

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:

Business Grants

More than £37.3m has been paid out to over 3,200 west Norfolk businesses in grants now. Additionally, nearly £500,000 worth of discretionary grants have been paid to 71 operations.

We have been made aware of a number of firms asking for a fee to apply for discounts and grants on the behalf of companies. We are emphasising there is no need to pay anyone to apply for this financial support.

Coastal Safety Measures

We have implemented a number of safety measures at the coast in response to Covid-19. This has included widening the path from the Cliff Top car park to the beach in Hunstanton and installing external wash basins. We have also put up signage reminding people to socially distance, there is also a one-way system on the ramps to and from the beach for pedestrians to use.

We are reminding people to maintain social distancing, not to visit at peak times, and to be respectful of local residents.

Reopening Businesses

On 15th June, many non-essential retailers reopened with Covid-19 secure measures in place.

To support the safe reopening of our high streets, we also implemented a number of measures. This has included one way systems, signage, and floor stickers. We have been encouraging people to shop safely and observe social distancing, advising shoppers to:

- ensure they avoid the busiest times between 10am and 1pm - take advantage of the extended opening hours that some shops are offering
- 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.

We are now keen to find out the challenges to businesses across west Norfolk in light of Covid-19, and how consumers are using businesses across the district. We also want to identify priorities for investment and support in west Norfolk. We recently received European Regional Development Funding to support the safe reopening of the town centres and the feedback from this consultation will help to inform how that funding is invested.

We have three surveys running:

- The **Invest West Norfolk Business Insight survey** seeks to understand the challenges to businesses across west Norfolk, and what support they might need. This survey can be found here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TWK9SM5>
- Residents are also being invited to share their thoughts in a district wide **Consumer Insight survey** to find out how people are using, and intend to use, businesses across west Norfolk, as lockdown eases. This survey can be found here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TRWLYXZ>
- We also want to have gain feedback on the priorities in local communities. The **Invest West Norfolk Parish and Town Council survey** aims to find out the priorities for west Norfolk communities. We would like to know what support we can provide in response to the impact of Covid-19. This survey can be found here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TRMPWS3>

We would appreciate any help to share the business and consumer surveys within your communities.

This consultation runs from Friday 26th June – midnight on Sunday 5th July 2020.

Play Areas

From 4th July, play areas and outdoor gyms will be permitted to reopen. Users will be encouraged to observe social distancing and good hygiene in using the play areas. If and when we get further guidance on the reopening of play areas, we will share this with you.

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/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

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>
- More free webinars are planned next week: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/department-for-business-energy-and-industrial-strategy-18685150848>

Education

Guidance on actions for education and childcare settings to prepare for wider openings from 1st

June: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-educational-and-childcare-settings-to-prepare-for-wider-opening-from-1-june-2020/actions-for-education-and-childcare-settings-to-prepare-for-wider-opening-from-1-june-2020?fbclid=IwAR1v_1hiMDf_EBeufyZnKeiDiVsdNak3CERgGW-vtwU5DkBXVKukEVxXUa4

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_PdrF0qPQLU0al0UxpV2XT6K9pFW_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>