

Additional Testing and Site Information

These tests are voluntary.

If staff have symptoms of COVID they must not attend this site but should book a PCR test either [online](#) or by calling [119](#).

We have only very recently been informed that we can offer this service and that military personnel have been made available to help us. As we have had less than a week to set it up we may need to make some changes to service over the coming weeks.

- Who is eligible?
 - Any staff member who is in regular contact with service users or residents.
 - Any staff member who is in regular contact with other staff, for example work in one of our buildings.
- Who is not eligible?
 - Staff who work from home and have no contact with residents or service users should not attend the testing site.
 - The general public – it is only for staff.

Why do staff need to be regularly tested?

- We know that about 1 in 3 people who have the COVID virus have no symptoms and therefore may be unknowingly spreading the virus.
- These rapid tests detect roughly two out of three people with high viral loads, meaning they are effective in identifying staff who are infectious and are most likely to transmit the disease.
- The fast turnaround also allows positive staff to isolate quickly, also reducing spread.
- In line with national guidance, eligible staff should have the tests twice a week.
- Staff should be reminded that even if they test negative they should continue to follow the infection control processes of social distancing, hand washing and wearing a mask.

How do staff book a test?

- The appointment booking line will be open from Monday 11 January and will be open from 9.30 – 4.30. Please ring [0161 912 5455](#) to book an appointment.

Where will the testing take place?

- The testing site will be on the ground floor in the previous seating area of The Terrace (the restaurant) at Trafford Town Hall.
- Access will be via the external doors into The Terrace. This will be screened off so that colleagues can still attend The Terrace for takeaway refreshments and food.

When will testing take place?

- The testing facility is open 8am – 6pm Monday to Friday. If there is increased demand we may open at weekends.
- Staff arriving at the Town Hall for testing by car should access the staff car park from the Warwick Road entrance and use the parking spaces on the open staff car park past the barrier.

What does the test involve?

- The test involves taking swabs from the back of the throat and the inside of the nose using a long cotton bud.
- Staff will do the swab themselves. Military personnel will be able to advise on the correct process.
- The tests are processed on site and the results will be sent to the member of staff within a couple of hours.
- Staff can leave the test site once the test has been completed.

How often do staff need to be tested?

- To be effective in viral detection staff will need to take the test twice a week (with 3 to 4 days in between).

What happens if staff are on annual leave?

- Staff should be encouraged to attend for testing on the day they return to work.