

## CONDUCTING SAFE COVID-19 TESTING IN LANCASHIRE

**HOW RE:ACT RAPIDLY SET UP A MOBILE TESTING CAPABILITY FOR CARE HOME RESIDENTS AND THE LOCAL COMMUNITY TO PROTECT THE MOST VULNERABLE**



**286 TESTS**  
IN 11 LANCASHIRE CARE HOMES

**6,680 HRS**  
SUPPORTING THE TASK

When Covid-19 reached care homes and nursing homes and the infection rate dramatically increased, the ability to quickly and reliably test residents and their carers was of critical importance to control the spread and protect the elderly – the group most susceptible and vulnerable to the virus. With no spontaneous testing capability in place and with resources stretched by the response to the pandemic, the Lancashire Local Resilience Forum put out an urgent request for support which was answered by RE:ACT and St John's Ambulance.

“Without the efforts of RE:ACT’s volunteers, we would undoubtedly have been in a far more challenging position. RE:ACT’s speed of response when we put the call out for assistance was a great relief and ensured that we had plans in place that would work. The care and sensitivity shown by RE:ACT has been recognised and valued.”

**Louise Taylor, Executive Director of Adult Services and Health & Wellbeing, Lancashire County Council**

A team of RE:ACT Responders, including an experienced public health practitioner, received training in how to safely conduct Covid-19 swab testing from Lancashire County Council’s Public Health Specialist Infection Prevention Control (IPC) Nursing Team. RE:ACT then established a fully-equipped Mobile Testing Unit, visiting 11 different care homes across Lancashire, conducting a total of 286 tests, with capacity to do significantly more. Following this success, RE:ACT was requested to operate a Community Testing Site in Pendle after a localised spike in the area. The Pendle test site ran for eight days, conducting over 865 tests to help keep the community safe. RE:ACT now has a proven testing capability, ready to be rolled out at immediate notice.

**865 TESTS**  
IN PENDLE COMMUNITY  
TESTING SITE

