

## Care Inspectorate Wales - updates

### Coronavirus Announcements

A number of announcements have been made by CIW in relation to the current coronavirus pandemic that providers must be aware of, these include:

- ◆ The implementation of Annual Returns have been delayed until May 2021
- ◆ Free of charge DBS and barred list checks for new recruits being employed in the care and provision of coronavirus
- ◆ Routine inspections have been paused, only where there are significant concerns will an inspection take place
- ◆ Registration work has been prioritised with the following scenarios taking precedence:
  - ⇒ Registration and variation work that supports providers to provide services as a result of COVID-19
  - ⇒ Registration and variation work that brings additional capacity to the sector
  - ⇒ Registration of services operating without registration
  - ⇒ High-risk registrations or variations
  - ⇒ All other registration and variation work
- ◆ Any suspected or confirmed cases of coronavirus must be reported via the notification process for infectious diseases

## Social Care Wales—updates

### The Social Care Worker Card

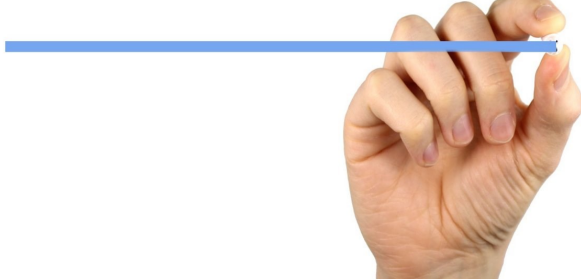
This card has been introduced to identify social care workers and to confirm they are key workers in the current pandemic.

The digital version of the card will be available from 15th April 2020. A plastic, hard copy of the card will be sent to all frontline social care workers in the next three weeks. The card will expire on the 31st March 2021.

They are NOT registration cards.

Any social care workers not registered with Social Care Wales will still receive a card, managers will be asked to provide information to Social Care Wales of the numbers they require for unregistered social care workers.

## INFORMATION



### When should the card be used?

- ◆ To identify and prove to police they are a social care workers, when travelling to and from work
- ◆ To present in supermarkets to benefit from special shopping arrangements

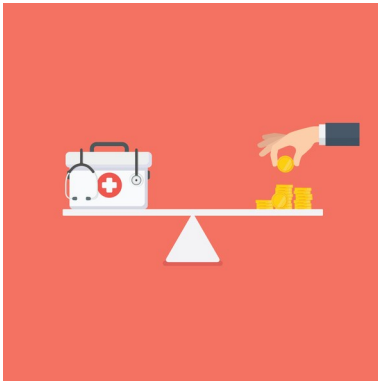


### What information will be on the card?

- ◆ Full name of the social care worker
- ◆ Key worker status identified
- ◆ Social Care Wales, Care Inspectorate Wales and Welsh Government's logos
- ◆ No photo will be included on the card, please present alongside other forms of ID, if required



## Registration System



Registering with Social Care Wales must usually be done within the first six months from the workers start date, due to the current situation this has been extended to up to a year from the start date. The online registration system continues to remain open for applications.

Returning or retired workers, who are required to register, but without the required qualifications, can register once their competence has been confirmed by their manager.

Any social care workers from England working in Wales will not face regulatory action, but Social Care Wales asks local authorities to make sure the individual is not subject to any removal or suspension order from a registration body.

## Recruiting Staff Tips

- ◆ Review where to best deploy existing staff and where there are gaps
- ◆ Advertise vacancies on twitter with #WeCareWales and other social media platforms
- ◆ Conducts interviews by phone or video call
- ◆ Be familiar with the revised DBS and ID checking guidelines
- ◆ Ensure new recruits complete an application form, including a self-declaration regarding health, regulatory or criminal history as well as previous experience and qualifications
- ◆ Plan a proportionate induction for new starters

**GDPR!**  
**Information about employees health will constitute 'sensitive personal data' and therefore such information will have to be processed in accordance with GDPR. However employers can process medical data relating to a data subject where it is necessary for the employer to comply with its legal obligations in relation to health and safety.**

## Contact Us

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### Have a question?



0333 405 33 33



INFO@QCS.CO.UK



WWW.QCS.CO.UK

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## Did You Know ?

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- ◆ The Government has postponed the controversial reforms to the IR35 tax rules until April 2021 as it attempts to alleviate pressure on businesses and individuals amid the COVID-19 fallout.
- Care Inspectorate Wales has written to all registered providers to say they are;
  - ◆ Stopping all routine inspections
  - ◆ Making some inspection activity in a small number of cases, for example where there are significant concerns about the safety and well-being of people
  - ◆ Support providers by acting flexibly and proportionately
- ◆ Microsoft have made their video conferencing platform, Teams, free in response to the COVID-19 emergency.