptional circumstances and where additional safety measures*

*can be upheld. The decision is subject to a risk assessment by an individual(s) nominated by the organisation's management, and authorisation by the organisation's local Director of Infection Prevention and Control and/or the lead professional for health protection and/or Director of Public Health relevant to the organisation.*

Risk assessment in relation to this is in the process of being completed. There is still some clarification being awaited as to which specific staff this pertains to but is likely to include staff involved within respite residential care.

PPE requirements for care homes remains unchanged.

The next review of a summary of this decision will take place by the Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 09 August 2021.

**Review by SMT week beginning 09 August 2021**

**notes that** updated Government Guidance was issued on 14 June 2021 in relation to Service Users entering residential care from the community, and easements in restrictions in relation to the previously required period of isolation prior to admission.

Planning work remains ongoing for re-opening respite support within Learning Disability and Older Adults services. Updated Government guidance is referenced in relation to this easing of restrictions at:

Care home residents can stay overnight as visiting restrictions ease - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))

Whilst all Risk Assessments have been completed in readiness for a return to respite, this has been further delayed due to workforce challenges including the inability to utilise care staff across settings and increased absence due to the contact tracing.

The next review of this decision will take place by the Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 23 August 2021.

**Review by SMT week beginning 23 August 2021**

**notes that** updated Government Guidance was issued on 14 June 2021 in relation to Service Users entering residential care from the community, and easements in restrictions in relation to the previously required period of isolation prior to admission.

Planning work remains ongoing for re-opening respite support within Learning Disability and Older Adults

services. Updated Government guidance is referenced in relation to this easing of restrictions at:  
[Care home residents can stay overnight as visiting restrictions ease - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Whilst all Risk Assessments have been completed a return to respite has been further delayed due to workforce challenges including the inability to utilise care staff across settings and increased absence due to the contact tracing.

The next review of this decision will take place by the Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 6 September 2021.

**Review by SMT week beginning 06 September 2021** notes that updated Government Guidance was issued on 14 June 2021 in relation to Service Users entering residential care from the community, and easements in restrictions in relation to the previously required period of isolation prior to admission. Planning work remains ongoing for re-opening respite support within Learning Disability and Older Adults services. Updated Government guidance is referenced in relation to this easing of restrictions at:

[Care home residents can stay overnight as visiting restrictions ease - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Whilst all Risk Assessments have been completed in readiness for a return to respite, this has been further delayed due to workforce challenges including the inability to utilise care staff across settings and increased absence due to the contact tracing.

Further guidance was issued by the Government on 23 August 2021 relating to a change in isolation rules for double vaccinated staff who have been exposed to a Covid positive contact and have tested negative at:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-management-of-exposed-healthcare-workers-and-patients-in-hospital-settings/covid-19-management-of-exposed-healthcare-workers-and-patients-in-hospital-settings>

We are currently working with colleagues in the Public Health protection team on how this could be implemented.

The next review of this decision will take place by the Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 20 September 2021.



**Review by SMT week beginning 20 September 2021** notes that planning work remains ongoing for re-opening respite support within Learning Disability and Older Adults services. Updated Government guidance is referenced in relation to this easing of restrictions at:

Care home residents can stay overnight as visiting restrictions ease - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))

Whilst all Risk Assessments have been completed in readiness for a return to respite, this has been further delayed due to workforce challenges including the inability to utilise care staff across settings and increased absence due to the contact tracing.

Further guidance was issued by the Government on 23 August 2021 relating to a change in isolation rules for double vaccinated staff who have been exposed to a Covid positive contact and have tested negative at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-management-of-exposed-healthcare-workers-and-patients-in-hospital-settings/covid-19-management-of-exposed-healthcare-workers-and-patients-in-hospital-settings>

We are currently working with colleagues in the Public Health protection team on how this could be implemented and currently there is no change to this position.

A letter has been sent to Adult Social Care staff on 10 September 2021 stating that from 21 November 2021 it is a legal requirement that all care home staff and visiting professionals will have completed a course of double vaccination. Staff are able to access evidence of this via the NHS website and are asked to provide evidence to managers. Visiting professionals are requested to carry a copy of their double vaccination confirmation with them when entering CQC registered care homes.

The next review of this decision will take place by the Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 04 October 2021.

**Review by SMT week beginning 04 October 2021** notes that Planning work remains ongoing for re-opening respite support within Learning Disability and Older Adults services.

Whilst all Risk Assessments have been completed in readiness for a return to respite, this has been further delayed due to workforce challenges including the inability to utilise care staff across settings and likely impact of the mandatory vaccination requirement from the 11th November.

The next review of this decision is due to take place by the Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 18 October 2021 however this date may be affected by recommendations made at point 10 of this report.

**Review by SMT on week beginning 08 November 2021 notes that** planning work remains ongoing for re-opening respite support within Learning Disability and Older Adults services.

All Risk Assessments have been completed in readiness for a return to respite, however this continues to be delayed due to workforce challenges including the inability to utilise care staff across settings and the likely impact of the mandatory vaccination requirement from the 11th November.

The next review of this decision is due to take place by the Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 06 December 2021.

**Review by SMT on week beginning 13 December 2021 notes that** planning work remains ongoing for re-opening respite support within Learning Disability and Older Adults services.

All Risk Assessments have been completed in readiness for a return to respite, however this continues to be delayed due to workforce challenges including the inability to utilise care staff across settings and the impact of the mandatory vaccination requirement by the 11th November 2021.

The next review of this decision is due to take place by the Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 10 January 2022.

**Review by SMT on week beginning 10 January 2022 notes that** planning work remains ongoing for re-opening respite support within Learning Disability and Older Adults services.

All Risk Assessments have been completed in readiness for a return to respite, however this continues to be delayed due to workforce challenges including the inability to utilise care staff across

settings and the impact of the mandatory vaccination requirement by the 11th November 2021.

The next review of this decision is due to take place by the Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 31 January 2022.

**Review by SMT on week beginning 31 January 2022 notes that** planning work remains ongoing for re-opening respite support within Learning Disability and Older Adults services.

All Risk Assessments have been completed in readiness for a return to respite, however this continues to be delayed due to workforce challenges.

The next review of this decision is due to take place by the Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 7 March 2022

**Review by SMT on 4 April 2022 notes that** planning work remains ongoing for re-opening respite support within Learning Disability and Older Adults services.

All Risk Assessments have been completed in readiness for a return to respite, however the opening of services continues to be delayed due to workforce challenges.

**The latest review on week beginning 16 May 2022 notes from** the 25 April 2022, short break placements are being offered at three of the four residential units for people with a learning disability (Newhall Bungalow, Petersham and Morewood). Planning is underway to resume the offer of placements at the remaining unit.

For Older Adults, communications are being prepared alongside plans to resume the offer of short breaks on an individual basis.

The next review of this decision is due to take place by the Adult Care Senior Management Team in the week beginning 6 June 2022

**The latest review on week beginning 20 June 2022 notes that** short break placements are being offered at three of the four residential units for people with a learning disability (Newhall Bungalow, Petersham and Morewood). Work

	<p>continues to resume the offer of placements at the remaining unit.</p> <p>For Older Adults, communications have been shared across our DCC and private care home providers and assessment teams to confirm that conversations can resume with people about their requirements for respite and arrangements can be supported for people to access pre-arranged respite where this is appropriate.</p> <p>As such there is no further decision to review and this will now be removed from the Officer Decision records.</p>
Signature and Date: Simon Stevens 22/03/2020	

Derbyshire County Council  
Officer Decision and Decision Review Record