

**Personal protective equipment**

You are receiving this notification as you have been identified as an employer by Brent Council’s Direct Payment Team with the support of Penderels Trust your payroll service provider.

As an employer of carers, you are responsible for providing personal protective equipment (PPE) for your employees whilst they are carrying out their duties on your behalf.

The cost of this PPE can be met using your Direct Payment care funding. You will need to provide that you are able to evidence the expenses by retaining receipts or invoices as proof of purchase and submitting these when the direct payments account is audited.

PPE can be purchased from many local retailers such as pharmacies, supermarkets and DIY stores as well as from online retailers.

If you are unable to purchase the appropriate PPE due to the current high demand and supply shortages, the Council has a limited supply of gloves and aprons that can be issued to you.

NB. We continue to try and source more supplies of all PPE but due to the current unprecedented high demand for particular PPE such as face masks and hand sanitiser due to the Coronavirus pandemic, we do not currently have access or supplies of these to issue at this time.

If you are in need of Gloves or disposable aprons, please email us at dpenquiries@brent.gov.uk and the team will be in contact with you to arrange an appropriate time for the PPE to be issued.

**Key worker Status**

Following the restrictions for travel implemented by the Government, there have been some concerns that your carers, who are classed as key workers, may be restricted from travelling to and from work and whilst carrying out duties in the community.

The Council can issue a letter to your carers on your behalf declaring their key worker status, as evidence to produce to any authorities that may query their activities.

If you would like this letter issued, please email DPenquiries@brent.gov.uk with the names of your carers.

NB. Your carers are required to carry some form of photo ID such as a Driver’s license or Passport to verify their identity. These letters are only to be used for travel related to their work/duties on your behalf and not for personal activities.

**As per government guidelines carers are expected to still practise social distancing and adhere to the social isolation restrictions. This will help to reduce their exposure to the Coronavirus and any potential for it to be passed on to the vulnerable individuals they care for.**