

Dear All

Community services update – Winsford

Due to the current situation and as advised by NHS England I will be responding to the needs of the most vulnerable and in particular those who are self isolating. Last week as expected there was a significant increase in referrals/requests for shopping, medication and support with mental health. So far I have been able to connect all those requiring support with food shopping and medication through colleagues from our local churches in Winsford.

I have also been finding out what other services there are available in the community.

Aleta Steele, Locality Manager for CWAC has asked me to promote their living well website which gives details of services in Cheshire West and Chester. Their link is <https://livewell.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk>, where you will find further details for Age UK, Snow Angels and other services..

There is also a newly established volunteer scheme called Winsford good neighbours. Their volunteers who are all db's checked will provide support including shopping, collection of medication, dog walking, and telephone support to those self isolating in Winsford. They have an agreement with a local Butcher and convenience store so that orders and payments can be made over the telephone to avoid any exchange of monies. Further details can be found either via their helpline No 07907186300, (for those who are self isolating) on their facebook page or via their email help@goodneighbourwinsford.com.

I am also working with colleagues from Weavervale Housing Trust who have identified their most vulnerable tenants and will offer telephone welfare checks and emergency food parcels where needed. Their contact No is 01606 813300.

Please feel free to share the above information with colleagues from your practice. People can self refer into any of the above services, alternatively I can assist patients who require further support to access any of these services.

I am happy to support the practices in whatever way you feel is appropriate. If you have a list of your most vulnerable patients that you would like me to contact in the meantime please let me know and I will be happy to provide a welfare check to those most in need.

Darren will be contacting the PCN leads to ensure that we are providing a service that best meets the needs of the patients. The GP Alliance and CCG have agreed that in view of the circumstances we will only provide referral numbers and cumulative figures for the month of March so I will not be asking you to run your reports for the foreseeable future.

In the meantime keep in touch and most of all keep well.

Kind regards

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Jackie Brown