



Suffolk Care

Market Update

20th June 2024

Issue 257

Updates for this week

- Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Training Programme for Care Homes
- Data Security Protection Toolkit Final Compliance
- Preparation for Hot Weather

Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Training Programme for Care Homes

Information provided by Suffolk & North East Essex

Please see attached flyer with information on current interactive IPC (Infection Prevention and Control) virtual training programme which is aimed at IPC leads or champions in care home/community settings but is open to anyone wanting to improve their IPC practices and share knowledge with their colleagues.

Data Security Protection Toolkit Final Compliance - Deadline 30th June 2024

Information provided by Suffolk Care Association

The Data Security and Protection Toolkit is an online self-assessment tool that enables organisations to measure and publish their performance against the National Data Guardian's ten data security standards.

All organisations that have access to NHS patient data and systems must use this toolkit to provide assurance that they are practising good data security, and that personal information is handled correctly.

The deadline for this to be completed is **30th June 2024**.

Preparation for Hot Weather

Update from Suffolk County Council

This guidance advises social care managers on how to reduce the risk of hot weather to the health and wellbeing of people they provide care for.

[Supporting vulnerable people before and during hot weather: social care managers - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/supporting-vulnerable-people-before-and-during-hot-weather-social-care-managers)

In all settings, you can reduce the risks associated with hot weather for those you care for by:

- ensuring all social care staff are familiar with this guidance, and your local hot weather and business continuity plans before 1 June each year,
- considering [changes to the building that could reduce exposure to heat](#) in the home or the care setting,
- ensuring those in your service's care drink plenty of fluids throughout the day, that staff monitor people in their care for significant changes in hydration status compared to what is normal for them (for example, peeing less often, feeling dizzy or light-headed) and know what action to take if these changes occur,
- planning activities for times of the day when it is cooler such as the morning or evening,
- working with staff to keep those they care for out of the sun at the hottest time of the day, usually between 11am and 3pm.

If you work in a setting that provides care in clients' own homes, you should also:

- ensure staff know who is at higher risk of heat related illnesses and how to reduce that risk,
- have plans in place for individuals you are responsible for to keep them and their home cool.

The guidance also details how to recognise heat exhaustion and heatstroke, preparing for hot weather, and responding to hot weather.

Helpful resources:

- [Hot weather and health: supporting vulnerable people](#)
- [Hot weather advice: planning events and mass gatherings](#)
- [Beat the heat guidance](#)
- [Weather-Health Alerting System: user guide](#)

Training & Development Opportunities

Please visit our website for all upcoming training and development opportunities for Suffolk Care Providers: [Suffolk Providers Handbook - Suffolk County Council](#)