

LOCKDOWN UPDATE 5 JUNE 2020

Firstly, I hope you have had or having the opportunity to meet up with some friends and family in either the garden or a suitable outside space this week. Message from Public Health Warwickshire (PHW) is continuing to reinforce the importance of social distancing and washing hands regularly to maintain infection control.

The WCC briefings have now gone from weekly to fortnightly so I will have more info next week hence it's a much shorter update this week!

COVID-19 Update

The cumulative cases in the county are now 1487 up from 1447 with confirmed cases in Stratford on Avon District at 366 up from 362 representing an increase of just four new cases since the previous week which is one more case than last week, but still encouraging. Testing is continuing at Stratford College and the Track and Trace procedures have commenced.

Out of the 423 SWFT Hospital Beds there are six cases of COVID-19 and one case in intensive care. With the updated ONS figures sadly the cumulative deaths across Stratford District are now 155 (an increase of seven in the last week) which includes 77 from the care home settings. The cumulative total of all COVID-19 deaths in Warwickshire is now 489 and over the same period there have been 2887 non COVID-19 related deaths in Warwickshire. Across the county there have been 186 COVID-19 deaths in care homes settings compared to 901 non COVID-19 deaths in care homes over the same period.

The capacity in hospitals remains good with 1% of beds occupied by COVID-19 patients and 15% with suspected COVID-19 patients. There are 31% of beds occupied by Non-COVID-19 patients and a spare capacity of 53% reinforcing that the NHS is very much open for business!

Wellesbourne Market

No current plans for the market to be reopened in view of strict social distancing and event management guidelines for operators.

Waste Household Recycling

The online booking system continues to work really well and the sites open include Burton Farm in Stratford and Princes Drive, Leamington Spa: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/hwrc> More dates will be released on a continuing basis by WCC but remember a household can only book on visit every two weeks. Still no news as yet on the reopening of Wellesbourne.

Discretionary Business Grants

Stratford on Avon District Council has been allocated an additional £1.6million to support businesses across the district as part of the Government's Local Authority Discretionary Grants Fund.

The scheme aims to provide support for businesses through the Covid-19 pandemic in addition to the Small Business Grant and the Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Grant Funds, which remain open for eligible ratepayers to apply who have not yet claimed.

SDC is anticipating a huge demand for the Grants and therefore is setting a maximum limit of £10k. The scheme will provide support to businesses that fall into a number of main priority areas:

- Bed & Breakfasts which pay Council Tax
- Small businesses in shared offices or other flexible workspaces,
- Regular market traders with fixed building costs
- Charity properties in receipt of charitable business rates relief

The basis of the scheme is set out below and the full policy is on the website. However, the Council is accepting applications from other Businesses significantly affected by Covid 19 who:

- are suppliers reliant on the retail hospitality and leisure industry who were not included within the original scheme
- have a Rateable Value greater than £15k but are outside of the retail, leisure and hospitality sectors
- have a Rateable Value marginally greater than £51k but could be considered as a small business
- are a Small Business who are not eligible for Small Business Rate Relief as they occupy a second
- property with a combined value below £15k
- are a business unique to the tourism sector within the Stratford District.

For more information on the scheme, please read the Council's policy for the grant .Applications can be made from Monday 8th June to Friday 26th June 2020 via <https://www.stratford.gov.uk/coronavirus/discretionary-business-grant.cfm>

Face Coverings

In line with the government's new measures for travelling on public transport, face coverings/masks must be worn from Monday 15th June.

Shop Openings

The opening of our shops on 15th June will be particularly welcomed by us all and I note that Justina in Wellesbourne have introduced an appointment booking system to manage social distancing in their shop - contact@justinaclothing.co.uk

Wishing you all a great weekend!

Kind regards

Anne Parry

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Warwickshire County Councillor for Wellesbourne Division

Ward Member for Wellesbourne East