

07 May 2020

COVID-19: Update

Supporting our members

The **Estates, Facilities and Professional Services** team have negotiated access for NHS LPP members to the credit scoring firm, Creditsafe, allowing them to do free quick checks on the credit standing for suppliers they are doing business with during COVID-19. To access this offer please contact your Account Manager on Daniel.lewin@lpp.nhs.uk or Hamish.McDonald@lpp.nhs.uk. The team have also been making members aware of a [temporary zero-rate of VAT](#) on supplies of PPE. Members needing to reclaim any VAT paid incorrectly can also access the team's [Analysis and Reconciliation framework](#).

The Estates, Facilities and Professional Services team has also been continuing to provide its [Languages Services DPS](#) which provides an easy and quick route to market for telephone and video/remote interpretation that can be used in place of face-to-face interpreting services during (and after) the COVID-19 pandemic. The DPS, which is available to all public sector, has a wide range of pre-qualified suppliers and template documents available. More information is available on the NHS LPP website or contact laura.whitworth@lpp.nhs.uk

The **Medicines Optimisation and Pharmacy Procurement** team has been made aware of the problem of theft of medical oxygen and nitrous oxide from medical premises. To support trusts, resources have been made available to members on my.lpp, including a security alert from the [European Industrial Gases Association \(EIGA\)](#), [customer briefing from BOC](#) and [guidance from NHS Protect](#) on the security and storage of medical gas cylinders.

A clinical member of the team is also leading on assuring supply across London of haemofiltration fluids and ancillaries used in intensive care and is working with pharmacy and procurement departments to ensure stock is available and ordered.

A reminder that all NHS LPP teams have been reviewing articles and briefings put together by legal firms covering different COVID-19 related topics to create a [legal article repository](#) for trusts seeking legal guidance. This new resource includes links to hints and tips from law firms on topics spanning clinical, IT, contract management, HR and estates and procurement. The latest version includes a [podcast](#) from legal firm Hempsons on procuring during the pandemic.



Our work with suppliers

We have received almost 300 resilience and mitigation plans from suppliers and we will be doing another follow up to gather more this week. The plans are available to members by going to [my.lpp](#) and selecting the category ‘**COVID-19 supplier resilience plans**’.

Of these suppliers, NHS LPP also sought more information for members from [100 identified critical suppliers](#). More than 78 have responded with detailed answers, which can be found by going to [my.lpp](#) and selecting the category ‘**Critical Supplier Q&A**’.

We have also compiled a [useful list of contacts](#) giving information on where to signpost suppliers offering PPE, ventilators and other essential services. Please note that some information may change rapidly – our team will make every effort to ensure this list is kept as up to date as possible

The NHS LPP team have been made aware of a list of over [300 offers of support](#) to the NHS compiled by the London Covid Offers Management Team based at NHS England and NHS Improvement. Examples of offers include space for business operations or storage, transport and delivery opportunities and a range of digital offerings. To be added to their weekly mailing list for the updated offers or to take up one of the offers, please email Covid.InKind@london.gov.uk.

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](#).

Coronavirus guidance

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 If you would like to give feedback on this bulletin or make suggestions for future updates please contact customer@lpp.nhs.uk. If you are not yet a NHS LPP member and wish to hear more contact us at customer@lpp.nhs.uk. NHS LPP is on [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#)

