



Dear resident

As more of the restrictions introduced in response to the coronavirus pandemic continue to ease, our latest e-newsletter provides you with the latest guidance, including updates on our services and facilities as they continue to reopen.

On Monday 22 June, the government set out a series of steps for further relaxing shielding guidance. Those steps, which came into effect yesterday (Monday 6 July), mean that those shielding:

- no longer need to socially distance from people they live with
- can, if they want to, meet in a group of up to 6 people outdoors, including people from other households
- may also form a 'support bubble' with one other household if they want to, but one of the households in the 'support bubble' should be a single adult household (either an adult living alone or with children under 18 only). They can all spend time together outside and inside each other's homes, including overnight, without needing to socially distance.

From Saturday 1 August, shielding will be paused. From this date, those shielding should adopt strict social distancing rather than full shielding measures.

On Tuesday 23 June, the Prime Minister and MP for Uxbridge and South Ruislip, announced further changes to lockdown measures that were applied last Saturday (4 July):

- you can continue to meet in any outdoor space in a group of up to 6 people from different households
- single adult households can continue to form an exclusive support bubble with one other household
- you can also meet in a group of 2 households (including your bubble), in any location - public or private, indoors or outdoors. This does not need to be the same household each time.

It remains the case - even inside someone's home - that you should socially distance from anyone not in your household or bubble.

Additional businesses and venues, including restaurants, pubs, cinemas, visitor attractions, hotels, and campsites are able to open. You can read how we're supporting local businesses and high streets below.

Despite restrictions easing, I urge Hillingdon residents to continue to stay alert, be vigilant and act responsibly by following government guidance.

By keeping a safe distance from others, by washing your hands or wearing masks (where required), and booking a test if you have symptoms, you are reducing the risk of transmission and helping to keep yourself, your friends and family, and others safe.

You can keep up to date with the latest government coronavirus advice and council service updates on our [website](#) and our [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) pages.



CORONAVIRUS
STAY ALERT TO THE
RISK OF INFECTION

For more ways
to stay safe go to
gov.uk/coronavirus



NHS

Test and Trace

The NHS Test and Trace service helps to identify, contain and control the coronavirus, reducing its spread and saving lives.

People of all ages can access a test if they have symptoms and the service helps to identify those they have come into close and recent contact with and may be at risk of having caught the virus.

The success of the service – and our ability to return to a more normal life – relies on everyone playing their part and doing the right thing to protect themselves and others.

Anyone with a new, continuous cough, high temperature or change in their sense of smell/taste should [book a test](#).

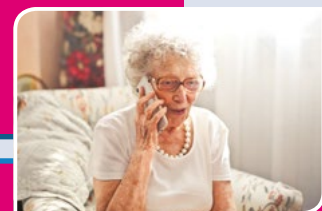
As soon as you experience symptoms you, anyone in your household and/or support bubble must self-isolate (not leave your home) until you get your result.

If your test is positive, you must continue to self-isolate for 7 days from when you started to have symptoms. Anyone in your household and/or support bubble should also complete self-isolation for 14 days from when you started having symptoms. If your test is negative, you and other household/support bubble members no longer need to isolate.

If your test is positive, the Test and Trace service will send you a text, email alert or call you within 24 hours with instructions of how to share details of people you have been in close, recent contact with and places you have visited. It is important that you respond as soon as possible.

[Read more](#)

Supporting residents most at risk



The council continues to work with local organisations and volunteer groups to offer support to residents most at risk.

If you are unable to leave the house because you're ill, because of your caring role or if you are self-isolating due to the coronavirus and do not have a friend, neighbour or family member available to support you, then we can offer:

- a regular telephone call for those feeling isolated or struggling with their emotions
- information and advice on the welfare benefits system
- dog walking and posting mail
- emergency food parcels.

If you would like to use this service, email COVID19Hub@hillingdon.gov.uk or call 020 3949 5786 from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday.



Supporting local businesses and high streets

The council is continuing to assist businesses across the borough during this difficult time by providing a range of targeted support to help the local economy to bounce back.

We are offering a range of support to help businesses to reopen safely for employees and customers.

This includes:

- providing a free street marking service for premises to ensure a consistent approach across the borough
- providing assistance with tables and chairs licence applications
- providing support and templates for Covid Secure Workplace Risk Assessments
- providing guidance for food, licensed and hospitality premises

We would like to encourage residents to support the local economy and the borough's high streets by shopping locally.

Information about what customers can expect as restaurants, pubs and bars reopen can be found at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/customer-safety.

We have also developed a free directory on our website for businesses to advertise their opening hours and any restrictions.

[Find out more](#)



Libraries offer reserve and collect service

We are offering a reserve and collect service at 6 of our libraries - Manor Farm, Oak Farm, Hayes End, Northwood Hills, West Drayton and Uxbridge, and our mobile library.

The service is available Monday to Saturday, 10am to 2pm, and library members can collect items they have reserved for themselves or anyone living in the same household. You can also collect on behalf of neighbours and relatives who have reserved items.

When collecting an item, please bring your own bag with you for our staff to place the items in and wear a face covering.

We are also offering a reserve and deliver services for residents who are unable to visit a library. Deliveries are left outside a resident's front door for collection and priority is given to those who are most at risk and shielding. To reserve an item, call the nearest operating library to where you live between 10am and 4pm, Monday to Saturday.

Items can be borrowed for up to 6 weeks without incurring a fine. To return an item, please use the designated boxes in the foyer of the library or (where available) via the dropbox.

Can't decide what you'd like to read? Call 01895 250600 to request a 'lucky dip' and our library team will choose items on your behalf, based on a reader's age and interests.

[Read more](#)

Domestic abuse campaign launched

As a result of the isolating effects of the coronavirus pandemic, the council has commissioned a new domestic abuse campaign with Crimestoppers, and is appealing for information from people who are aware of abuse happening to friends, family, work colleagues or neighbours. Concerns or information can be passed on anonymously by calling 0800 555 111.

The campaign is also urging people who are perpetrators of domestic abuse to get the help and support that is available to them via a number of agencies and a confidential helpline service (0808 802 4040).

[Read more](#)



Last chance to apply

Time's running out to apply to enter this year's Hillingdon in Bloom competition.

Closing date: Friday 31 July 2020

[Find out more](#)