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Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Information and advice for public and businesses from Horsham District Council

This is the first regular email bulletin that Horsham District Council will be sending out updating you on latest guidance and advice about coronavirus (COVID-19), updates about Council services and actions being taken.

This bulletin has been sent to public email subscribers, Horsham District Council members, Parish Council clerks and Horsham District Council staff.

Horsham District Council services

Horsham District Council is working closely with Public Health England and the Department for Health & Social Care to respond to the national situation. The response to the coronavirus is being led by our health partners and government guidance.

We are working very closely with our colleagues from across the region to protect staff and frontline services to the public

Our business continuity plans already prioritise essential services in the event of a major emergency. We will ensure that council resources are directed to maintaining services for those in most need.

For the latest updates on service provision, venues, events and activities, as well as where to go for health advice and public support, please visit our website www.horsham.gov.uk/coronavirus.

Online Council services

We have implemented remote working for office staff and for our front line service staff we are ensuring that the high standards of health, safety and hygiene we follow are increased for their safety, and for the safety of our residents.

To further enable social distancing, we are asking people to use our online services on our website as much as possible.

[Visit www.horsham.gov.uk](http://www.horsham.gov.uk)

Our Contact Centre remains open on 01403 215100, but we ask for your patience whilst we manage an ongoing high volume of calls.

Stay at home if you have coronavirus symptoms

If you live alone and have symptoms of coronavirus, stay at home for 7 days. If you live with others, all household members must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days.

- a high temperature (37.8 degrees or higher)
- a new, continuous cough

[Stay at home: guidance for people with confirmed or possible coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)

[Guidance on social distancing for everyone in the UK and protecting older people and vulnerable people.](#)



Supporting the elderly and vulnerable in our community

We are very aware of the increased need to support vulnerable people across our communities, and the enormous response from people wanting to help in any way they can.

Horsham District Council are putting in place ways in which we can best support communities to ensure that the most vulnerable are kept safe and well during the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation. The best way to do this will be at the local level.

[Visit our community pages about how we can do this together.](#)

Can you volunteer? Get in touch

- If you are a volunteer or want to volunteer, please get in touch with us so that we can pass on your details at a local level

- If you have organised or are currently running a new informal local coronavirus (COVID-19) volunteer group, please get in touch so we have the group's details

[Get in touch to volunteer](#)

Do you know someone who is vulnerable?

- If you are vulnerable or know of somebody who is vulnerable please let us know
- We will also hold information on what services and support is available in your area

[Let us know about a vulnerable person](#)

Disposing of waste

Waste from households with possible cases of coronavirus (COVID-19), or from cleaning of areas where possible cases have been (including disposable cloths and tissues), should be dealt with as follows:

- Place all waste in a plastic rubbish bag and tie it when full.
- The plastic bag should then be placed in a second bin bag and tied.
- The bag should be put in a suitable and secure place, away from children, for 72 hours

You should not put your waste in communal waste areas until negative test results are known or the waste has been stored for at least 72 hours.

[Register to receive email updates about your bin collections](#)

Public events and venues

We are monitoring the situation very closely and we are following government guidance on what steps to take regarding public events or meetings. It is likely however that we will have to cancel some public meetings if the predicted infection rates come to pass.

Horsham Town Centre events

We are suspending all event activity in Horsham Town Centre from 18 March 2020 until the end of June 2020. The length of suspension will be reviewed on an ongoing basis with the aim of restoring event activities once practical and safe to do so, as they will continue to be an essential tool in the Council's support for the local economy.

Public buildings

Following Government advice that people should avoid public buildings to help slow the spread of coronavirus COVID-19, we regret to announce the closure of the following public buildings for the foreseeable future.

- [The Capitol](#)
- [Horsham Museum & Art Gallery, including Visitor Information Centre and all outreach activities](#)

Leisure centres

Leisure Centres managed by Places Leisure on behalf of Horsham District Council are operating under strict adherence to guidance from Public Health England and the government.

Leisure Centres are going to great lengths to ensure that both staff and customers who choose to continue to exercise are safe, with increased hygiene, cleaning and other measures.

Sport Development activities

Following Government advice that people should maintain social distancing to help slow the spread of coronavirus, we regret to announce that all [Horsham District Sports Development](#) sport and physical activity sessions and events are cancelled with immediate effect and for the foreseeable future.

Support and guidance for employers and businesses

The Chancellor has set out a series of measures to support businesses through the period of disruption caused by coronavirus, including:

- business rate relief for small businesses and pubs
- small business grant funding
- a Business Interruption Loan Scheme

[Find out more on the government's support for businesses web page](#)

[Visit the Government's website for guidance for employees, employers and businesses](#)

Quick links

[Find out how to protect yourself or check if you need medical help on the NHS website.](#)

[Read commonly asked questions about coronavirus \(COVID-19\) on Public Health England's blog.](#)

[The latest Department of Health & Social Care and Public Health England information on coronavirus COVID-19.](#)

West Sussex County Council's Public Health team are providing messaging for the public.

Stay connected



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Horsham
District
Council