

26 March 2020

## COVID-19: Update

NHS LPP is continuing to ensure the NHS gets the business advice and support it needs to deal with coronavirus. Please see below for our weekly update outlining how we are supporting trusts to respond to COVID-19.

### Supporting our members

The **Estates, Facilities and Professional Services** team have been ensuring alternative supply routes are available for trusts experiencing shortages due to illness and the shutdown of non-essential suppliers. Any trust who has an issue with estates and facilities requirements eg: cleaning, catering, portering, transport (staff or equipment), car parking, temporary accommodation of staff/patients - or any other estates and facilities issues can contact the team on [LPPEFPS@gstt.nhs.uk](mailto:LPPEFPS@gstt.nhs.uk) who will work with you to help find alternative solutions. Following the announcement that building suppliers may remain open, the team are also keeping a [live list](#) of suppliers and their operating policies during this time for members to use as a resource for emergency/essential building materials and supplies.

The **Workforce** team has begun initial conversations with the Recruitment and Employment Confederation (REC) to find out where other sectors have seen a reduction in resources that could be reallocated to the NHS eg: cleaners in the hospitality sector. Additional routes are being made known to trusts as they become available. The team is also keeping members and agencies informed on the latest guidance from the Department of Health and Social Care and NHS England and NHS Improvement to ensure medical staff can enter the supply chain as quickly as possible. Further advice is expected by the end of the week modifying aspects of compliance and onboarding to bring resources in quickly.

The Workforce team have also set up a weekly forum for Staff Bank Managers to provide regular updates and gather feedback from trusts on where they may need additional support.

The **Medicines Optimisation and Pharmacy Procurement (MOPP)** team are continuing to work to ensure medicines are available for London trusts – in particular medicines for the treatment of COVID-19 and access to supportive medicines for patients in intensive care. The team have also created a [Quick User Guide](#) for patients, carers and parents on how to use the RightBreathe app. The guide provides step by step instructions for using the app, which empowers patients with respiratory conditions to use their inhalers and spacers correctly and stay healthy at this challenging time. To download the free app, search 'RightBreathe' on the Apple App store or the Google Play store.

The **Clinical Digital Solutions** team have been working with the Organisation for the Review and Care of Healthcare Apps (ORCHA) to identify other health apps that can provide support to patients during the crisis - such as apps that can help with self-care and managing anxiety, apps that support the management of specific conditions such as diabetes, or apps that are aimed at reducing pressure



on NHS services, eg: a virtual health assistant. To support this, NHS LPP yesterday also launched two new categories on the NHS LPP Health and Social Care Apps DPS: COVID-19 Support Solutions and Chest and Lung. To procure a healthcare app through the NHS LPP DPS please register at [www.healthappsdpdps.orchd.co.uk/](http://www.healthappsdpdps.orchd.co.uk/)

The **Business Intelligence** team has created a new [report](#) to support members with increased business intelligence in the field of respirators and medical ventilators. The report builds a picture of historical medical and respirator purchases across London including the suppliers, products and servicing arrangements used by different trusts and can be used by procurement teams to help them make fully informed decisions and support continuity of supply. For questions, to give feedback or to request more information please contact [Levente.fazekas@lpp.nhs.uk](mailto:Levente.fazekas@lpp.nhs.uk)

## Our work with suppliers

We recently contacted our supplier base to request their resilience plans to share with members. A large number of suppliers have now replied with resilience and mitigation plans and these are now available for our members on [my.lpp](#). We will continue to upload more as they are made available to us. Please note these responses remain the property of the suppliers and are not endorsed by NHS LPP. Where supplier mitigation or resilience plans are limited, we are giving feedback and will refresh the website as updated responses are received.

NHS LPP has also identified more than 100 critical suppliers, who we have contacted to seek answers to more targeted questions on behalf of our members. We will aim to post these in the members area of the website and share the link in our next update. The list of 100 suppliers we have identified is available [here](#) – **if you would like us to contact any other vendors not listed here please contact us on [LPPProcurement@lpp.nhs.uk](mailto:LPPProcurement@lpp.nhs.uk)**

A new government Procurement Policy Note (PPN) has this week been [published](#) setting out guidance for public bodies on payment of their suppliers to ensure service continuity during and after the current COVID-19 outbreak. Any suppliers experiencing difficulties with receiving payment from trusts during this challenging time can also contact [lppworkforcesupport@lpp.nhs.uk](mailto:lppworkforcesupport@lpp.nhs.uk) and our team will do our best to support.

## Commercial announcement

Due to the extraordinary pressures our health system is facing, we have taken the decision to delay issuing our standard commercial content normally published around this period. All NHS LPP teams are now focussed on supporting you with your COVID-19 requirements, as well as making sure we continue to deliver our core services with minimal disruption.

**Membership Renewals:** You would usually have received a request by now to sign up for NHS LPP membership for the next financial year, but in the light of the current situation, we have extended the



timeline for renewals until the end of May 2020. However, we do want to provide members with an opportunity to sign up if this is their preference and if financial planning allows – therefore we will be sending all members a direct email with their fee for financial year 2020/21 should they wish to commit earlier than the delayed period.

### Q3 savings reports

We will not be issuing reports for Q3 or requesting validation of savings figures from our members. Instead, please contact your Account Manager ([Daniel.lewin@lpp.nhs.uk](mailto:Daniel.lewin@lpp.nhs.uk) ph. 07784 360544 or [Hamish.McDonald@lpp.nhs.uk](mailto:Hamish.McDonald@lpp.nhs.uk), ph. 07548152807) if you would like a copy of your Q3 savings report and to discuss any requirements or if you have any questions.

### Your questions answered

Our team have been supporting members and suppliers with answers to their questions. Answers to our latest questions are available to members on [my.lpp](https://my.lpp)

### Coronavirus guidance

New Procurement Policy Note (PPN) has been [published](#) setting out government guidance for public bodies on payment of their suppliers.

Latest public information and advice on COVID-19 from:

- [NHS website](#)
- [GOV.UK](#)

### Get in touch

Please continue to reach out to your regular contact in NHS LPP, however, if you do not receive a response please refer to our updated [contact list](#) or please email [customer@lpp.nhs.uk](mailto:customer@lpp.nhs.uk) This inbox will be monitored around the clock to ensure we continue to receive your enquiries and maintain our high standard of service. If you would like to give feedback on this bulletin or make suggestions for future updates please contact [customer@lpp.nhs.uk](mailto:customer@lpp.nhs.uk)

