

Implementation Plans for Government Testing Policy: NHS Forth Valley Testing Plan

1. Introduction

This Testing Plan Covers: Clackmannanshire Local Authority & Stirling Local Authority (i.e. Clackmannanshire & Stirling H&SCP); Falkirk Local Authority (i.e. Falkirk H&SCPs).

The two models covered in the Plan are:

- Enhanced Outbreak Testing (Red and Amber Care Homes) and Sampling in Green Care Homes
- Routine weekly Testing of Asymptomatic Care Home Staff

2. Estimating Demand for Testing: Care Home Profile across Forth Valley

Table 1 shows the profile of care homes across Forth Valley, shown by type of care home and showing the numbers of residents (places) and staff.

There are 66 care homes across Forth Valley, with up to 2242 residents and 1696 staff. The average care home in FV has 34 residents and 32 staff.

There are 40 care homes across Forth Valley for older people, with up to 1781 residents and 1248 staff. The average care home for older people in FV has 45 residents and 40 staff.

Table 1 Forth Valley Care Home Summary(as at 30 April 2020)

Type of Care Home	Number of Care Homes	Total Beds	Total Places (residents)	Average number of registered places	Total Number of Staff	Average Number of Staff
Learning Disabilities	16	258	255	15.9	268.7	19.2
Mental Health Problems	8	143	152	19.0	79.7	11.4
Older People	40	1773	1781	44.5	1248.2	40.3
Physical and Sensory Impairment	2	54	54	27.0	99.0	49.5
Grand Total	66	2228	2242	34.0	1695.6	31.4

Source: The Care Inspectorate

Appendix 1, Tables 2, 3 and 4 provide the profiles for the Clackmannanshire Local Authority & Stirling Local Authority and Falkirk Local Authority respectively.

3. The Plan for Enhanced Outbreak Testing

This Plan will provide the following:

- Testing of residents and staff in care homes with a confirmed case of Covid-19;
- Testing of all staff and residents in linked homes where staff work between homes run by the same operator following an outbreak in one;
- Surveillance testing of an 8% sample of care homes where there are no cases.

This is completed

The planning assumptions include the following:

- The realistic worst case scenario (RWCS) assumes that up to 3 care homes will require to be tested daily (approximately 270-300 tests required). Current testing capacity in FV currently sits at in excess of 400 test per day. It is expected that this will be sufficient with this testing programme as well as meeting other local requirement. Testing is repeated weekly.
- 3 FV Testing Teams will be used to deliver the service.
- The profile of an average sized care home for older people was used to calculate daily demand (45 residents per care home and 41 staff per care home).
- Total number of tests (total across residents and staff) (weekly) = 1806 (i.e. 945 resident tests and 861 staff tests).
- Total number of tests (total across residents and staff) (daily) = 258 (i.e. 135 resident tests and 123 staff tests).
- Number of tests per day by each FV Testing Team (3) = 86 (i.e. 45 resident tests and 41 staff tests).

An assessment of additional resources required to continue this service has been completed and considered the following:

- Capacity of: staff to implement our “Train the Trainer/ Champion”;
- Administrative staff to complete test requests on Ordr Comms System and the printing of the test labels/ documentation.
- Provision of transport for the community testing team.
- Impact of staff returning to their previous posts.
- IT database managers for testing results
- Testing team service manager

4. Routine Weekly Testing of Asymptomatic Care Home Staff

This Plan will describe the arrangements for Routine weekly testing for all staff in Covid-19 free care homes.

This process will commence on 8.6.20 depending on the availability of the social care portal which is expected to open on that date.

Key rate limiting factor(s)

- Opening of social portal
- Logistics behind organising this number of individuals. Robust systems need to be put in place.
- Staff resilience; If many staff are positive then the rate determining step will be staff resilience. Testing must be done in partnership with staff mobilisation planning.

Planning assumptions

- This service will cover all registered Care Homes (66 in FV covering 1696 care home staff [i.e. 100% of all care homes and 100% of all care home staff])
- Current total capacity of the three FV Drive Through Testing Stations = 1428

Methods of accessing testing:

Processes are in place to ensure each care home can access

1. Online self-referral portal for care home employees via the UK Lighthouse Testing Facility (nearest hubs are Edinburgh, Glasgow Airports and Perth) or the mobile testing units (deployed on rotation throughout Forth Valley).
2. Booking of the Lighthouse Mobile Testing Units to deliver testing kits for use in care homes with no Covid-19 cases, through the online Social Care Portal (due to go live on Monday 8th June).
3. Employer Portal for the UK Lighthouse Facility on the Scottish Government Website, which allows care home managers to book testing for employees. To obtain a login, care home managers should email: portalservicedesk@dhsc.gov.uk. Care homes must supply two email addresses that will primarily be used to load worker contact details. Once employer details have been verified, two login credentials will be issued for the employer referral portal. Care home managers should then login at: <https://coronavirus-invite-testing.service.gov.uk/DaraTestDemand/Login>

Once the care home manager has arranged testing for their staff we will recommend that they collate, on a weekly basis the names of all staff members who have been tested over the previous week. This will be emailed to the Local coordinators mailbox:

Falkirk – CareHomeTesting@falkirk.gov.uk
Stirling – regulatoryservices@stirling.gov.uk
Clackmannanshire – ehealth@clacks.gov.uk.

Results will be collated by the results coordinator.

Results will not be shared with the care home managers. All care home staff tested via the Lighthouse Testing Facility will be contacted electronically to inform them of their results. The NHS Forth Valley Test Results Hub will only make telephone contact with individuals who have tested positive. In the event of a positive care home staff member, our Health Protection Outbreak Control processes will be initiated and the Test and Protect contact tracing process immediately.

Once the dedicated Lighthouse Testing Facility Care Home Portal is active on the Scottish Government website, care homes in NHS Forth Valley will be encouraged to utilise this facility.

5. Financial Impact

The detailed cost impact for 2020/21 will be dependent on a number of variables including availability of existing funded staff to support the programme, backfill requirements, successful recruitment and level of escalation based on planning assumptions described above. An initial assessment of funding requirement over a

full year is set out in Table 2 below however this remains subject to further review. Updated cost estimates will be included in the next iteration of Covid-19 financial planning templates submitted to Scottish Government.

Table 2 – Indicative Financial Impact

	Full Year Cost £000
Band 8A – 4 w.t.e	284
Band 6 – 8 w.t.e	413
Band 5 – 5 w.t.e	207
Total	904

Management of care home outbreaks in NHS FV

There have been 21 Care home outbreaks recorded in NHS FV 15 have been closed; 6 remain live. Testing has been completed of staff and residents in all closed and live outbreaks. New outbreaks are tested within 48 hours of identification of symptomatic residents. Testing is currently undertaken using a combination of modalities including mobile testing team; attendance at drive thru; and self testing within care homes. Coordination of the testing is undertaken by local Environmental Health Officer teams and data collated by the testing coordinator within the public health department. Uptake of testing will be monitored and encouraged.

Resources

As in section 5 additional staff have been requested, this includes a testing centre manager.

Appendix 1

Table 2 Clackmannanshire Care Home Summary (as at 30 April 2020)

Type of Care Home	Number of Care Homes	Total Beds	Total Places (residents)	Average number of registered places	Total Number of Staff	Average Number of Staff
Learning Disabilities	2	50	40	20.0	44.5	22.3
Mental Health Problems	2	26	27	13.5	21.5	10.8
Older People	6	281	282	47.0	213.2	42.6
Physical and Sensory Impairment	1	37	37	37.0	75.0	75.0
Grand Total	11	394	386	35.1	354.2	35.4

Table 3 Stirling Care Home Summary (as at 30 April 2020)

Type of Care Home	Number of Care Homes	Total Beds	Total Places (residents)	Average number of registered places	Total Number of Staff	Average Number of Staff
Learning Disabilities	5	97	97	19.4	87.0	29.0
Mental Health Problems	3	76	84	28.0	12.8	6.4
Older People	14	560	546	39.0	287.4	35.9
Physical and Sensory Impairment	1	17	17	17.0	24.0	24.0
Grand Total	23	750	744	32.3	411.3	29.4

Table 4 Falkirk Care Home Summary (as at 30 April 2020)

Type of Care Home	Number of Care Homes	Total Beds	Total Places (residents)	Average number of registered places	Total Number of Staff	Average Number of Staff
Learning Disabilities	9	111	118	13.1	137.1	15.2
Mental Health Problems	3	41	41	13.7	45.4	15.1
Older People	20	932	953	47.7	747.6	41.5
Grand Total	32	1084	1112	34.8	930.1	31.0