

Findings/common themes and learning from Residential/Nursing Care Home IPC support visits		
Theme	Learning	Recommended actions
Adherence to personal protective equipment (PPE) guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff wearing PPE in staff rooms and/or office areas • Potentially contaminated visors removed and stored on surfaces in staff rooms • Staff wearing PPE due to risk of unintended exposure – not removing post contact or at regular intervals to ensure hand washing is undertaken. • Staff routinely wearing gloves around the home for 'personal safety' reasons • Staff continually touching face masks or pulling under the nose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff to be reminded of current Public Health England (PHE) PPE guidance • Standard operating procedure (SOP) to be drafted for staff rooms • Risk assess the need to wear PPE for unintended exposure and ensure there is a process in place for regular changing of gloves and hand washing • Posters depicting correct wearing of face masks to be displayed in prominent areas
PPE stations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insufficient amount of clearly identifiable PPE stations • PPE stored in boxes at floor level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase level of PPE stations, ensure there is an adequate supply of hand sanitiser, masks and visors/goggles as per risk assessment • Consider purchase of Danicentres (apron and glove dispenser unit) or equivalent for storage of PPE • If not able to purchase Danicentres it is recommended that PPE is stored on trolleys with a risk assessment re: handling and cleaning
Availability of hand sanitiser/ hand wash basins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insufficient level of available wall mounted hand sanitiser dispensers/units • Not all care staff have personal pocket sized bottles of hand sanitiser • Staff washing hands in residents' sinks used for personal hygiene or disposal of personal hygiene water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider purchasing additional wall mounted hand sanitiser dispensers/units • Consider purchase of personal use pocket sized hand sanitisers (dependant on availability and additional cost) • If residents' sinks are to be used for staff hand hygiene, draft SOP to ensure thorough

		cleaning following personal hygiene
Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insufficient waste bins to support doffing in residents' rooms, when entering staff room and on leaving building • Lack of awareness in relation to disposal of waste generated as per guidance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase rigid sided, pedal operated lidded bins for use in residents' rooms and at PPE stations • Ensure waste guidance is read and adhered to
Adherence to social distancing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social distancing not maintained in staff rooms • No clear indication (poster) for maximum staff capacity in staff room • Chairs in communal lounges and dining rooms not adhering to 2 metre distancing guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforce social distancing guidelines, where practicable remove extra seating to ensure 2 metre distancing can be achieved • Put up poster with maximum capacity for staff room • Ensure 2 metre distancing between lounge chairs and at dining tables is implemented and adhered to
Environmental cleaning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Care staff also responsible for cleaning the home with no specific training • Cluttered environments hampering effective cleaning • High-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter vacuum cleaners not available for use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reconsider care staff undertaking cleaning – where this is unavoidable source appropriate training for staff as per NHS cleaning standards • Declutter all areas of the home including office areas to support effective cleaning • Clarify requirement for HEPA filter vacuums in care homes, particularly during outbreaks
IPC training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not all care home staff have received the super training rolled out earlier in the pandemic by the EPUT care home education team • Are managers assured that all staff have completed annual mandatory IPC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Care home managers to arrange with EPUT team to deliver training if they have not yet received it • Consider refresher training (donning and doffing) • Check all staff are up to date with IPC training



	training (either face-to-face or online)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Managers to maintain lists of compliant staff and repeat dates?
Other IPC issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Staff not bare below the elbows (BBE) i.e. nail varnish/gel nails, long sleeves	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Reiterate IPC requirements for effective hand hygiene – ensure all staff adheres to BBE