



12<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear resident

In this email

- Local restriction alert levels
- Financial support if you have to self-isolate
- Complete a survey for a chance of £200 vouchers
- Eat Out 4 Less in the New Forest
- Protect your loved ones with the NHS COVID-19 app
- Clocks go back
- Lock it, hide it and mark it to deter thieves

We are sending emails like this one to residents of the New Forest with information about our services, and updates as we respond to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

You can unsubscribe at any time – see the end of this email.

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## **Coronavirus: Local restriction alert levels announced today**

The government has announced today (12 October) a three-tier alert system for coronavirus lockdown restrictions in England which will come into force on Wednesday (14 October).

The three levels are very high, high, and medium.

- Medium areas will continue to follow the current national measures, such as the 10pm hospitality closure time, and rule of six
- In high areas, all social mixing between households indoors won't be allowed, and the rule of six will apply outdoors
- Very high areas will see people unable to mix socially with other households inside or outdoors and bars and other hospitality venues closed

The Chief Medical Officer has reported that the number of cases of COVID-19 across the country has quadrupled in the past four weeks and there are more patients in hospital now than when we went into lockdown in March. These alert levels are being brought in as part of the measures to stop the spread of coronavirus, save lives and protect the NHS.

The NHS app will show what alert level your postcode district is in, and there will be more information provided by government in the coming days that we will share with you.

Based on current data, New Forest will be in the medium category. This means you must continue washing your hands regularly, wear a face covering in certain settings, keep a distance from people from other households, follow the rule of six both indoors and out, work from home if you can, and pubs, bars and restaurants close at 10pm. By following these rules, you will be helping to reduce the spread of coronavirus and keep Hampshire safe.

You can read more about what you can and cannot do at <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus> and we will publish any updates about local restrictions on our website at <https://newforest.gov.uk/coronavirus>

The prime minister will hold a televised news conference about these alert levels at 7pm this evening.

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## **Financial support if you have to self-isolate**

It's a legal requirement to self-isolate if you test positive or are told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace. You could be fined if you do not self-isolate.

When to self-isolate and what to

do: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>

If you are on a low income, have to self-isolate and cannot work from home, you can claim a £500 support payment.

To check if you are eligible, see what information you need to be able to apply, and apply using our online form, read the information on our website: <https://newforest.gov.uk/testandtrace>

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## **Complete a survey for a chance of £200 vouchers**

Please complete a coastal littering survey for a chance to win a £200 shopping voucher. <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CoastalLitteringSurvey>

The survey takes only a few minutes and everyone's views are important to help us understand the best way to reduce littering in the area.

This survey is being carried out by Social Engine on our behalf. Terms and conditions apply.

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## **Eat Out 4 Less in the New Forest**

Following the success of the government's Eat Out to Help Out scheme, our partners at Go New Forest, supported by us, have launched their own Eat Out 4 Less scheme in the New Forest.

The scheme gives customers access to discounts at local food and drink businesses.

From delicious pub classics to fine dining, you can enjoy discounts and offers for food and non-alcoholic drinks.

Each offer is valid for at least one day between Monday to Friday. Ends 27 November 2020.

On booking, please quote “Eat Out 4 Less” and check any specific terms and conditions of each offer before visiting or booking your table.

You can see the places that are part of the Eat Out 4 Less at <https://www.thenewforest.co.uk/food-and-drink/eat-out-4-less>

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## **Protect your loved ones. Download the NHS COVID-19 app**

The NHS COVID-19 app for your smart phone is the fastest way to see if you're at risk from coronavirus. The faster you know, the quicker you can alert and protect your loved ones and community.

You may have already seen the QR code posters at venues where you use the app to check in. We have the QR code posters at our health and leisure centres and information offices. (Venues where contact info must be given will also have a paper system in place for people who do not have the app.)

The app has a number of tools to protect you, including contact tracing, local area alerts and venue check-in. It uses proven technology from Apple and Google, designed to protect every user's privacy.

<https://www.nhs.uk/apps-library/nhs-covid-19/>

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# **The clocks go back on 25 October**

At 2am on the last Sunday in October the clocks go back one hour.

When the clocks go back the UK is in Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

Putting the clocks back means the mornings are lighter, but in the evenings when it is dark, we sadly see an increase in animal deaths on the roads.

For the past few years we, and other organisations in the New Forest, have been asking people to add three minutes to their journeys. This encourages safer driving as slowing from 40mph to 30mph gives you more reaction time.

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## **Lock it, hide it and mark it to deter thieves**

Thieves are often on the lookout for quick and easy access to houses, sheds and vehicles.

Don't make it easy for them, take simple action to deter burglars from breaking into your property.

- **Lock it**  
Keep your property locked securely. Close and lock doors and windows when you're out of the room. Use a good padlock on sheds and outbuildings. Consider an alarm. Don't give thieves the tools to commit a crime, keep tools and ladders locked away or secured with a chain.
- **Hide it**  
Keep valuables out of sight, close curtains when you're out to obscure the view into your home, don't leave valuables in your vehicle and cover expensive items in your shed with a sheet.

- Mark it  
Property mark your valuables with your name and postcode.

Get more advice on safety and crime prevention from the Safer New Forest Partnership at <http://www.safer.newforest.gov.uk/article/17317/Prevention-of-burglary-and-theft>

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Missed an email? Read previous residents emails  
at: <https://newforest.gov.uk/article/1610/Residents-email-archive>

Latest information from NFDC: <https://www.newforest.gov.uk/coronavirus>  
Information on coronavirus from Hampshire County

Council: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Latest information from central government: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

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