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19th June 2020

Dear all

Just wanted to drop you a quick line about a number of things:

Covid update

I am really pleased to be able to let you know that at the point of writing we only have 2 people we support who are symptomatic, for both of whom we are awaiting test results. We currently have 109 members of staff working at home due to their own long term vulnerabilities and have 3 members of staff who are not in work as either they or a member of their household is symptomatic. There have been no further hospital admissions for either members of staff nor the people we support since I last wrote a fortnight ago.

PPE stock levels are healthy and it is the use of PPE and vigilant infection control practices that are our biggest defences against transmission to the people we support and each other.

We have updated our [Organisational Risk Assessment](#) and [Individual Risk Assessment](#) to reflect the emerging research that there are groups and communities who are suffering increased adverse outcomes from Covid-19. In particular people from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic backgrounds are known to have worse outcomes from Covid-19 than their white peers, for a number of reasons including pre-existing health inequalities and all the reasons that sit behind those inequalities.

Black Lives Matter

I would like to thank those people who have shared their experiences and thoughts on the Black Lives Matter movement with me. It is helping to educate me in my thinking. As an individual I support the Black Lives Matter movement and I know that there is so much to do to ensure that we tackle racism at an individual, organisational and societal level.

I would like Aspire to do what we can to be part of the ongoing fight against racism and welcome any suggestions about how we can take this forward. Building on the back of our existing commitment to equality and our existing Diversity Matters group, one of the things we want to do is to help facilitate the set up of a Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic staff forum, led by people from those backgrounds that can help influence us in the development of our policies and practices. If you would be interested in joining such a forum please email either Everton Wattley at Everton.Wattley@aspirecbs.org.uk or me at Andrew.Rawnsley@aspirecbs.org.uk

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Learning Disability Week

Thank you so much for everything that you have done to make this week so amazing for the people that we support. Given the circumstances in which we are living – you have done amazingly to keep people active and connected. Some of the pics and videos have been a real joy!

Finally – thank you to everyone for your continued dedication and support. We work with some of the most vulnerable people in society and our collective actions are helping to keep those people safe.

Keep well and stay safe



Andy Rawnsley
Chief Executive

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