



12th November 2020

Dear resident

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

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

Chance to comment – waste and recycling

Changes to the current waste and recycling service we operate for the New Forest are necessary to reduce the amount we throw away, and to increase what we recycle.

A draft waste and recycling strategy was approved by our Cabinet last week. This means that the project to improve recycling will now be worked on in more detail, with changes to the waste and recycling collection service expected no earlier than 2022.

To design a new waste and recycling service that is best for the New Forest, we would like residents to read the draft waste strategy summary, or the full document, and then make comments. We want to hear from as many people as possible, whatever your views.

A summary, the full draft waste strategy, and a comment form is available at <https://www.newforest.gov.uk/wastestrategy>

Keep to the national restrictions

It was reported this week that a vaccine, being developed by Pfizer and BioNTech, has been found to be 90% effective in preventing people from getting coronavirus.

Whilst this is welcome news, right now the best thing we can do to keep everyone safe is to keep following the national restrictions to slow the spread of the virus. Please keep following the advice and rules:

- Wash your hands regularly and for more than 20 seconds
- Wear a face covering
- Stay 2 metres apart from people you do not live with where possible

You must stay at home, except for specific purposes. See the government's website for what you can and cannot do: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-national-restrictions-from-5-november>

Enjoy time in open spaces

Under the current national restrictions, you must not meet socially indoors with anyone you do not live with or is not in your support bubble.

But you can exercise or visit outdoor public places with the people you live with, your support bubble, or 1 person from another household.

Mind, the mental health charity, advise that spending time in outdoor and green spaces can benefit your mental and physical wellbeing. It can improve your mood, reduce feelings of stress, help you to feel relaxed and improve your physical health.

We maintain a wide range of public open spaces in the New Forest for you to visit and enjoy. And our car parks and public toilets remain open.

Find out more about council managed public open spaces, coastal open spaces, and woodlands <https://www.newforest.gov.uk/article/952/Open-spaces>
For information about Forestry England open spaces please see <https://www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/conservation/managing-recreation/access/open-access/>

For information and support about your mental health, see <https://www.mind.org.uk/>

Burn better

Burning that takes places at people's households can be one of the biggest contributors to pollution in the UK.

We are working with other Hampshire councils and a local environmental charity, the Environment Centre (tEC), to promote cleaner burning in open fires, stoves and bonfires.

- Burn less: Reduce burning where possible, keep stoves and fires for particularly cold weather unless they are your only heating source.

- Burn cleaner: Use cleaner fuels such as smokeless, authorised fuels or dry, well-seasoned wood with low moisture content.
- Burn better: Use efficient appliances, don't shut off air or allow the temperature to drop, and service and clean them regularly.
- Burn differently: If possible, switch heating source to no or low emission fuels, such as renewable, electric or gas alternatives.

For more information and advice on wood burning, see the Environment Centre website <http://environmentcentre.com/wood-burning/>

To read the laws about burning certain types of waste and to prevent bonfires causing a nuisance visit the government's website <https://www.gov.uk/garden-bonfires-rules>

If you are struggling to stay warm or pay energy bills, call the Southampton and Hampshire advice line 0800 804 8601.

Flood action week 9 – 15 November

This Flood Action Week make it your aim to know some of the actions to take in a flood to keep yourself and the things you love safe.

Find out how to plan ahead for flooding at <https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/plan-ahead-for-flooding>

Prevent flooding from watercourses on or bordering your property

As the leaves are falling and the rain begins in earnest, now is the time to check watercourses on or bordering your property, such as drainage ditches, pipes, and culverts, and clear any obstructions that could cause localised flooding. Find out more from Hampshire County Council

at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/environment/flooding/floodprevention>

Communities defeat terrorism

Terror attacks are rare, but being prepared and knowing what to do can keep you, your friends, and family safe.

Recent terror attacks in Europe and the change in the UK's terrorism threat level to severe are reminders of how important it is to stay vigilant and report any concerns to police immediately, wherever you are.

Report suspicious activity and behaviour to tackle terrorism

If you see something that doesn't look right, report it. Your information could help save lives.

Reporting is quick and easy. You can report in confidence online via <https://act.campaign.gov.uk/>. Or call the police confidentially on 0800 789 321.

In the rare event of a terror attack:

- RUN to a place of safety. If there's nowhere to go, then...
- HIDE Turn your phone to silent and turn off vibrate. Barricade yourself in if you can. Then, when it is safe to do so...
- TELL the police by calling 999.

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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