North Yorkshire County Council

Health and Adult Services

Provider Bulletin

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↘ **Novel coronavirus update**

Novel coronavirus update

As you will have seen in the news, an outbreak of novel coronavirus has originated in Wuhan, China.

A coronavirus is a type of virus, and novel coronavirus is a new strain that starts with flu-like symptoms including a fever, a cough, or difficulty breathing. The current evidence is that most cases appear to be mild – the people who have died in China appear to have had pre-existing health conditions.

The situation is changing all the time, with work ongoing to better understand the disease and prevent its spread. These are the key facts at the present time:

- the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) advise against all travel to Hubei Province and now advise against all but essential travel to the rest of mainland China (not including Hong Kong and Macao). Advanced monitoring has been introduced at airports with direct flights from China; and
- anyone who has travelled to Wuhan in the last 14 days should stay indoors and avoid contact with other people, and call NHS 111 to inform them of their recent travel to the city. This applies even if they do not have symptoms of the virus.

You can find the latest information and a Q&A about the outbreak at the links below. Both of these are being regularly updated.

- [Public Health England information for the general public](); and
- [Public Health Matters Q&A blog – "Wuhan novel coronavirus: what you need to know"]().

If you have an appointment at The Royal Victoria Infirmary in Newcastle please attend it as planned – even though the hospital is treating patients with coronavirus there is no risk to other patients, outpatients and visitors.