

As the focus nationally today continues to be about the various tiers that will commence when the current restrictions finish, I want to take this opportunity to outline how we are continuing to support our residents during the pandemic. Whilst we are continuing to deliver our business as usual services, we are also seconding a large number of staff into specific roles to support residents at this time.

I have outlined these work programmes below for ease of reference. In addition to these programmes, colleagues in Public Protection are enforcing the Covid restrictions as well as Finance staff supporting local businesses by administering the Covid grants.

In terms of the programmes, these are:

1. **New mass testing programme** – Bromley is part of the national mass testing programme and whilst this work is in its early planning stages, we are making good progress to get to a place where we can support the mass testing of residents on a daily basis, where up to 5000 residents a day can be tested. I will share details of this work in the coming weeks but the large scale nature requires large numbers of staff, with our staff coming forwards to support this work.
2. **NHS Test and Trace programme** – We have made good progress with our tracing work, with a relatively small number of staff who have been trained to use the specialist software, working on a daily basis to trace and contact residents who are Covid positive.
3. **Clinically Extremely Vulnerable Support Team** – Whilst Government have advised that shielding is not necessary, specific advice has been given to residents who have been classified as clinically extremely vulnerable and we are in contact with them to offer support if needed, utilising our volunteers when required.
4. **Assistance Line in operation** – our assistance line, 020 8313 4484, is again in operation, available to anyone who may need assistance, with our helpline available weekdays to answer calls and signpost callers accordingly. See the attached pdf document which lists contact details, including web addresses, for a number of our key services.