



Lockdown Update July 4<sup>th</sup> 2020,

**As the government carefully reopen more parts of our economy from today in England, today it is vital that everyone continues to act responsibly, so that we do not waste the progress we have made so far.**

- Today, we will take our biggest step so far on the road to recovery, with restaurants, hairdressers, hotels and pubs opening their doors for the first time in three months. Many business owners and employees have put in a heroic effort to prepare their venues to reopen in a way that keeps their customers safe.
- Their success will depend on all of us acting responsibly. Anyone who flouts social distancing and Covid-Secure rules would not only put us all at risk, but would also let down those businesses and workers who have done so much to prepare for this new normal.
- The virus is still with us and the spike in Leicester has shown that. If it starts running out of control again the Government will not hesitate in putting on the brakes and re-imposing restrictions.

**Today, the Transport Secretary has announced that the government will reopen travel links with lower risk countries like France, Spain and Italy from 10 July, so that people can go on holiday this summer without needing to self-isolate on return – this is good news for British people and great news for British businesses.**

- The entire nation has worked tirelessly to get to this stage, and the Joint Biosecurity Centre has conducted risk assessments to determine which countries are now safe to reconnect with.
- From 10 July, people returning from countries including Germany, France, Spain and Italy will be able to enter England without needing to self-isolate for 14 days. Passengers will still be required to provide contact information on arrival in the UK.
-

- The Foreign Office will also set out exemptions for a number of destinations from its global advisory against 'all but essential' international travel, and changes
- Will come into effect from July 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Safety must remain our watch word – and the government will not hesitate to move quickly to protect ourselves if infection rates rise in countries we are reconnecting with. This is good news for British people and great news for British businesses. A full list of countries will be published later today.

**The Health Secretary has announced that staff and residents in care homes for the over 65s, and for those with dementia, will be regularly tested, as we continue to throw our arms around the most vulnerable in society to control the virus.**

## **COVID-19 Update**

The cumulative cases in the county are now 2449 up from 1559 with confirmed cases in Stratford on Avon District at 516 up 145 cases from 371 since the previous week BUT please note these numbers now include additional cumulative data from the Pillar 2 testing which explains why the numbers have dramatically increased. Pillar 2 testing figures includes all the results which have been carried out at drive through centres and home testing which is data that has not been available until now. Pillar 1 testing results are from tests carried out in hospitals. Testing is continuing at Stratford College and the Track and Trace initiative is working well. These figures therefore need to be taken in context and do not reflect a sudden surge of new cases in the last seven days as this data has not previously been in the public domain. In a week's time we should have a more accurate picture of the current position, however this does highlight we still have a long way to go and need to be mindful of social distancing precautionary measures.

Out of the 423 SWFT Hospital Beds there are currently NO confirmed cases of COVID-19 at present which is very encouraging news. However with the updated ONS figures the cumulative deaths across Stratford District have remained at 164 (NO increase in the last week) which includes 80 from the care home settings (no increase from last week) from a cumulative of 3341 'all cause deaths'. The cumulative total of all COVID-19 deaths in Warwickshire is now 554 and over the same period there have been 2787 non COVID-19 related deaths in Warwickshire. Across the county there have been 205 COVID-19 deaths in care homes settings compared to 1010 non COVID-19 deaths over the same period.

The capacity in hospitals remains excellent with 0% of beds occupied by COVID-19 patients but there are 13% beds taken up with suspected COVID-19 patients. There are 38% of beds occupied by Non-COVID-19 patients and a spare capacity of 50% reinforcing that the NHS is very much open for business!

Whilst the cases are declining there is still a serious risk of a second wave and Public Health Warwickshire are concerned that people must continue to respect social distancing procedures – and where possible to keep this at two meters with continuous hand hygiene measures as these two elements of the campaign have been working well across the district as key preventive infection measures. The Outbreak Control Plan has been finalised and in the event of specific outbreaks occurring there could be the situation of more stringent localised lockdowns as implemented in Leicester.

### **SDC Environmental Health**

The environmental health teams at Stratford District Council are continuing to work really hard to provide advice and guidance to businesses and retail outlets including restaurants, pubs, cafes, garden centres and shops, in light of the new guidelines. The team has also provided a wealth of information with links to government guidance which can be accessed from its website <https://www.stratford.gov.uk/coronavirus/business-recovery.cfm>

### **Business Grants**

Stratford District Council has now paid out £31,857,165 worth of grants to 2611 businesses and this includes 39 discretionary grants totalling £237,000.

Wishing you all a great weekend! Keep safe, healthy and socially distanced and enjoy the relaxation of the rules with a sensible hat on.

Stay Safe and Be Well

Penny-Anne O'Donnell