

PPE use for unpaid carers and personal assistants in the community

When sharing a living space with an individual requiring care

This document gives the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (EHSCP) interpretation of the Scottish Government guidance **PPE for social care providers, unpaid carers and personal assistants** which you can view in full [here](#).

Activity / Situation	Is the individual being cared for shielded or extremely vulnerable?	Would you usually wear PPE in this situation?	Handwashing and good general hygiene.	Gloves	Surgical mask	Apron
Basic self care i.e. food preparation without providing assistance, domestic activities in the home where there is no direct personal contact *	Yes	Yes	✓	Wear what you would normally wear		
		No	✓			
	No	Yes	✓	Wear what you would normally wear		
		No	✓			
Assistance with personal or self care where contact is unavoidable i.e. toileting, showering, bathing *	Yes	Yes	✓	Wear what you would normally wear		
		No	✓			
	No	Yes	✓	Wear what you would normally wear		
		No	✓			

* If you or the person you are caring for has COVID-19 symptoms and/or has tested positive for COVID-19 and contact or physical distancing cannot be maintained – full PPE including gloves, surgical mask, apron and **face shield/visor** should be worn. These items can be obtained from the PPE Hub at the SMART Centre as per the related guidance which is attached for your information and use.

Please note - When making deliveries ie food or medication, including collection of the goods from the shop or pharmacy, **no PPE is required as long as physical distancing can be maintained alongside handwashing and good general hygiene**. In line with the Scottish Government recommendation, you may wish to cover your nose and mouth in public places. This does not need to be a surgical grade mask. This can be done with a scarf if you have one, or alternatively a cotton mask can be obtained by contacting ruth@care4carers.org.uk or 0131 661 2077.

EHSCP response to PPE for social care providers, unpaid carers and personal assistants

We welcome the new Scottish Government Guidance in relation to '*PPE Provision for Social Care Providers, Unpaid Carers and Personal Assistants*'. In order to meet this new provision, we have extended the provision of PPE from our EHSCP Distribution Hub from the SMART Centre at the Astley Ainslie Hospital.

At present PPE can be collected or delivered from the SMART Centre during office hours, Monday-Friday 8.30am-4.30pm. The address for the SMART Centre is Astley Ainslie Hospital, 133 Grange Loan, Edinburgh, EH9 2HL.

If you are a care provider (care homes, care at home providers, unpaid carers, personal assistants, sheltered housing services, supported housing and housing support, children's homes and hospices) and are able to travel to the SMART Centre, you can come to reception where you will be asked to give some basic information and will be provided with the option of a supply of masks, aprons and gloves. If you are a registered provider, you will also be asked to provide your CS registration number.

Alternatively, if you are not able to travel independently, you can call the SMART Centre using 07976 840353 (which is held by the Duty PPE Clinician) or email smart.ppe@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk and someone will help you to arrange delivery if required. Whilst we have access to delivery drivers and vans, this is limited so we would ask where possible that you attempt to collect the equipment using your own networks. If you are a carer, you can also call the Edinburgh Carer Support Team on 0131 536 3371 and they can help with arranging a delivery for you.

We recognise the SMART Centre is some considerable distance for many of you across the city to travel so we are working with our networks across health and social care to identify more local centres that can hold stock for us to provide to you directly. Once we make arrangements for more localised centres we will let you know.

When making use of the equipment provided to you, we would ask you only use it as directed in the information sheet attached. If you have any questions or queries about using your PPE, please do not hesitate to contact the SMART Centre on using 07976 840353 (which is held by the Duty PPE Clinician) who will help you to understand the information sheet in relation to your personal situation and/or signpost you to an appropriate person.

We would ask that you plan your PPE supplies to allow for your needs at the evening and weekends. If out-of-hours emergency supply provision is required, this can be obtained by calling Emergency Social Care Service on 0800 731 6969 with stock made available from The Clocktower, South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9LB and Waverley Court, 4 East Market Street, Edinburgh EH8 8BG.

If we are unable to assist with your PPE request, you can also contact the National Services Scotland PPE Support Centre on 0300 303 3020.

Hannah Cairns (06-05-20)