



Kirklees Council
Civic Centre 3
Huddersfield
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www.kirklees.gov.uk

twitter.com/@KirkleesCouncil

April 2020

Dear Neighbour,

Coronavirus community response

Coronavirus has affected all our lives over the past few weeks. But it has also brought out the best in people and communities across Kirklees.

So many voluntary groups and individuals have stepped up to help each other and protect the most vulnerable among us.

We are writing to you to tell you more about that incredible community response, how you can get help if you need it and how you can help your neighbours.

We are also sharing the latest expert advice on staying healthy, protecting the NHS and saving lives.

What kind of help?

Volunteers in every part of Kirklees are helping to get food to people who aren't able to access it at the moment.

Others are helping to fetch shopping, assisting people to look after their homes or pets, and helping them to contact friends and family. There is a whole range of things you can get help with if you need it.

How do I get help?

The council is working with voluntary and community organisations to organise the community response as well as using its staff to help on the front line.

We've set up a web page and telephone number which you can use to ask for help for yourself or for someone you think needs it, with food, supplies and social support.

You can also use the web page or helpline to put yourself forward as a volunteer:

Call our helpline on 01484 226919

(currently 8am-6pm weekdays and 10 – 4 pm on bank holidays and weekends)

Or go to our website:

www.kirklees.gov.uk/covid19response

Community and neighbourhood groups across Kirklees are doing amazing work to help us all get through this difficult time. More details can be found on the leaflet included with this letter.

You can find out more information about other support available from our website, whether you're self-employed, a business, a parent, or caring for someone and want to do it safely:

- www.kirklees.gov.uk/coronavirus

You can also keep up to date with the latest information about Coronavirus on Twitter by following Kirklees Council at @KirkleesCouncil or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/liveinkirklees

How can I help?

Every resident in Kirklees can make a real difference by following the national guidance on reducing the spread of the virus. You can do that by staying at home.

- Only go outside for essential shopping, exercise once a day, medical need, to provide essential care, or for work (but only if you cannot work from home)
- If you go out, stay 2 metres (6ft) away from other people at all times
- Wash your hands frequently with soap for at least 20 seconds

If you think you have symptoms such as a new, continuous cough or fever, you should stay at home and get in touch with the NHS at their website (111.nhs.uk) or by calling 111.

People who are extremely vulnerable because of underlying health conditions have been strongly advised to stay at home at all times and avoid all face-to-face contact for at least 12 weeks.

Contact with carers and healthcare workers who they must see as part of their medical care can continue. If you are in this group you will have received a letter from the NHS about this already. The letter also provides details of a helpline to call if you do not have friends, family or a community support network, for help with food and medicine.

Thank you

Finally, we wanted to say thank you to everyone who has been part of the response in our local communities. It has been truly inspiring to see how much people care for each other and the communities within which they live.

If you have been following the government's advice, working on the frontline of public services or volunteering to help in your community, we are hugely grateful to you.

Cllr Shabir Pandor, Leader of the Council
Jacqui Gedman, Chief Executive, Kirklees Council

If you would like this information in another format or language, please:

- call our helpline 01484 226919
- visit www.kirklees.gov.uk/covid19responses