

**This message is sent at the request of Cllr Richard Burton,
Chief Executive Caroline Lacey and Director of Public Health Andy
Kingdom**

Dear Town and Parish Councillors/Colleagues,

We thought it would be helpful to provide a summary of the key points of the new national measures which the Prime Minister announced on Tuesday.

- From yesterday, all pubs, bars and restaurants must operate table service only and they must close at 10pm, including take-away premises.
- For those people who have been shielding, the guidance continues to be that they do not need to shield unless they are in a local lockdown area.
- There is an extended requirement around the wearing of face coverings, to include staff in retail businesses, all users of taxis and private hires vehicles and staff and customers in indoor hospitality premises except when seated for food and drink.
- For leisure, retail and tourism venues, previous guidelines have become legal obligations and those breaching the rules can be fined or the business closed.
- From Monday next week, a maximum of 15 people will be able to attend wedding ceremonies and up to 30 people for a funeral.
- Large-scale sporting events and business conferences will not be able to operate from 1 October as originally planned. The Government has said it is working on what can be done to support these sectors.
- The penalty for failing to wear a face covering (unless there is an exemption) or breaking the rule of six will double, to £200 for first offence.
- The Government has said that police and councils will be provided with extra funding they need for enforcement.
- Office workers to work from home where possible.

In making the announcement, the Prime Minister said the Government would be working alongside councils and will be quick to increase restrictions when and where necessary.

The Local Government Association (LGA) has said it will work closely with councils and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) in respect of any additional funding and powers.

The most up to date published information on cases across Yorkshire and Humber is as follows:

	20-Sep		07-Sep and 13-Sep			14-Sep and 20-Sep			7 day rate per 100,000 for 7 days prior						
	Total tests to date (P1&P2)	Rate per 100,000	Actual increase prior 7 days	Increase previous 7 days per 100,000	% gain in previous 7 days	Actual increase latest 7 days	Increase latest 7 days per 100,000	% gain in latest 7 days	14/09/2020	15/09/2020	16/09/2020	17/09/2020	18/09/2020	19/09/2020	20/09/2020
Barnsley	2358	961.7	65	26.5	2.8%	77	31.4	3.3%	26.5	24.9	23.7	22.4	29.0	29.4	31.4
Bradford	7993	1488.0	531	98.9	6.6%	691	128.6	8.6%	94.0	102.2	110.2	117.7	125.8	130.9	128.6
Calderdale	1560	742.6	125	59.5	8.0%	136	64.7	8.7%	53.8	48.1	51.4	50.5	57.1	64.7	64.7
Doncaster	2326	749.0	73	23.5	3.1%	138	44.4	5.9%	22.9	29.3	35.4	39.3	42.5	42.8	44.4
East Riding of Yorkshire	1894	557.7	76	22.4	4.0%	68	20.0	3.6%	19.7	19.4	16.2	15.3	17.1	20.9	20.0
Kingston upon Hull, City of	1711	656.4	31	11.9	1.8%	36	13.8	2.1%	7.7	7.3	7.3	10.0	12.3	13.4	13.8
Kirklees	3939	897.8	326	74.3	8.3%	373	85.0	9.5%	76.1	75.0	83.0	80.9	82.5	90.3	85.0
Leeds	6476	820.6	606	76.8	9.4%	757	95.9	11.7%	76.9	82.2	88.3	90.9	89.3	97.2	95.9
North East Lincolnshire	287	179.6	13	8.1	4.5%	17	10.6	5.9%	7.5	7.5	5.6	7.5	10.6	10.0	10.6
North Lincolnshire	877	509.9	47	27.3	5.4%	43	25.0	4.9%	26.2	18.6	16.3	18.0	19.8	20.3	25.0
North Yorkshire	3344	544.2	213	34.7	6.4%	204	33.2	6.1%	30.6	29.3	30.8	31.9	31.7	34.2	33.2
Rotherham	2501	944.9	114	43.1	4.6%	125	47.2	5.0%	41.2	40.4	40.0	42.3	49.1	52.1	47.2
Sheffield	5543	951.6	316	54.2	5.7%	283	48.6	5.1%	46.4	43.1	45.1	47.7	51.0	50.1	48.6
Wakefield	2477	717.9	124	35.9	5.0%	138	40.0	5.6%	31.3	33.6	33.6	37.4	40.6	41.2	40.0
York	1156	550.8	74	35.3	6.4%	81	38.6	7.0%	37.6	33.8	34.3	33.4	34.3	37.2	38.6
Yorkshire and the Humber	44442	811.0	2734	49.9	6.2%	3167	57.8	7.1%	47.3	48.1	50.8	52.8	55.5	58.8	57.8
England	350152	625.5	19158	34.2	5.5%	23627	42.2	6.7%	33.2	33.2	34.7	36.0	38.1	40.7	42.2

As you can see East Riding's figures are fairly constant from last week. Leeds has seen another significant increase and at the time of writing additional measures are expected to be brought in.

Testing

The Government has published its rationing list for COVID-19. Those working in acute clinical care will be the first priority, followed by care home workers and residents.

The Government has said that, in care homes, staff will be tested every week, residents will be tested every 28 days and all new admissions will be tested. This includes those with and without symptoms.

NHS staff are next in line, followed by targeted testing for areas dealing with outbreak management. Teachers with symptoms are fifth on the Government's priority list.

For the wider public, DHSC advises that only those with symptoms including a high temperature, a new continuous cough, or a loss or change to sense of smell or taste should receive the swab test. Anyone without these symptoms should not be tested, even if a close contact or household member has tested positive, unless advised by a health professional

Self-isolation

From 28 September, people in England will be required by law to self-isolate, to be enforced by the police. New fines for those breaching self-isolation rules will start at £1,000 but could increase to up to £10,000 for repeat offences and for the most serious breaches.

Those on lower incomes who cannot work from home and have lost income as a result will be supported by a payment of £500. These payments will be administered by councils.

We and other councils are working with the LGA, the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and the MHCLG to finalise how payments will be made and how the additional discretionary fund may be used. It is intended that the national NHS Test and Trace service will work with councils to ensure regular contact with individuals who have to self-isolate, alongside the NHS Covid19 app which was launched yesterday.

Adult Social Care Update

Adult Social Care Winter Plan

Last Friday evening, the Government published the Adult Social Care Winter Plan, setting out its ambitions for the sector and the challenges facing adult social care this winter. The plan includes key actions for national bodies (DHSC), local systems (councils and NHS England) and adult social care providers.

The plan covers four themes:

- Preventing and controlling the spread of infection in care settings
- Collaboration across health and care services
- Supporting people who receive social care, the workforce, and carers
- Supporting the system

Helen Whateley, Minister for Care, has written to councils to outline the expectations of local authorities in relation to the adult social care winter plan, and the Government has also published the Social Care Sector COVID-19 Support Taskforce report, which sets out the progress and learning from the first phase of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As you will be aware, this Council has worked constantly, alongside private care providers, to support our elderly and most vulnerable residents throughout the pandemic, despite the significant pressures we have been under. We will continue to lobby for as much support as possible for the sector, not only to help us meet demand through the winter but to provide the best possible care and service in the future.

Residential Care Update

Care Homes have continued to respond really positively to the pressures of the restrictions placed on them which include:

Visiting

Homes successfully implemented outside visiting during the summer months in line with Government guidance. The guidance requires that providers ensure that wherever possible visits and contact are supported in a virtual manner or outside. If they take place inside then this should be very strictly monitored and regulated with social distancing and PPE in place. The exception to this is End of Life Care. Providers can make other exceptions where the

circumstances warrant it and if they feel they can maintain the safety of residents to allow variations to their normal visiting procedures. As far as we are aware 98% of homes now have safe indoor visiting spaces for the winter months, with the remainder finalising their arrangements using infection control funding to make adaptations to create a space.

There have been a small, but never the less very vocal, angry or anxious families that have really struggled with the restrictions and just cannot accept them. Resulting in some challenging situations for care providers and an increased volume of correspondence and calls to Members, both locally and at a national level and to officers at all levels in the council. We have only come across two situations to date where providers are acting unreasonably in regards to visiting and we are attempting to persuade them to relax the restrictions they have put in place in the last week or so. Both are large national companies whose head offices have made blanket decisions for the whole of their business without taking account of local infection levels.

Our current position is to continue to follow guidance that permits visiting as there is little if any evidence that the level of visiting currently in place leads to higher infection. However this will need to be reviewed as the community prevalence changes.

Visiting is suspended when a home has an outbreak as staff are needed to effectively cohort residents and enhance infection control measures which means they are not free to support visiting.

Testing in residential homes

Testing in residential homes continues to be a challenge but things are settling back into a routine with the biggest issues around providers getting results in a timely manner rather than not being able to get test kits. Our NHS colleagues in the acute trusts and our community provider CHCP have been brilliant at supporting testing (both swab testing and antibody testing) which has meant our local partnerships have resulted in a much better and timelier response to social care providers than others regionally and nationally.

No one is discharged to a care home without the results of a Covid-19 test and only discharged to a place where they can be safely isolated or cohorted to undertake a period of quarantine. We have commissioned specific short term beds for those who cannot return home or go into a long term placement were they walk with purpose and cannot isolate until it is safe for them to move.

Confirmed & Suspected Cases in care homes

Infections continue to be low (although the number of infections is increasing particularly amongst staff). The majority of positive cases have been identified through testing and very few people are symptomatic, this has allowed people to isolate quickly to help manage the spread of infection.

Summary – Residents Confirmed & Suspected Cases – 24 September 2020

Daily situation summary of homes and residents with confirmed and suspected cases:-

	Residents	Homes	% of Total Homes (139)
Total Homes With Cases		5 ↓	4%
Confirmed Cases	4 ↓	4 ↓	3%
Suspected Cases	1 ↔	1 ↔	1%
Both Confirmed & Suspected Cases		0 ↔	0%

PPE

Homes have a very good supply of PPE and we have never had a situation where homes have not had the required PPE to meet the guidance. This has been in large part due to the work done by a small group of staff from BMC and Procurement led by the late and very great Pete Arden and supported by Mike McDermott from Public Health.

Communication

As a Council we have set up really effective communication lines with the sector which include:

- Daily ring rounds to the care homes to gather information about their current status but also to offer support and guidance
- Weekly provider calls with a senior officer from BMC to share key information, answer queries and offer support
- The Covid-19 support hub which operates 5 days per week 8.30am till 5.30pm and provides an out of hours response throughout the night and at weekends (this hub operated 7am till 10pm 7 days a week at the height of the first wave of the pandemic and will be mobilised again if needed at this scale). The hub provides verbal support and guidance and ensures that consistent messages go out along with the most up to date guidance.
- A 'What's App' group for providers which is very highly valued by the 115 members of the group. The group comprises of managers and owners of both home care and care homes and members share information ask questions, problem solve and offer mutual aid if someone has an issue. We've had providers share PPE, tests, suppliers details, creative ideas for activities and solutions around visiting, testing, insurance and the list goes on. The group also provides a place for providers to "huddle" when the going gets tough and it is not uncommon to see inspirational messages and encouragement when someone is struggling.

Education and Schools update

Schools Position Statement - Positive CoVid tests – as at 24 September 2020

Overall there are 1183 pupils self-isolating (SI) across the East Riding as a result of a positive test from a 'bubble' member in their school. These pupils have received a letter from their school to direct them to self isolate after consultation with the LA Education & PH outbreak management team.

21 schools have experienced +ve cases of Coronavirus reported in their school community, this includes pupils and staff. Not all staff cases result in pupil self isolation. As of today's date 18 schools are affected and 3 schools have completed their self isolation period.

The current situation is that 14% of our school and academies and 2.6% of our total ER pupil population are currently affected by school level CoVid-19.

NHS COVID-19 app

The new NHS Covid-19 app is now available to download. The Council has contacted all businesses in the East Riding asking that they display QR code posters prominently in premises which have visiting customers.

The app allows customers to check into venues where official NHS COVID-19 app posters are displayed. This provides users with a digital diary to prompt their memory if they are contacted by contact tracers and allows them to be alerted quickly and easily if they have been to a venue where there has subsequently been an outbreak.

These are fast changing times for all of us and this is to make it as easy as possible for everyone to engage with NHS Test and Trace. As well as the above features, the app will also allow people to see the risk level in their area and if individuals do have to self-isolate, it will count down how many days they have left. The NHS have worked really hard to make it as easy to use and accessible as possible and it will be available in nine languages, with more to follow.

Government have requested that we support the launch – more information can be found here: <https://coronavirusresources.phe.gov.uk/the-nhs-covid-19-app/>

Licensing Update

Public Protection officers are expected to give advice and support to **all** businesses caught under the Coronavirus Regulation 2020.

Powers of enforcement are limited unless there is a high infection rate in the area where direction orders would be sort in consultation with the Director of Public Health.

In relation to enforcement of licensed premises, Public Protection officers do have powers to:

- Issue fixed penalty notices for breaches of the legislation i.e. opening after 10pm, not displaying QR code poster, not taking test and trace details, not refusing admission, not wearing face coverings, rule of 6 on premises etc.
- Take Prosecutions if serious breach or FPN not paid
- Issue Improvement Notices or Prohibition Notices under Health and Safety legislation (hence the joint work with H and S Team)
- Call a review of a licence under licensing law
- Issue warnings for non-compliance - informal actions

The Police can also do all of the above except the Health and Safety notices.

The rule of 6, gatherings and social distancing in the streets remains with the Police for enforcement, who can also issue Fixed Penalty Notice's

In another tremendous effort last night, over 500 pubs were visited by 17 staff from public protection services, notably from our licensing and health and safety teams. I am delighted to report that all these premises had closed for the 10.00 p.m. curfew, and were in darkness or had their lights on to clean. We are delighted our licensed premises are taking such a responsible attitude and co-operating with the law.

How you as Members can continue to help

Please continue to promote the Council's **3 Steps To Safety** public health campaign, which encourages everyone to follow basic prevention measures such as handwashing, social distancing and the wearing of face coverings; to notice COVID-19 symptoms; and to immediately act if they have symptoms by requesting a test and self-isolating.

Also, please also encourage everyone you know to **stay at home if they have tested positive, are showing symptoms or are awaiting a test result.**

The importance of this cannot be stressed enough if we are to suppress the spread of COVID-19.

To help you promote this crucial message, we have included some artwork in this email (copy below) which you can easily share on WhatsApp, social media or by email with your family, friends, neighbours, work colleagues and other people you know.

There are nine separate images featuring three different messages and they have been specifically designed and labelled for use on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

However, you can also share any of them on WhatsApp or by email.

You can also help by sharing the council's COVID-19 social media messages from your own social media accounts so please do follow the council's corporate accounts and look out for COVID-19 messages.

Please spread the word so that we can help to stop the spread of the virus and keep the East Riding as safe a place as possible to live, work, shop, learn, play, invest and visit.

As a reminder, if you do have any COVID-19 symptoms, you can **request a test** at www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test or by **calling 119**.

You can read more about 3 Steps To Safety, and the East Riding Outbreak Management Plan which the campaign supports, at www.eastriding.gov.uk/3stepstosafety

Questions and information

To help officers in this challenging time, please continue to direct any questions and suggestions you may have for service areas to the group offices and they will be dealt with as quickly as possible.

This includes any questions and requests for information in relation to the situation with community infection rates, schools and cases in your wards.

We will notify ward members about any significant situations which may occur in your areas and which you need to be aware of.

Otherwise, the Council's website at www.eastriding.gov.uk continues to have up-to-date information and guidance relating to COVID-19 and council services so we encourage you to also check online if you have any questions yourselves or questions on behalf of residents and businesses.



Stay home if awaiting a test result (Twitter).jpg



Stay home if test is positive (Twitter).jpg



Stay home if you have symptoms (Twitter).jpg



Stay home if awaiting a test result (FB).jpg



Stay home if test is positive (FB).jpg



Stay home if you have symptoms (FB).jpg



Stay home if awaiting a test result (Insta).jpg



Stay home if you have symptoms (Insta).jpg



Stay home if your test is positive (Insta).jpg