

## Mary Nergaard

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**Subject:** FW: Covid-19 testing  
**Attachments:** Nursing Home Care and Residential Home Resident Testing Strategy - Flow Chart NURSING HOMES V2.pdf; Nursing Home Care and Residential Home Resident Testing Strategy - Flow Chart RESIDENTIAL HOMES V2.pdf; Nursing Home Care and Residential Home Resident Testing Strategy - Flow Chart V2.pdf

**From:** Leanne Fairbairn <Leanne.Fairbairn@northtyneside.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 05 May 2020 16:00  
**Subject:** Covid-19 testing

Hello everyone

Following on from the email sent yesterday I am writing to offer some more information on testing:

### Testing arrangements for staff

All **care workers** can access testing through 2 ways

- By emailing the North East Commissioning Support (NECS) unit [necsu.covid19keyworkertesting@nhs.net](mailto:necsu.covid19keyworkertesting@nhs.net) providing name, contact number and job title. This is the preferred mechanism for all health and social care staff.
- Self-referral through Gov.uk website <https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/>

Testing can also be accessed in the same way for any household members with symptoms living with a care worker that has resulted in the care worker having to self isolate.

Testing will be offered at the drive through Ikea testing site at the Metro Centre, the drive thru mobile site or through ordering a postal self-test kit.

Through the NECS mechanism there may also be the offer of a test at an NHS facility in Gateshead or Newcastle.

### Testing arrangements for Residents

All care home providers can arrange testing for symptomatic residents. See attached flowcharts for details on how to do this.

At present due to current testing capacity in Northumbria Health Care Foundation Trust labs this is only for symptomatic residents in care and nursing homes.

We are currently working with the CCG and Northumbria Health Care Foundation to have a similar process for non-symptomatic residents and staff, as soon as we have a testing system in place we will update you.

Likewise, due to limited current testing capacity we are not able to test symptomatic and non-symptomatic residents living in independent living schemes or in sheltered accommodation. We are aware that this does need to be addressed and are currently working to address this.

Whilst these testing processes are being established it is important that any resident who is **symptomatic should be self-isolating for 14 days** and should be cared for as if they have **Covid 19**.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards. Stay safe

Leanne

**Leanne Fairbairn**  
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NE ADASS Market Sustainability

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**From:** Leanne Fairbairn  
**Sent:** 04 May 2020 17:05  
**Subject:** Covid-19 testing for symptomatic residents

Hello

Please find attached flow charts relating to covid-19 testing of symptomatic residents in North Tyneside.

Thank you

Leanne

**Leanne Fairbairn**  
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