

Core brief

Monday 23 March 2020

Introduction

This issue of Core Brief includes a message from the Chief Executive.

Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive

As the numbers being treated within our health and care settings begin to rise, some staff have been asking about whether you should remain at work if you have been in contact with a positive or symptomatic patient. The public health advice remains that staff who have been in contact with positive or symptomatic patients can work as long as they have no symptoms or need to self-isolate due to a symptomatic household contact. I know that the Public Health Team have been under significant pressure due to the large number of calls they have received and so I hope this advice will help with queries on this issue.

I want to thank the Public Health Team for their tremendous response to the COVID-19 outbreak. Their expertise and professionalism is standing us in good stead for managing the incident to the best of our abilities and I wish to thank them for their efforts at this time.

With the situation continuing to develop at a fast pace, I am conscious that colleagues will be anxious both for themselves and for their family. It is important that we do all we can to support our health and social care staff who continue to provide essential care. The HR and OD Directorate are currently working with others including the Occupational Health service and the spiritual care team to develop a range of services to support us all maintain positive mental health and wellbeing at this challenging time. I'll share more about this in the coming days.

In the meantime, I remain grateful to you all for working so hard under such difficult circumstances. I am proud to lead such a dedicated, committed team and I thank you for working together to prepare us for the weeks ahead.

Are your contact details up-to-date? [Click here](#) to check