

# **Guidance on the provision of Personal Protective Equipment for Unpaid Carers who do not live with the person or people they care for**

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is vital in Bury's response against coronavirus (COVID-19).

Bury Council is currently rolling out an offer of free PPE for COVID-19 needs to unpaid carers who do not live with the person or people they care for. This will be available until the end of June 2021.

**This offer is available to cover needs for PPE that have arisen due to COVID-19. If you would normally use PPE because of the nature of the care you provide, you should continue to access it through your normal routes.**

If you live with the person or people you care for, it is not currently recommended that you wear PPE unless advised to do so by a healthcare professional, like a GP or nurse.

All unpaid carers should maintain two metre social distancing when visiting the home of the person receiving care. They should also maintain 2 metre social distancing from anyone else who lives in the household with the person receiving care.

It is important that while maintaining the two metre social distancing that you also do the following to prevent the spread of the virus:

- wash your hands when you arrive and often, using soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards
- do not visit or provide care if you are unwell and make alternative arrangements for the care of that person

## **What to do if a carer is unable to maintain 2 metre social distancing or the person you are caring for is shielding?**

The type of PPE you should wear will depend on the type of care you provide.

If you are delivering unpaid care for someone outside of your own home, you do not usually use PPE due to the nature of the care you provide and the person you are caring for lives in Bury, you can request a supply by contacting [ppe@bury.gov.uk](mailto:ppe@bury.gov.uk).

Please provide the following:

- Your name
- The name of the person you care for
- The type of care you provide
- The frequency of care (daily, weekly, twice weekly etc)
- Is the person you care for shielding

You will then be provided with up to 2 months supply, as appropriately assessed.

In most cases, supply will have to be collected from the Bury store, located just outside of the Town Centre.