**12.02.21 Staff resourcing for LFD testing and vaccination rollout**

Dear Executive Directors, Prison Group Directors and Governors/Directors,

**Resources for LFD testing and vaccination rollout**

Please find attached a note for your attention about the staff resourcing requirements in establishments to support LFD testing and vaccination rollout together with accompanying documents.

**Update on Confirmatory testing & Re-testing**

We have been seeking clarity on LFD (lateral flow) testing and the requirement from a positive test including the ability to retest after the isolation period.

On the 10th February 2021, the Department of Health and Social Care confirmed that it will be a requirement within Prisons and Approved Premises for any individual who has a positive LFD result to be followed up with a confirmatory PCR test and the individual isolate until the PCR result is known .

Individuals who have had a positive PCR result within the last 90 days will **not** be able to partake in any PCR or LFD testing until after that 90-day period has lapsed. If new symptoms develop during this 90-day period; the individual is to isolate and medical advice is to be sought.

This applies in England and Wales.

Thank you.



**Attached Email: Lateral Flow Device (LFD) Testing 25.01.21**

Dear Executive Directors, Directors and Governors

Please find attached a suite of documents outlining arrangements for the introduction of Lateral Flow Device Testing (LFD) for staff in the prison estate in England and Wales from 25th Jan.

As you may be aware PHE strongly advocate LFD testing in custodial settings to allow the rapid detection of infectious individuals and to facilitate more proactive control. UK Government has recently announced measures to increase key worker access to LFD testing in the workplace and following PHE advice, HMPPS has secured approval to supplement existing weekly PCR testing with twice-weekly LFD testing in all prisons.

Amongst other advantages, LFD tests produce a result within 20 – 30 minutes allowing a positive individual to immediately isolate. LFD tests consist of a throat and nose swab taken by the individual themselves and processed by a trained operative.

The presence of COVID-19 is determined during a simple analysis process that can follow swiftly after each test. This process is explained in further detail within the attached guidance. Please direct any enquiries to the vaccinations team functional mailbox [HMPPSVaccines@justice.gov.uk](mailto:HMPPSVaccines@justice.gov.uk)

