

Update for borough and parish councillors

Latest Guidance

Getting ready to reopen

The government has announced that from 4 July, more businesses and venues will be permitted to reopen and will be expected to follow Covid-19 secure guidelines. These include restaurants and pubs, hotels, places of worship, libraries, community centres, hair salons and barbers, amongst others.

- The full list of the places which can reopen from 4 July, together with some frequently asked questions can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do-after-4-july>
- For businesses getting ready to reopen, there is some useful information on the government criteria for safe reopening here: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus-business-reopening>
- In addition, the government has released guidance for restaurants, pubs, bars and takeaway services to help businesses in the hospitality and food industry operate Covid-19 safely: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19/restaurants-offering-takeaway-or-delivery>
- Current government guidance is that 'close contact' businesses will remain closed after 4 July. Details of which businesses should remain closed can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do-after-4-july>
- Further details can be found in the Closing Certain Businesses and Venues in England government guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/further-businesses-and-premises-to-close/further-businesses-and-premises-to-close-guidance>

Our Environmental Health Team along with Trading Standards and the Police will be out checking that premises have been closed in accordance with the guidance. Businesses who do not follow Covid-19 restrictions will be issued with prohibition notices. Businesses who fail to comply will receive fines. There will be no upper limit to the fines for businesses who continue to ignore the guidance.

Key Messages

We are continuing to promote the Government's messaging to 'stay alert, control the virus, save lives'. Locally we are also promoting the message in west Norfolk to '**protect ourselves, protect others.**'

We are encouraging people to be responsible and respectful and adhere to social distancing messages.

Latest updates

Here are this week's latest updates:

Biggest thank you ever

People in west Norfolk are being encouraged to join in the biggest 'thank-you' the country has ever seen on the 72nd birthday of the NHS.

This country-wide coming together will thank all those who have been helping us through the pandemic and recognise the vital community connections that continue to support us all. Broadcasters will suspend normal transmissions at 5pm on Sunday, 5 July and the whole country will pause for applause.

Following the applause, organisers, the Together Coalition, hope people will enjoy a drink or a cup of tea and reflect with family, friends and neighbours on the bonds that have sustained us in recent months.

On Saturday, 4 July, everybody is being asked to put a light, such as a torch, an led candle or a lamp, in their windows in remembrance of those we have lost during the pandemic.

In west Norfolk, King's Lynn Town Hall and the Corn Exchange will be lit up in blue. Other public buildings that will be turning blue, include the Royal Albert Hall, Blackpool Tower, The Shard and the Wembley Arch.

In addition, the Together Coalition has produced templates for people to colour in and put in their windows to say thank you. For more information visit together.org.uk.

Business Grants

Last week we paid 20 business grants totalling £215,000. This takes our grand total to 3,237 grants totalling £37.545m.

We have also paid a further 14 Discretionary Grants totalling £30,500. This takes our total to 78 grants for £511,000.

The current Round 1 Discretionary Grant application window will close at 9am on 3 July 2020

having been open for a month. We are currently preparing proposals for a policy for Round 2. The original government business grants are still available.

Play Areas

Government guidance for owners and operators of playgrounds and outdoor gyms to enable their use from 4 July while minimising the transmission risk of coronavirus (COVID-19) is available here: [COVID-19: Guidance for managing playgrounds and outdoor gyms](#). Attached to this email is a copy of our press release and a copy of the Association of Play Industries' response to the guidance.

We have sought further clarification, as the guidance is ambiguous. The only play area the we can conceivably open is The Walks as we have staff on hand during the opening hours to undertake cleaning and to check on numbers entering the play area. Other play areas remain closed while we await further guidance and undertaken Covid19 risk assessments. We will share information and signage with as soon as we have anything further to share.

Reopening Businesses

On 4 July, many other businesses will reopen with Covid-19 secure measures in place.

To support these businesses, please follow their guidance and be patient. Things will be a bit different to before, but the measures are in place to protect you and to protect others. These basic tips will help you stay safe.

- bring hand sanitiser, tissues and face coverings with them,
- prepare to pay with contactless methods if at all possible, this includes using the cashless parking app.

We appreciate all the efforts west Norfolk businesses have made to ensure they are able to operate safely.

Borough Council service impacts

All of our service impacts can be found here: www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/coronavirus

Please remember our council offices are no longer accepting visits from the public. People can contact us through Live Chat on our website, or by calling us on 01553 616200. Anyone needing to provide documents can post and drop these into the letterbox which is emptied daily.

If you require specific information about any of the issues raised in this update, please contact communications@west-norfolk.gov.uk

Useful contacts and information

The Recovery Strategy

- The government's Covid-19 Recovery Strategy can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/our-plan-to-rebuild-the-uk-governments-covid-19-recovery-strategy>
- Useful Frequently Asked Questions on the new guidance can be found here: [https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do?fbclid=IwAR1wG6xaBd9AB8cxf8IYvL9DcUEQmTqdVZTdZ1rEvYrsC-x_qJv2-yLC3_c#public-spaces--outdoor-activities--exercise](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do?fbclid=IwAR1wG6xaBd9AB8cxf8IYvL9DcUEQmTqdVZTdZ1rEvYrsC-x_qJv2-yLC3_c#public-spaces--outdoor-activities--exercise)
- The Government's coronavirus information: https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus?fbclid=IwAR2-nPimzTLucjDngnYBMdZwiz1xLtW_kairezYMAZhna2H-Jgk3TSv2AV4

Bereavement

The government has published a guide on 'What to do when someone dies during the COVID-19 pandemic' which shares important information to help bereaved families, friends or next of kin make important decisions during this national emergency and explains the next steps, answers some of your questions, and guides you to the extra help and support that is available.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/887996/What to do when someone dies during the COVID 19 pandemic.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/887996/What_to_do_when_someone_dies_during_the_COVID_19_pandemic.pdf)

Business Support

- The government advice for businesses is available here: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus/business-support>

- The Growth Hub from the New Anglia LEP offers free, expert advice for any business in Norfolk and Suffolk and the advisers are able to signpost employers and employees to details of the new Government support schemes. They're a valuable additional resource. Please call them on 0300 333 6536 or email growthhub@newanglia.co.uk

In addition, as businesses start to think about returning to work – especially non-essential retail – the following resources may be useful:

- HSE: <https://www.hse.gov.uk/news/working-safely-during-coronavirus-outbreak.htm>
- Gov.uk: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19>
- 5 steps to working safely: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19/5-steps-to-working-safely>

Education

Guidance on actions for education and childcare settings:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/guidance-for-schools-coronavirus-covid-19>

Health advice

The best places for health advice are:

- NHS - <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>
- Public Health England - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

Norfolk County Council

Norfolk County Council has useful information: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/care-support-and-health/health-and-wellbeing/adults-health/coronavirus/community-support-for-people-at-home/help-if-you-are-self-isolating>

Risk Assessment

How to carry out a Covid-19 risk assessment: https://www.hse.gov.uk/simple-health-safety/risk/index.htm?fbclid=IwAR0g5D_LFXrLi2dzlzfz2Z8GO5aQ_PdrF0qPQLU0aI0UxpV2XT6K9pFW_EKQ

Social Distancing

Guidance on staying alert and social distancing:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/staying-alert-and-safe-social-distancing>

Social distancing guidance for young people

The Cabinet Office has published guidance for young people in England on social distancing that explains the new measures that will help young people stay safe as rules on being outside, or at school or work, change.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/stay-alert-and-safe-social-distancing-guidance-for-young-people>

Staying Safe Outside the Home

The Government has issued guidance about staying safe outside the home:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/staying-safe-outside-your-home>

Travel

Guidance on safer travel: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-for-passengers?utm_source=76e96676-dd58-4538-ab23-551972a77e8d&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

Working Safely

Guidance on working safely during coronavirus: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19>