

Staff News: Take 5

Friday 11 September 2020

Your weekly coronavirus update



At the Scottish Government's 3-week review on Thursday 10 September, it was announced that there would be no further easing of restrictions at this time. The reopening of call centres and non-essential offices will be reviewed again on 1 October.

From Monday 14 September there is new national guidance on meeting both indoors and outdoors. The new maximum number is six people from a maximum of two households - this does not include children under 12 and there will be exceptions for organised sports and places of worship.

Additional local restrictions on indoor household visits remain in place across Renfrewshire, East Renfrewshire, Glasgow and East and West Dunbartonshire[LA1] which means if you live in these areas you should not host people from any other households in your home, unless they are in your extended household, or visit people you do not live with in their home no matter where that is, unless they are in your extended household.

The newly launched Protect Scotland app aims to help break the chains of infection and speed up the process of identifying people at risk of catching coronavirus. The app is anonymous and easy to use and will alert users if they have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive.

Everyone can play their part in reducing the impact of transmission by downloading the app here protect.scot

Keep Renfrewshire out of lockdown



We must all act together to prevent another lockdown for Renfrewshire. We know most people are following the rules which makes more restrictions feel unfair. But we need everyone to follow them if we're going to stop the virus spreading.

Local restrictions in Renfrewshire, East Renfrewshire, Glasgow and East and West Dunbartonshire mean that if you live in these areas you should not host people from any other households in your home, unless they are in your extended household, or visit people you do not live with in their home no matter where that is, unless they are in your extended household.

Don't forget:

- From 14 September a maximum of six people from no more than two households can meet indoors or outdoors. This excludes household visits in Renfrewshire and other Local Authority areas where local restrictions are in place.
- Always follow the latest guidance on meeting in pubs, cafes and restaurants
- If you are identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for Covid-19, you - and all other members of your household - must self-isolate for 14 days.

More information is available at www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/staff

Welcome to this week's Take 5, our all new weekly staff update, designed to bring you our latest news summary in a five minute read.

New self-isolation rules



While Renfrewshire is subject to local restrictions, if you are identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for coronavirus, you and everyone in your household will have to self-isolate for 14 days.

Before local restrictions, those identified as a close contact had to self-isolate for 14 days, but the rule did not apply to other members of the household unless that person themselves developed symptoms.

The change means that now all members of the household where a close contact has been identified must self-isolate. This includes extended household members and applies to all individuals including children.

A contact tracer will reach out to you if you have been identified as having had close contact with a positive case. You only need to self-isolate if you or a member of your household is identified as a close-contact or if you or a member of your household develops symptoms.

This new guidance for Renfrewshire only applies for anyone identified as a close contact after local restrictions came into effect at midnight on Monday 7 September. It does not apply to anyone identified as a close contact before this date and time.

Read more here www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/staff

Work and travel



During this time, we want to remind you how to stay safe while travelling for work and meeting with colleagues.

When using public transport, please wear a face covering and physically distance.

Please avoid car sharing if you possibly can. If you must car share, limit the number of people you travel with, physically distance as much as possible and wear a face covering.

If you are car sharing with someone who tests positive for coronavirus, you will be considered as a close contact - even if you wear a mask - and if you live in an area with local restrictions, everyone in your household will be required to self-isolate.

When meeting with colleagues always remember to follow the guidelines for the location and setting such as the maximum number of individuals and households, face coverings and physical distancing.

If you use the council fleet as part of your job, ensure you follow the relevant guidance on the safe use of council vehicles.

More information on working safely during coronavirus can be found here www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/workingsafelyduringcoronavirus

Supporting the National Fraud Initiative



Every two years, Audit Scotland runs the National Fraud Initiative, which compares electronic data about individuals held by different public bodies.

We're legally required to participate in the initiative which helps to prevent and detect fraud, identify genuine errors, ensure our records are accurate and pensions, housing benefit and other services go to the right people.

In October we will be providing Audit Scotland with a range of personal data including employee details, Council Tax and housing information; business rates and grant recipients and details of people receiving personal care packages.

Sharing data for this purpose does not mean a person is under suspicion.

You can find out more about how we use your data and details of the National Fraud Initiative at www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/national-fraud-initiative

For all the latest Scottish Government guidance visit www.gov.scot



Our Health, Safety and Wellbeing at Work webpage is there to provide you with information and contacts to help you keep well during this time.

Visit: www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/health-safety-wellbeing



Don't forget, we'd love to hear from you!

If you have a story to tell or something interesting to share, get in touch with us at: internal.communications@renfrewshire.gov.uk