

Monday, 18 September 2023

Dear friends,

This letter follows my letter dated Thursday, 7 September 2023. It includes important information about the recent gastro outbreaks at Harbison, and changes to our COVID-19 precautions. As usual, we share this information widely with our residents and their representatives, our workforce, local GPs, our company members, and the community.

Norovirus outbreaks at Harbison – update

We expect the Norovirus outbreaks at Harbison to be declared over very soon.

As there are now only a few active cases we are removing visitor restrictions.

Visitors may still be required to wear PPE if they are visiting a resident who is isolating, but otherwise there are no special requirements.

Please continue to practice careful hand hygiene before, during, and after each visit.

Thank you everyone for working together to resolve these outbreaks with the least possible impact on our residents.

Changes to how we manage the risk of COVID-19 and other respiratory

infections

I am pleased to announce that from today:

masks are not required to be worn by visitors or staff;

• there is no longer a need to perform a RAT before entry to Harbison; and

visiting hours will be from 10am to 6pm.

We continue to strongly recommend you are up to date with recommended vaccinations, in consultation with your GP. Staff are required to have a current influenza vaccination when they are reasonably available.

You must not enter Harbison if you have respiratory symptoms, or if you have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 7-days, or if you are waiting for a respiratory pathogen test result (e.g., influenza, COVID-19, etc).

Please help us to prevent future COVID-19 outbreaks by avoiding Harbison if you are unwell or have recently been exposed to COVID-19; and by practicing good hand and cough hygiene.

Most of us have been in masks for more than 3 ½ years! It may take a while to recognise each other without them.

Yours sincerely,

David Cochran

Chief Executive Officer