

**Live engagement hour for Adults Acute**  
**18 September**

**Q. Can I ask about admissions to Stepping Hill who currently have COVID positive patients on both their wards, (we are experiencing ongoing difficulty obtaining beds) may be something for if we are considering repatriation from?**

A. If we can get our bed situation to a position where we may be able to offer choice to patients in the High Peak that would be great. We will pick this up in the Incident Management Team. Conversations with Stepping Hill are needed about it, we do have a duty to protect our patients so if we have the opportunity to admit them into a non COVID area we need to be doing that.

**Q. Are we anticipating extremely vulnerable staff going back to home working again in the near future?**

A. We need this to be driven by how managers are feeling once they have had conversations with staff based on the individual health risk assessment and maybe we should be thinking about increasing the frequency of those as the risks start to rise. If the risk reduction framework says that an individual cannot work in COVID positive areas then we need to be flexible to ensure they are kept at work but away from these areas. The risk assessment will guide us into what to do now and what to do next. It isn't thought that a large scale shielding list will return yet but there is potential if the plan for a two week national lockdown comes in then this may be an issue for those on the shielding list. The shielding list is being reviewed so will be quite different should they enact this again.

**Q. Will COVID testing also cover staff family members?**

A. Pillar 1 testing that we have now is only for staff who are symptomatic. If we get more capacity or other routes then we will try and accommodate but we have not been able to negotiate anything further so far. We will try again to get solutions for this but it won't be immediately.

**Q. Can I also ask if the guidance for the maximum office numbers has changed with the introduction of masks for all unless alone?**

A. No, what we are doing is adding in extra protection and precautions asking people to wear masks if you are not alone in an office.

**Q. How can we access paper copies of the Staff Survey?**

A. Paper copies of the Staff Survey have been sent to all sites where staff are based. If you have not received a paper copy, please contact the Organisational Effectiveness Team by emailing [DHCFT.OEteam@nhs.net](mailto:DHCFT.OEteam@nhs.net).