

Public Health, E3 Zone 1  
County Hall  
Market Road  
Chelmsford  
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Ref: carehome/050321

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Dear Care Home Manager

### **Social visiting in care homes**

As many of you will have seen the Government has now published guidance on the social visiting that will be allowed in care homes from 8<sup>th</sup> March. This covers indoor visiting by one constant visitor, essential care giver visits and outdoor, closed or pod and screen visits with more than one visitor.

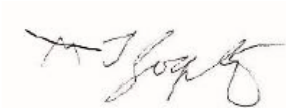
A summary of the guidance can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/visiting-care-homes-during-coronavirus/summary-of-guidance-for-visitors--2>, with the full guidance at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/visiting-care-homes-during-coronavirus/update-on-policies-for-visiting-arrangements-in-care-homes>.

This cautious but welcome development will go some way to restoring the visiting that has been so missed. Managing this additional visiting will be a challenge for care homes to undertake safely. I do not underestimate the challenge. Thank you for your work to make this happen.

Yours sincerely



**Mike Gogarty**

Director of Wellbeing, Public Health and Communities  
Essex County Council