

RUSHCLIFFE BOROUGH COUNCIL'S TOWN AND PARISH UPDATE

Wednesday December 2, 2020

**Please remember for all the latest on our services
visit [rushcliffe.gov.uk](https://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk)**

Please email media@rushcliffe.gov.uk with any enquiries.

Move into Tier 3 COVID-19 restrictions from today, December 2



Today, Rushcliffe and Nottinghamshire entered Tier 3 restrictions.

The move is part of the Government's Winter Plan to reduce the spread of the virus following the end of the four-week national lockdown.

For any questions please email media@rushcliffe.gov.uk and details will continue to be updated at www.rushcliffe.gov.uk

Tier 3 means:

- No mixing of households indoors or outdoors apart from support bubbles. Maximum of six in some outdoor public places, for example parks and public gardens
- Hospitality will close except for sales by takeaway, drive-through or delivery
- Retail, entertainment and personal care businesses can all open
- Places of worship are open but cannot interact with anyone outside household or support bubble
- Avoid travelling out of the area, other than where necessary for work, education, youth services, medical attention or because of caring responsibilities
- No overnight stays outside of local area, unless necessary for work, education or similar reasons
- 15 guests for weddings, civil partnerships and wakes; 30 for funerals. Wedding receptions not permitted
- Exercise classes and organised adult sport can take place outdoors, but should avoid contact. Organised activities for elite athletes, under-18s and disabled people can continue
- Public buildings and community venues can only open for supervised activities. A further update to clarify this will be outlined as soon as possible.

The new Tiers have been strengthened to reduce the infection rate as part of a strategy to save lives, protect health and care services, and keep our economy and schools open.

As well as the new Tiers, the Government has also announced specific 'Christmas bubbles' that will allow people from three households to mix in homes between 23-27 December, to enable them to celebrate Christmas together.

Nottinghamshire councils have pledged to work together to help communities to adapt to the new restrictions. The Government will review this every 14 days.

Our Leader Cllr Simon Robinson said: "These new restrictions again call on all residents to play their part to do all they can to stop the transmission of the virus, with cases and deaths at the existing levels, it is vital you continue to follow these rules.

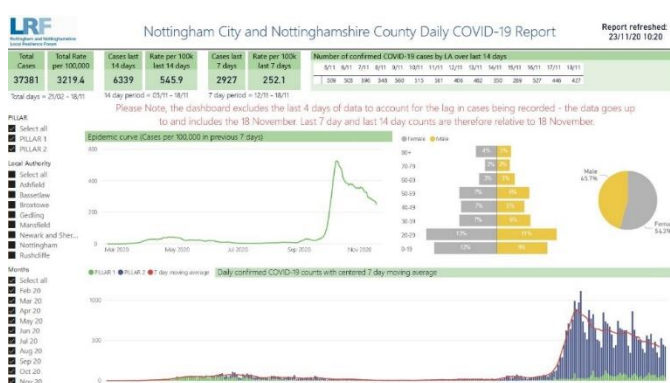
"We know this tiered system is still so tough for so many but it is designed to protect us all.

"Business grants continue to be distributed to hundreds of eligible businesses across the Borough and more on support for owners can be found at www.rushcliffe.gov.uk

"Please continue to stay safe and follow the rules so we can all look forward to a brighter 2021."

The current legislation for the tiering approach is due to end in March 2021.

Interactive dashboard for COVID-19 cases in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire



A new, [interactive dashboard providing data on COVID-19 cases in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire](#) is now available for residents to access online.

The Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County Daily COVID-19 Report summarises the information from the surveillance system which is used to monitor cases across the area.

This will remain a reliable resource for anyone seeking data on the latest COVID-19 cases across the city and county, with the dashboard set to be updated by 12pm each day.

A link to the online resource is also available [on the Coronavirus pages of our website](#).

Nearly 2,000 free trees delivered to residents' doors!



Nearly 2,000 free trees are now being delivered to residents, Town and Parish councils and groups to make their homes and communities even greener!

It means a staggering 7,500 trees will have been distributed by us by the end of this year and since the start of the campaign in 2018.

In line with safe COVID practices the crab apple and hazel trees are now being delivered

by Streetwise to those who applied earlier this year avoiding the need for people to gather together to collect the saplings from central locations.

Also, each household that has applied is also receiving a free pack of wildflower seeds to sow as they wish at home.

It's part of our strategy to provide sustainable and enhanced environments in line with the Borough's significant housing and employment growth in the next decade.

Our Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Community and the Environment Cllr Abby Brennan said: "We are delighted to have had such a great response again this year from environmentally minded residents, councils and groups keen to make their homes and neighbourhoods even greener.

"They have shown wonderful enthusiasm for this project and we thank them for their continued support to make Rushcliffe a great place to live.

"We hope that by increasing the number of trees, and wildflowers, in the Borough, our green environments will grow alongside our communities, improving the quality of life for both current and future residents."

Residents receiving the trees are being reminded the crab apple, or *Malus Sylvestris*, can grow to 12 metres and suit areas of partial shade. Hazel trees, or *Corylus Avellane*, are shade tolerant and can also reach up to 12 metres.

Questions on your application or delivery? Email media@rushcliffe.gov.uk

Celebrating Rushcliffe Awards continue tonight and Friday



Our Celebrating Rushcliffe Awards are here with virtual ceremonies across three evenings this week that began on Tuesday and continue at 7.30pm this evening (Wednesday) and Friday on our You Tube channel www.youtube.com/user/RushcliffeBC

The accolades will showcase some of the Borough's wonderful volunteers, businesses and environmentalists, clubs, organisations, and the best of its health and wellbeing and food and drink sectors, mindful of the impact COVID-19 has had on every part of the

community and local enterprise.

Over 30 groups and individuals have been shortlisted for this year's accolades and a full shortlist and the winners so far is available [here](#). Good luck to all!

Cropwell Bishop pub closed after flouting COVID rules



We have temporarily closed a pub after a group of people were reported to be drinking alcohol inside - despite national COVID lockdown laws which ban pubs from serving indoors.

Nottinghamshire Police officers supported us as our Environmental Health team and Licensing teams witnessed a gathering at Chequers pub in Cropwell Bishop on Friday (November 27) evening.

They observed the premises from a distance and noticed people entering the pub.

Some left with boxes of food, as they were offering a takeaway service, which is allowed under current restrictions, but it was clear that there less were leaving the pub than entering.

Officers then entered the premises and witnessed a group of men drinking alcohol, prompting a call to Police.

Management at the premises claimed the individuals were customers using the takeaway service who did not wish to wait outside in the cold for their food.

Details of people inside were taken and the pub was given a prohibition order and a fine of £1,000, in line with central government guidelines.

Our Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods, Cllr Rob Inglis said: "We know how tough it is for businesses currently but the current COVID restrictions are in place to protect everyone and ultimately save lives.

"We always look to advise and educate business owners as to their responsibilities with any licence but there was a blatant disregard for its rules in this case and we take any breach very seriously to protect consumers.

"Overall compliance from businesses across Rushcliffe has been high and we thank them for playing their part and adapting brilliantly in so many cases.

"We understand the current financial climate for businesses and will now work with the owners in this case to draw up steps they can take to trade safely in future.

"All food and drink must be taken away from the premises with no indoor or outdoor seating available and customers are advised to not congregate inside or outside the business within guidelines outlined by central government."

Rushcliffe Inspector Craig Berry said: "Officers from the local council and Nottinghamshire Police were called to a pub in Cropwell Bishop on Friday night following numerous calls from members of the public after reports that the premises were open and serving alcohol.

"Through joint enforcement work from the police and the local council we attended on November 30 and worked in a partnership approach to prevent further breaches of the legislation.

"The bar was issued with a prohibition notice and a fixed penalty notice by licensing officers.

"We are pleased with the partnership approach and will not tolerate flouting the COVID-19 legislation and we will take positive action.

"We will investigate any reports of licensed premises and pubs that are reported of being open and in breach of the Governments COVID-19 regulations.

"Appropriate actions will be taken, this being a good example of partnership work with the local authority."

The festive season has arrived in West Bridgford!



Brothers and local schoolchildren Rowan and Orion joined our Mayor Cllr Sue Mallender and our Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Community and the Environment Cllr Abby Brennan last Saturday (November 28) to turn on the West Bridgford Christmas lights!

In line with current COVID restrictions there was no wider event this year but the lights soon brought some festive feeling to Central Avenue, Gordon Road and Bridgford Road that includes a sparkling 20 foot Christmas tree.

Madam Mayor said: "We know it's so unfortunate we cannot switch on the lights in the usual fashion this year but we hope they can still bring some Christmas sparkle to us all.

"Please shop locally this yuletide and shop safely, all local businesses really need your help."

Over £1.7m COVID-19 business support grants distributed to businesses



We have now distributed over £1.7m of further vital central government grants to nearly 500 eligible businesses in the Borough who were affected when they entered former tier and current national lockdown restrictions.

There is expected to be further new Tier 3 mandatory business grant support to those still affected by closures under the new restrictions.

Continue to visit [the webpage](#) for more updates.

All grants continue to be processed as quickly as possible with business owners asked to ensure all supporting documents are included with any application.

Nottinghamshire Councils worked together earlier this month to create a consistent scheme across the County seeking to support those in the non-essential retail, hospitality, leisure and accommodation sectors and those who directly supply them.

Our Deputy Leader Cllr Andy Edyvean said: "Our teams are responding quickly to distribute this vital support to eligible businesses as we assist central government in managing the impacts of COVID-19.

"We know so many businesses everywhere are facing incredible pressures and with Tier 3 restrictions announced in Rushcliffe we'll continue to act rapidly as soon as further new Tier 3 grants become available to those affected, such as in the hospitality industry."

Christmas festivities begin in Bingham



Bingham Community Events team have put together a festive video instead of their usual lights switch-on celebrations.

It highlights local businesses, residents and groups who have supported their neighbours and vulnerable people throughout this year and COVID restrictions.

This includes the Bingham Helping Hands Group, Cotgrave Community Kitchen, Summer in the Square and Bingham Market.

Watch the video on their [Facebook page](#).

Green Homes Grant launched for low-carbon heating systems



The County Council has joined forces with the local climate change charity, Nottingham Energy Partnership (NEP) and E.ON to launch the Green Homes Grant Nottinghamshire.

Through this project, Nottinghamshire residents who:

- Are a homeowner or landlord, **and**
- Have a combined gross household income of under £30,000, **and**
- Have an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) of D,E,F or G

could be eligible for a range of free home improvement measures.

These include low-carbon heating systems such as air source heat pumps and solar power to generate hot water and electricity.

Solid wall, cavity wall and loft insulation measures, which have the quickest and biggest impact on energy conservation, are also covered by the grant.

The scheme offers smaller measures such as replacement doors, and smart heating controls for your new system too.

Residents can get in touch to check their eligibility and chat quickly and easily through the measures of interest. If they are eligible, the Green Homes Grant Nottinghamshire team will organise a home visit and the installation of the measures, at absolutely no cost.

Understandably there is an increased financial pressure on many residents with people spending significantly more time indoors. By ensuring that homes are more energy efficient, NEP hopes to make energy bills more affordable for all clients. They can also support residents even further with a range of financial and wellbeing support services.

Residents can register their interest at www.nottenergy.com/green-homes-grant-notts or by calling 0115 947 2207.

Masterplan required before considering Gamston housing applications



We are requiring developers considering planning applications for 4,000 homes and employment on land at Gamston to agree a Masterplan for the whole site, to make sure that the right infrastructure needed to support the development is provided.

In 2014, as part of our Local Plan, we allocated land to the East of Gamston and North of Tollerton for the new homes, employment space and necessary infrastructure, including new schools, and other community facilities.

In the six years since the site was allocated for development, no detailed plans have been submitted by any of the site's landowners, meaning no new homes have been built.

Until building starts, this site won't help us reach our target for new housing and may increase pressure for housing elsewhere in the Borough.

It is therefore essential that a Masterplan is agreed to help speed up the development of this site and reduce the need for development in other locations.

Our Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Housing, Cllr. Roger Upton said: "We are keen to see detailed proposals for the site come forward in order for new homes to finally be built on this site, but it is critical that it is developed in accordance with an agreed comprehensive and co-ordinated Masterplan.

"This is to ensure that all new development is supported by the right infrastructure, including new roads, community facilities and schools as soon as they are needed.

"We are concerned that if proposals for different parts of the site come forward separately and at different times this might not happen.

"More detailed planning guidance, including a site-wide Masterplan should be put in place for the site's development and we will endeavour to make this happen.

"This will set out what development we expect to see on the different parts of the site and what supporting infrastructure is required, where and when.

"All proposals to develop the whole or parts of this site will be expected to comply with this guidance and Masterplan before any planning permissions are granted for new housing development on the site."

The process of preparing planning guidance and a Masterplan for the whole site will include consultation with the local community, the developers, and others on a draft of the guidance and Masterplan. It is expected that this will happen during the first half of 2021.

In the meantime, the developers are currently separately consulting with the local community on their latest proposals which can be commented on at <https://consultwithyou.co.uk/gamstonfields/consultation>

Cllr Maddison



It is with sadness that we report the passing of Jim Maddison who represented Cotgrave as a Labour Councillor on the former Bingham rural district council, then Rushcliffe Borough Council and Cotgrave Parish Council.

Jim was first elected to represent Cotgrave on the old Bingham Rural District Council and then served with us when the new council was formed in 1974.

In total he served on both councils for 12 years and on Cotgrave Parish Council for 16 years.

He campaigned to secure the land where the leisure centre is now built and the field behind running up to Spring Meadow and the allotments and it was named Maddison Park after he retired as a councillor.

He was a miner originally from the North East and previously lived on Ringleas in the town before moving onto Westway. He is survived by his two daughters Kay and Margaret and our thoughts are with his family and friends.

Free online workshops available on-demand for high street businesses



A programme of free online workshops delivered by business experts are now available on-demand to help high street businesses reopen or continue to trade securely and successfully during COVID-19.

The recorded sessions are taken from our business support programme which used funding from the European Regional Development Fund to help local businesses recover and operate safely during the pandemic.

A range of topics are available to provide advice and guidance to local businesses, including insights into shopper psychology, driving retail delivery and creating a post-lockdown marketing plan.

All these sessions and more can be accessed by emailing our Economic Development team at econdev@rushcliffe.gov.uk

The workshops are delivered by expert business consultancy firms Shamshad Walker Marketing and Grounded Places, both of which boast extensive experience in guiding and advising businesses to maximise their success.

Businesses seeking further advice on any matter can find out more [on our business pages.](#)

Volunteers needed to sustain vital community support



Rushcliffe Community and Voluntary Service (RCVS) is stepping up its urgent appeal for more volunteers, to counter the impact of COVID-19 in Nottinghamshire. Almost 800 vulnerable people have been supported by RCVS since the coronavirus lockdown started in March.

Services include helping with shopping or collecting prescriptions, transport for those who would otherwise be stuck at home, housekeeping, and telephone befriending to counter social isolation.

Almost 5,900 individual pieces of support have been provided in the Borough, Gedling and Broxtowe.

However, around 100 more volunteers are needed to meet ongoing demand. This is because two thirds of the 145 successfully recruited by RCVS earlier in the pandemic are no longer available.

As a result, the charity's voluntary transport scheme is providing essential journeys only, and there's a waiting list for the telephone befriending service.

Anyone interested in volunteering should call RCVS on 0115 969 9060 or email volunteer@rushcliffecvs.org.uk.
