

Addendum 2

17th September 2020

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This addendum sets out Apple House strategic focus during the development of the pandemic. Further updates will be added as appropriate.

The COVID-19 Contingency Plan and Business Continuity Plan maintains a strategic focus which demonstrates and has the means to adapt and transform the service the organisation provides. This ensures that it is fit to meet new innovations, regulations, best practice, and rapidly evolving events at this current time.

Creative learning workforce: Our teams are accessing remote learning resources to maintain their training and ongoing personal development. Webinars are increasingly used by the organisation's directors and management team to ensure that they are professionally updated.

Use of PPE and enhanced infection control is centered around Government recommendations and continuously monitored and reviewed. Stocks of PPE (personal protective equipment) are managed at service and organisational level with an emergency supply held centrally at head office.

Successful partnership working is essential and never more so than during this pandemic period. Directors, managers and staff teams are involved in keeping lines of communication open and attending virtual meetings including, but not limited to: CQC, local authorities, Care England, *John's Campaign*, NHS, PHE and government skills groups.

Risk assessing the ongoing situation: Apple House is aware that research is evolving with regard to COVID-19 and the organisation aims to keep updated with the latest guidance as it becomes available. The services continue to monitor the risks to the staff teams and people whom they support. Individual risk assessments are carried out by the management and staff teams.

COVID-19 testing: Apple House are working with PHE, the NHS and government guidance to ensure safe, effective testing is available for those people for whom it is appropriate to receive testing. The homes' teams are making all information available, and supporting people to carry out testing where required. At the time of writing this addendum staff are tested weekly and service users monthly although this is subject to change should the government revise best practice guidance.

CQC are supporting social care services as part of the national response. Apple House is working with CQC and responding to the Emergency Framework Support calls. Notifications are also being made where appropriate.