**17.03.21 Drive to Increase the Participation Levels of Staff Testing**

Good evening,

Staff testing for COVID remains one of the most critical elements in preventing the virus entering prison establishments and limiting onward transmission by early identification.  This helps protect our colleagues and those in our care.

The attachment is a revision of note shared with governors on 23rd February setting out the expectations for staff testing and providing supporting best practice.  It also requests information from you on confirming the levels of eligible staff and the actions you are undertaking to promote testing.

We are also pleased to report that **DHSC have approved the rollout of home LFD testing for prison staff**.  This will be rolled out from the 29th of March.

We are hugely appreciative of the work you have put in place to support the delivery of testing.

Regards,

Ed

