



Knowsley Council

Adult Social Care
4th Floor Huyton Municipal Building
Archway Road
Huyton
L36 9YU

12th January 2021

Day Services

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to you following the latest Government announcement about a further National Lockdown in England which came into effect on Wednesday 6 January 2021. This decision followed a rapid rise in infections, hospital admissions and case rates across the country.

I have been advised that you are (the person you care for is) currently attending day services. Whilst it is recognised that there is a requirement for people who have identified care and support needs to continue to have access to support, the Governments National Lockdown Guidance states that:

- you must not leave, or be outside of your home except where necessary
- if you do leave home for a permitted reason, you should always stay local - unless it is necessary to go further
- stay local means stay in the village, town, or part of the city where you live

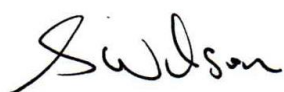
I understand the key role that day services provide in supporting you (the person you care for) and your family. However, in light of the current National Lockdown position we have contacted all day service providers to ask them to review attendance at their day service and reduce attendance levels in order to minimise the risk of transmission of the virus. They have been advised to only accept service users where it is absolutely necessary, such as where family members are key workers and there is no alternative support, or where not attending day services would seriously impact on an individuals mental health or result in carer breakdown. We have asked them to ensure that attendees are not also attending other day services to prevent potential virus transmission between services.

We recognise the additional pressure this will place on families; however, we feel this action is necessary due to the significant increased risks of contracting the COVID-19 virus at this time. Case rates in England trebled during December and Government scientists have confirmed the new variant of COVID-19 is between 50 and 70 per cent more transmissible. In Knowsley rates have more than doubled in a week, from 212.8 per 100,000 on 24 December 2020 to 597.2 per 100,000 population as at 1 January 2021.

We would strongly advise that you (the person you care for) only leave your home where necessary during the National Lockdown. If you continue to attend day services, we urge you to comply with all government guidance in relation to social distancing and all arrangements that have been put in place by your day service provider to minimise any risks and maintain your safety.

If you wish to talk to a Social Worker regarding alternative support options during the current National Lockdown period, please contact the adult social care contact team on 0151 443 2600.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Wilson', written in a cursive style.

Sally Wilson
Head of Service – Adult Social Care