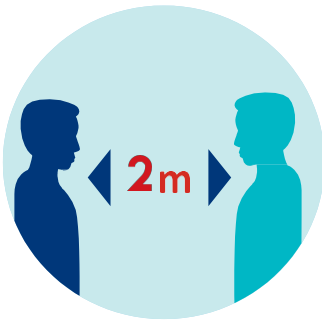


Advice for social workers during coronavirus pandemic

V1.0; 28/04/2020

Before your visit, please contact the resident to undertake risk assessment. Confirm if visit essential. Confirm if anyone in household is classed as 'extremely vulnerable' to COVID-19, and ask if anyone with symptoms could wait in another room. Please remember – When interacting with people in their homes always...



Keep a minimum distance of 2 metres where possible



Wash hands frequently (for at least 20 seconds) or use a hand sanitiser with a minimum of 60% alcohol



Clean surfaces frequently including door handles, rails, hoists etc.



Avoid touching your face, nose and eyes

When do you need PPE?

If you are visiting any household where any member of the household is in the [extremely vulnerable category](#) and is therefore 'shielding' (gloves, apron, surgical mask*). This is to protect the resident/client.

Or

If you are providing direct personal care (< 2 metres) to any member of a household regardless of symptoms (gloves, apron and fluid repellent surgical mask (FRSM +/- eye protection). Please note: we would not expect this to be common practice for social workers.

Or

You are assisting (without physical contact) a resident within 2m who is coughing (gloves, apron, and FRSM essential; eye protection as per risk assessment)

Or

You are assisting (without physical contact) a resident within 2m who does NOT have symptoms (FRSM only) This is to protect the resident/client.

Or

If you are entering a closed area with a group of symptomatic people (at any distance) (FRSM only)

What PPE do you use?

- Water repellent apron
- Disposable gloves
- Surgical mask*
- Fluid repellent surgical mask
- Eye protection (if there is risk of splashing of bodily fluids)

Safe use and disposal of PPE

- Follow the [guidance](#) on how to safely put on/ take off PPE
- Only use aprons and gloves once for each resident and/or episode of care as per standard ICP.
- Use one mask (and eye protection, if required) for each household.
- Decontaminate eye protection after use – if cleaned properly, it can be safely reused in a different setting
- Double bag aprons, gloves and mask upon disposal
- Separate from other waste, set aside and wait 72 hours before disposal in general waste



**If someone in the household is extremely vulnerable and shielding, use a regular surgical mask. You don't need eye protection.*

