



Guidance on the provision of Personal Protective Equipment for Personal Assistants (PAs) and Unpaid Carers

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is vital in Bury's response against coronavirus (COVID-19). Bury Council is actively working to ensure that personal assistants and unpaid carers who are caring for someone who is symptomatic or has a confirmed case of COVID-19 continue to have access to supplies of PPE.

What PPE should I be using?

The Government has issued national guidance on infection prevention and control for COVID-19: [Go to gov.uk for guidance on infection prevention and control for COVID-19](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/infection-prevention-and-control-for-covid-19).

The whole country is experiencing a huge demand for PPE and therefore PPE should be used in line with national guidance. Guidance from Public Health England should be considered when determining what PPE is appropriate to wear: [Government recommended PPE](#)

PPE can include face masks, goggles, aprons, and gloves and is particularly useful where there may be exposure to bodily fluids.

If you do not need to use PPE items, please consider other people and those services that do need access to it. There are other effective ways everyone can help reduce the risk of spreading coronavirus, including:

- **Washing your hands:** Wash your hands regularly, for at least 20 seconds, or use hand sanitiser gel.
- **Practicing social distancing:** Wherever possible, ensure that you are two metres apart from anyone outside of your household.
- **Increasing cleaning activity:** Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects in your home, such as door handles and taps (to reduce risk of the virus remaining on surfaces).
- **Maintaining ventilation:** Open windows to improve air movement (whenever safe and appropriate to do so).

Supply of PPE

Where possible PAs, direct payment recipients and unpaid carers should order their PPE in the normal way through their preferred supplier. PPE supplies are commonly available through online retailers such as Amazon and Ebay.

Other organisations that provide Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to individual customers include:

Organisation	Contact details
V4G workwear - Radcliffe	orders@v4gworkwear.co.uk /0161 724 4200
Jansan UK	https://www.jansanuk.com/ / support@jansanuk.com

Emergency supply of PPE

If you are unable to source your own PPE and are a PA, direct payment recipient, or an unpaid carer living or working in the Borough of Bury, then you can request an emergency supply of PPE.

If your request is in line with national guidance regarding the use of PPE please:

- E-mail: stayingwellteam@bury.gov.uk or
- Telephone **0161 253 6484** and leave a message.

Please leave your name and telephone number and we will contact you within 24 hours to discuss your situation. Messages will be regularly monitored between 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday and 10am – 4pm Saturday and Sunday.

Please note: Emergency stock is not unlimited and depending on availability will be issued on a priority basis however you will not be charged for this PPE

Further guidance for Personal Assistants and Direct Payment recipients

The Government has issued advice for people who buy care and support through a direct payment, as well as Local Authorities, Clinical Commissioning Groups and those who provide care and support: [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): guidance for people receiving direct payments](#)

Personal Assistants showing coronavirus symptoms or are in self-isolation as a member of their household is showing coronavirus symptoms are eligible to be tested. Direct Payment recipients can now offer their PAs a test if they meet the criteria – that either they or one or more of their family household members is displaying Coronavirus like symptoms. [Go to gov.uk for advice on getting tested](#)

Further guidance for Unpaid Carers

- Guidance prepared by Carers UK: [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - Carers UK](#)
- Government information for people who are caring, unpaid, for friends or family during the coronavirus outbreak: [Guidance for unpaid carers](#)
- The Government has provided COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection: [COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection](#)
- Other Public Health England guidance: [Go to gov.uk to view a visual guide to safe PPE](#)