

Changes to our services

In response to the COVID19 outbreak we have made some changes to the services we provide so that we can better respond to the needs of disabled people we work with.

Support for People who Employ PAs to provide social care support

PA register for people in need of short-term/emergency support

We are looking for PAs who may be available for work to support people in need of short-term support due to the COVID 19 outbreak to replace PAs who are unable to work at this time. PAs can register [here](#) using this on-line form, which includes contact details, skills and availability.

People looking for a PA (Individuals in receipt of a direct payment through Social Care or a Personal Health Budget) can download and complete a Referral for PA support form [here](#) and email it to CV19@disabilitysheffield.org.uk We will match people in need of a PA with PAs on our register.

The PA register is not able to support people who are looking to recruit PAs for the first time, for example, someone who usually attends day services who now requires support at home due to the closure of the day service. In these instances you should get in touch with First Contact by phoning 273 4908 or email: FirstContact@sheffield.gov.uk

Key Worker status

We are able to provide a letter from Sheffield City Council confirming that a named PA is a key worker. This letter can be used for authorisation when out and about carrying out duties related to work as a PA, and when travelling to and from work.

Access to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

We are able to provide PPE for anyone in receipt of a direct payment whether it is Social Care or Continuing Health Care (PHB) Also privately funded care if required. If you employ PAs or are a PA requiring PPE please contact us on 0114 2536750 or email CV19@disabilitysheffield.org.uk so we can discuss your requirements and whether you fit the current Government and local council eligibility criteria. If you are eligible we will arrange delivery of PPE, subject to availability.

Individual Employer and PA Frequently Asked Questions

We have produced an information sheet of FAQs including guidance from Sheffield City Council on the use of direct payments during this period. The information sheet will be regularly updated and can be download from our website.

On-line PA register

Our on-line PA register is still available for people wishing to recruit new PAs or for PAs looking for a job.

Disability-related Support, Information and Resources

There is a dedicated page on our website with information for disabled people related to Coronavirus including easy-read resources. This page is being regularly updated as guidance changes and we find new information.

In addition we continue to provide an information service including fact sheets on a range of issues for example Equipment and Adaptations,

Support during office hours

If you are in need of support or information you can contact us by emailing CV19@disabilitysheffield.org.uk or phoning 0114 2536750. We are a small team so the phone will not always be answered straight away but if you leave a message we will return your phone call the same day.

Peer Support for people with a learning disability

We are piloting a virtual coffee morning on Zoom for people with a learning disability every Tuesday and Thursday 11am-12noon. Email CV19@disabilitysheffield.org.uk for more information. We are keen to reach as many people as possible so please do mention to anyone you know who may be interested. We are also arranging regular peer phone calls to connect people who are isolated at this time.

Support for existing advocacy clients

We are still providing regular telephone contact and support for our existing advocacy clients.

New advocacy referrals

We are still taking referrals for people who are struggling to access health and social care or through the Advocacy Hub. However the service we can provide is limited to phone and email contact at this time.

Sheffield Cycling 4 All

Sessions not taking place due to Covid19 and restrictions. SC4A [website](#) and [social media](#) includes regular posts on how to keep active at home and zoom meet-ups. Still keeping in contact with people attending and encouraging regularly activity.

Contact Us

Email: CV19@disabilitysheffield.org.uk or Phone: 0114 2536750

www.disabilitysheffield.org.uk/coronavirus-information-and-support