



Weekly News Bulletin for Community and Voluntary Groups, Town and Parish Councils, Partners and Hub Update Subscribers

Updates from the Community Support Hub

Video Explainer for Covid 19 Drive-in testing – We have published a video to encourage those who are symptomatic to get a test and how to do so. The video then shows what to expect at the Regional Testing Site at Newbury Showground in West Berkshire. Please share with your contacts where appropriate: [Drive-in testing video](#).

Covid-19 Guide for School Parents/Guardians/Carers - Here is a [quick guide](#) to advise what to do if a child feels unwell. This document has been issued to schools across the district for distribution to parents, guardians and carers.



Covid-19 Update: Facebook Live, 7pm, Monday 28 September
Join us for an update on the work we're doing to support communities through Covid-19. Head over to [our Facebook page](#) where the Leader of West Berkshire Council Lynne Doherty, and Head of Public Health and Wellbeing Matt Pearce will talk about the latest with our Local Outbreak Plan, the situation here in West Berkshire and the work being done to support residents and businesses.

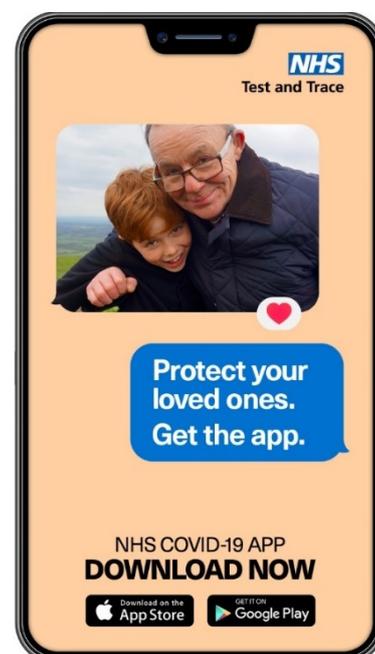
There will also be an opportunity to ask questions about the work the Council is doing in relation to the pandemic. Questions can be submitted advance to pr@westberks.gov.uk

NHS Test and Trace app - Please encourage your communities to download and use the app now to keep people safe. You are welcome to share the following:

The NHS COVID-19 app is part of the nation's large scale coronavirus testing and contact tracing programme called the NHS Test and Trace service. Every person who downloads the app will be helping in the fight against coronavirus.

The NHS Test and Trace app:

- will trace and notify users if they have come into contact with someone who later tests positive for coronavirus.
- allows people to report symptoms, order a coronavirus test and check in to venues by scanning a QR code.
- will help the NHS understand if the virus is spreading in a particular area, so local authorities can respond quickly to stop it spreading further and save lives.
- fully protects a user's anonymity. The app will not track you or your location. Instead your postcode district helps the app work out where the virus is spreading.



To download the NHS COVID-19 app, search for “NHSCOVID-19” in the Apple Store / Google Play Store on your phone. By downloading and using the app, you’ll be helping protect those around you – friends, family, colleagues and local communities.

Further information about the NHS COVID-19 app:

- [What the app does \(NHS link\)](#)
- [Common questions about the app \(NHS link\)](#)
- [An Introduction to the Test and Trace App \(Video\)](#)
- [Demonstration of the app \(Video\)](#)
- [List of languages that the app is available in \(NHS link\)](#)

Displaying QR codes in businesses and other public settings such as town halls, villages halls, community centres and places of worship - Please share this information to those responsible for these types of settings:



The NHS COVID-19 app will help keep track of who has visited your venue. This will enable their contacts to be traced and asked to isolate in the event of someone testing positive for Coronavirus.

You should create and display a QR code if you are a business, place of worship, or community organisation with a physical location open to the public OR at an event which is taking place in a physical location.

Many businesses and organisations, including hospitality, close contact services and leisure venues, are legally required to display official NHS QR code posters and keep contact logs (and observe Rule of 6). See more [HERE](#) and also the [full list of settings in scope](#).

NHS Test and Trace QR code posters can be created here: www.gov.uk/create-coronavirus-qr-poster.

Important notes:

- Get visitors to scan the QR code when they arrive, using the NHS COVID-19 app. This is to help trace and stop the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).
- Ensure the poster is visible on entry so those who have downloaded the NHS Covid-19 app can use their smartphones to easily check-in
- If you are currently using your own QR code system to support contact tracing you should now switch to the official NHS QR system. It is highly secure and reduces the need for data management for your venues. You will only need to maintain an alternative means to log in for people who do not have a smartphone or do not want to use the app.
- For visitors who do not have a smart phone or are not able to use the QR code you should keep a record of their details (see [example sign in sheet](#)). If an app user chooses to use the QR code check-in feature, you should not ask for their contact details. See more about [maintaining logs](#).
- **The above bullet points are a summary; for full information please go to: [Keeping staff / customer / visitor logs \(Gov.uk link\)](#)**

Further information about displaying QR codes in venues and businesses

- [Test and Trace App for Businesses \(Video\)](#)
- [An Introduction to QR codes for businesses \(Video\)](#)
- [Create a coronavirus NHS QR code for your venue \(Gov.uk link\)](#)
- [Customer logging toolkit](#)
- [Downloadable information, leaflets and posters - English](#)
- [Downloadable information, leaflets and posters - translated versions](#)

Government's Latest News and Guidance on Covid-19



The Government will introduce [new restrictions](#) in England, carefully judged to achieve the maximum reduction in the R number with minimum social and economic impact, while ensuring that schools and universities stay open. ([What R number means.](#))

As announced by the Prime Minister on 22 September, the Government will implement the following:

- Changing guidance to ask people to work from home where they can
- Placing new restrictions on operating hours for hospitality, leisure, entertainment and tourism businesses
- Putting more COVID-19 secure guidance for businesses into law
- Expanding the range of settings where these legal obligations regarding specific COVID-19 secure guidelines will apply
- Higher fines of up to £10,000 for businesses who break Covid-19 rules and the penalty for failing to wear a mask or breaking the rule of six will double to £200 for a first offence
- Reducing the list of exemptions to the 'rule of six'
- Pausing the planned 1 October changes for a return of business events and socially distanced crowds at sporting events
- Expanding the settings [in which face coverings are required](#) (link includes exemptions and exemption cards)

The updated guidance published on 22 September is available [here](#).

The full text of the Prime Minister's statement can be found [here](#).

Flu Vaccination Campaign 2020

The Flu Vaccination Campaign is well under way – please continue to promote the free flu vaccine to those who are eligible in your community. If you would like PDFs of posters, please contact the Hub via th email westberksbct@westberks.gov.uk or tel 01635 503579. *Please feel free to share the following information:*



This year, with COVID-19 in circulation, it's more important than ever that eligible groups are vaccinated to protect them from flu.

The flu vaccination is FREE for a range of people and appointments can be made by speaking with your local GP surgery/Pharmacy.

Eligible groups:

- Those with a long term health condition
- People living with someone who's high risk from coronavirus
- Children aged 2 and 3, pupils in Primary School and in year 7
- Pregnant women
- People aged over 65 – where capacity allows, it will be offered to those over 50 later in the year
- Carers

Information regarding who should have the flu vaccine can be found [here](#).

Support and information phone line extended until the end of 2020 to help “hidden” carers across Berkshire

Many people who carry out caring responsibilities do not recognise themselves as carers, but may benefit from some support and could be unaware of the help available to them. If you are looking after someone, you can call the Freephone number on 0800 1337851 where you will be offered support and information. Lines are open from 10am until 4pm Monday to Friday (message facility for evenings and weekends). East Berkshire and Berkshire West Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), together with Signal4Carers, have extended this Berkshire-wide Freephone number until the end of December.



NHS

'I am her son not her carer'

If you are looking after a relative there is help for you.

**Call freephone:
0800 133 7851**

Lines open 10am - 4pm, Monday - Friday. With 24 hour answerphone cover

The banner features a photograph of a man and a woman smiling together. The NHS logo is in the top right corner.

West Berkshire Libraries are back open for short visits



All [West Berkshire library buildings](#) can be now visited by members of the public for up to 30 minutes. Please remember that wearing face coverings is now mandatory in public libraries and to use the hand sanitiser provided on entry and exit. See the [welcome video](#) explaining the Covid-19 measures in place to keep everyone safe.

Customers will not need to book a time to visit, but the number of people within each building will be limited, which means you may need to queue to get in. Test and Trace contact details will be collected at the door, and QR posters will be displayed at the entrance so you can use the NHS Test and Trace app on your smartphone to check in.

Computers and printing/photocopying facilities will be available, but there will be fewer computers in order to ensure adequate social distancing. Customers will be able to use a computer for one session of 45 minutes per day. There will be no other seating or study areas available within the libraries and no access to toilets, baby changing facilities or refreshments.

There is more good news for those who are unable to visit a library over the next few weeks, but still have books on loan - no fines will be charged on items due for return between 20 March and 30 September 2020.

West Berkshire Library Order and Collect Service also available

Alternatively, use our new Order and Collect service to tell us about the sort of books you would like to borrow and our library staff will pick a selection of books for you (we are currently unable to provide DVDs). We will contact you to arrange collection. We aim to choose up to five books that you will enjoy reading and perhaps introduce you to some new authors. Please complete our short [Order and Collect form](#) to tell us what you want. You will need your library card number and PIN.

Follow WBerksLibraries on social media for all of the latest news, opening hours and service updates.

Good news stories – please keep them coming in!

We love to feature your good news stories on our social media and [Hub Facebook](#) page and you can find more about the wonderful work of West Berkshire's volunteers on our [Local Heroes](#) website. Please contact us to share your stories and volunteer photos. It's a great way to say a public thank you to your volunteers and your local community. We can arrange to interview you and write the article for you to approve before it's issued. Please contact Hub Communications Officer Zoë White on: Zoe.White1@westberks.gov.uk or tel 07881 036 818.

With our grateful thanks and best wishes, The Hub Team.

Please ensure that all queries about any individual cases are directed to the Hub via the general email westberksbct@westberks.gov.uk or by calling 01635 503579. This is to ensure they are dealt with promptly, effectively and in line with guidelines on dealing with vulnerable adults.