**Guidance for NHS staff who have been in contact with a positive Covid case**

**Background:**

Following changes in national guidance fully vaccinated staff who are identified as a contact of a positive COVID-19 case, will no longer be required to isolate and will be expected to return to work if the following safeguards below are met.

However, this is **NOT** the case if the staff member is living with an individual who has received a positive PCR test or has been contacted by Test and Trace / the NHS Covid App or other contact tracing routes and told to self-isolate, in most cases it will be anticipated that in these situations self-isolation will still apply.

* A **negative PCR test** prior to returning to their NHS workplace.  
  If you have been identified as a close contact, please arrange a PCR test via [Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus (COVID-19) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test). Please do not attend work while awaiting the PCR test result.  
  Please note that staff who have received a positive PCR test in the previous 90 days and are asymptomatic should not undertake a PCR test, instead they are advised to take daily lateral flow tests (as well as complying with the criteria below).
* The staff member has had **two doses of an approved vaccine**, and is at least two weeks (14 days) post double-vaccination at the point of exposure.  
  Please discuss this with your staff and ask them to inform the workforce team following each vaccination via [workforcesupport@brisdoc.org](mailto:workforcesupport@brisdoc.org).Daily **negative LFD antigen tests** for a minimum of 10 days (to include non-working days).   
  Staff members must ensure that they have arranged appropriate LFD tests before commencing a shift. All LFD antigen test results must be reported to Test and Trace via the web portal [Report a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test result - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result) and to line managers who will inform the workforce team (for ease please forward the email from Test and Trace confirming the result). Any person who has a positive LFD test should self-isolate and arrange a PCR test.  
  LFD antigen tests can be obtained from the national programme via [Order coronavirus (COVID-19) rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests) or via each service as per current protocols.
* The staff member is and remains asymptomatic – if they become symptomatic they must isolate and arrange a PCR test.
* Continued use of infection prevention control measures, in line with the current guidance.

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| **Service / Area Risk Assessment**  The purpose of this risk assessment is to ascertain if a service area is a lower or higher risk area in line with the flow diagram attached: | | | |
| Service (please indicate): | BMC / CKMP / HHS / Osprey (Business Services) / SevernSide IUC | | |
| Specific work area (if applicable)  *e.g. back office, reception area etc* | |  | |
| Is social distancing still in effect? | | Yes / No | Comments: |
| Is PPE in use when social distancing unavailable? | | Yes / No | Comments: |
| What other IPC measures are in place? | | Yes / No | Comments: |
| Is the location well ventalated? | | Yes / No | Comments: |
| Is there are area that can be used as an isolation zone? | | Yes / No | Comments: |
| What is the likelhood that there will be clinically extreamly vulnerable individuals within this area (colleagues / patients etc) | | High  Medium  Low | Comments: |
| Based on the answers above would the service / area be considered a high or low risk? | | High  Low | Comments: |
| Name of person undertaking the risk assessment: | |  | |
| Signed: | |  | |
| Date of Risk Assessment: | |  | |

If the Service / Area is considered High risk then staff members who have been in contact with a covid-19 positive case will not be able to return to this area, they will need instead, to move to a low risk area or work from home where possible.

