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08<sup>th</sup> July 2020

**To : Relevant Establishments and Agencies (via RQIA)**

**RE: REDUCING WORKFORCE MOVEMENT BETWEEN CARE HOMES:  
GUIDANCE FOR AGENCY WORKERS AND VISITING PROFESSIONALS**

Given the evidence of the prevalence of asymptomatic transmission, PHA strongly recommends that care homes do all they can to restrict staff movement wherever feasible. The checklist included within this guidance has been adapted for use in Northern Ireland from *PHE Coronavirus (COVID-19): support for care homes (22nd May, 2020)*. It has been developed in partnership with Health Protection (PHA) and has been amended in light of comments received from DoH, HSCB, PHA and Directors of Nursing in HSC Trusts. This guidance document supports the DoH Guidance for Nursing and Residential Care Homes on reducing non-essential footfall into homes.

Please bring this information to the attention of your staff. To note that a Rapid Learning Initiative is gathering the stories of staff who have worked in care homes, either as permanent staff, agency or visiting professionals. You can tell your story through the online link found at [www.10000morevoices.hscni.net](http://www.10000morevoices.hscni.net). Click on the link "You and your experience of working during COVID-19 Pandemic".

Yours faithfully



Marie Roulston  
Director Social Care & Children  
Health and Social Care Board



Rodney Morton  
Director of Nursing  
Public Health Agency

