

Derbyshire Constabulary Custody : COVID-19 Contingency Plan

PHE GUIDANCE

Full interim guidance from Public Health England for first responders and others in close contact with symptomatic people with potential COVID-19 is available via the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-interim-guidance-for-first-responders/interim-guidance-for-first-responders-and-others-in-close-contact-with-symptomatic-people-with-potential-2019-ncov>

Sections 12 and 13 are probably the most relevant to Custody:

12. Additional advice for police officers, police staff and police volunteers, Border Force and Immigration Enforcement officers.

Police officers, staff and volunteers, Border Force and Immigration Enforcement officers should not be performing clinical assessments of any possible cases. If concerned that someone you are managing may be at risk of COVID-19, call NHS 111 (or 999 if it is a medical emergency).

Where appropriate, in an operational setting, you should conduct a risk assessment (in the Police this would be a “dynamic risk assessment”) and adopt appropriate precautions for infection control.

In the majority of policing, Border Force and Immigration Enforcement activities, it is unlikely that officers will require any additional PPE for normal activities. Control measures for example situations are described below; however, this list is not exhaustive and the appropriate PPE for a specific situation will need to be assessed on a case by case basis.

Most people you will meet in the course of your work will not have COVID-19. For police, Border Force and Immigration Enforcement officers, there may be situations where a member of the public or someone in custody is identified as someone who may be at risk of COVID-19, or you are required to search or arrest someone who may be at risk of COVID-19.

If you do need to provide assistance to an individual who is symptomatic and identified as a possible case, wherever possible, place the person in a place away from others. If there is no physically separate room, ask others who are not involved in providing assistance to stay at least 2 metres away from the individual. If barriers or screens are available, these may be used.

13. Infection control measures for police, border force, and immigration enforcement officers

For policing, Border Force and Immigration Enforcement activities which may require having close contact with a symptomatic person who is suspected of having COVID-19 (such an essential interview at less than 2 metres distance, or arrest and restraint), staff should wear:

- *disposable gloves*
- *fluid repellent surgical face mask if available*
- *a disposable plastic apron and disposable eye protection (such as face visor or goggles) should also be worn*

The necessary PPE is being stocked in the Custody Suites.

Continued operation of the Custody Suite:

Overleaf is a quick-reference process map of what to do in a number of scenarios.

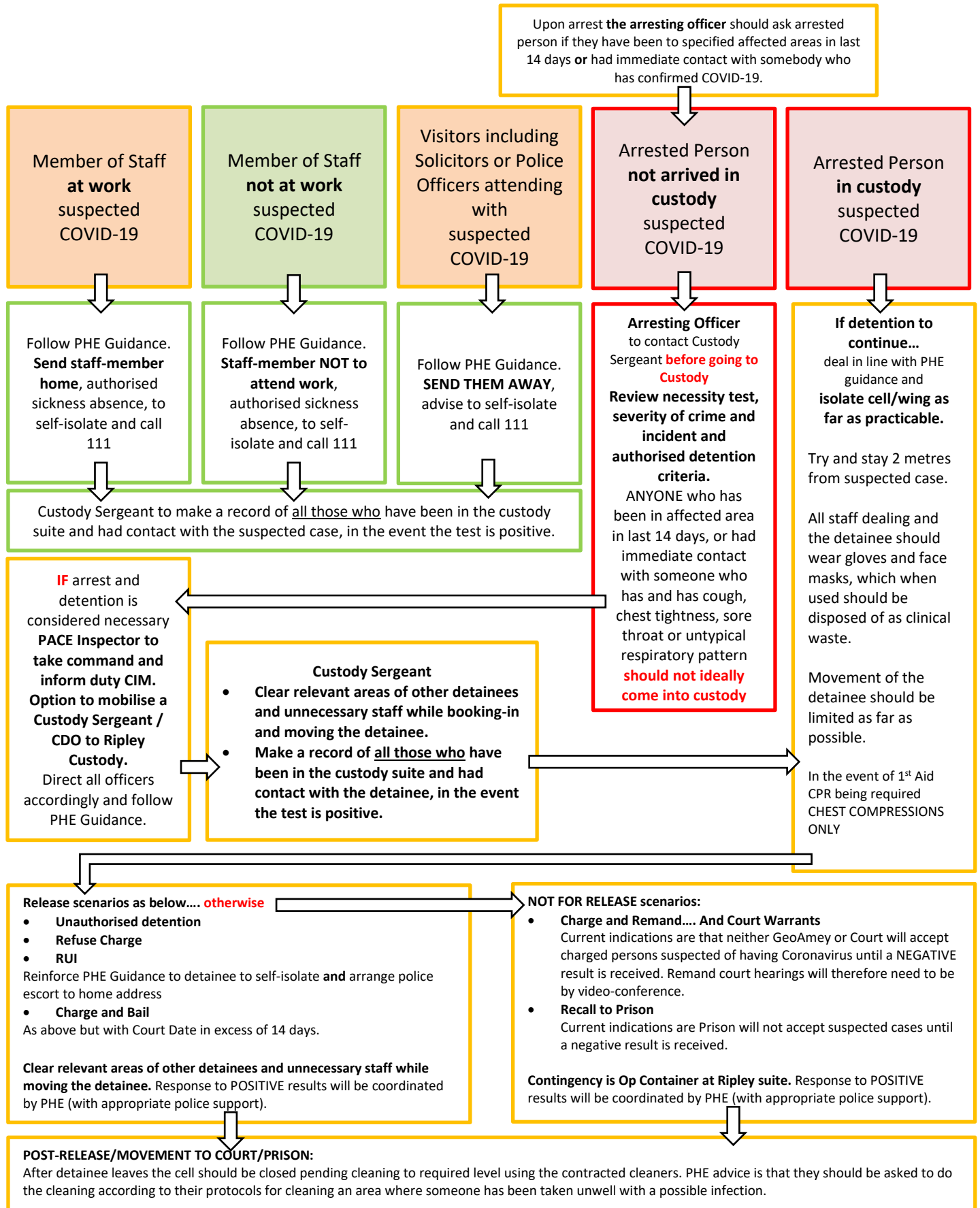
Due to the nature of the 4-on-4-off shifts in the department any sickness even in normal circumstance generally necessitates full 12 hour shifts for at least some Custody Sergeants or Detention Officers being offered. This is met through overtime or utilising other accredited Sergeants.

A 20% abstraction would be dynamically managed by Custody Inspector but coordinated by Custody Chief Inspector in case of a significant event. The loss of a team or abstractions above 20% on any one team would lead to a necessity to temporarily redistribute the workforce as optimally as possible across the 4 custody groups. Upon identification this will be managed by Chief Inspector (Custody) assisted by Custody Inspectors and DMS.

Abstractions are monitored on a daily basis by the Custody Inspectors. These will be kept under close review by Senior Management. There is little capacity for remote or agile working in Custody.

If a suspected case of Coronavirus necessitates an arrest Ripley Custody provides an option to mitigate any partnership concerns regarding ‘outbreaks’ within the main custody sites at Derby and Chesterfield, thereby making the whole Criminal Justice process more resilient. This would potentially impact on the cell availability at the main suites due to staffing implications.

Custody – Potential COVID-19 Scenarios: Operational Process Map



NOTE THROUGHOUT THE ABOVE PROCESS MAP - Medical Considerations over and above normal practice:
In all detainee cases where Coronavirus is suspected even where there are other medical conditions, advice from HCPs should be sought without necessity for HCP to be in direct contact. This is to mitigate the risk of CRG staff going into self-isolation and reducing resilience to deal with routine custody/medical business. In emergency situations Ambulance should be called, informing Ambulance Control of potential COVID-19 risk.