

Staff News: Take 5

Thursday 12 November 2020

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.

Your weekly coronavirus update

This week the Scottish Government reviewed current coronavirus restriction levels across the country and announced that Fife, Perth & Kinross and Angus will be moving from Level 2 to Level 3 from Friday (13 November).

Renfrewshire remains at Level 3 and all current rules and guidance will stay the same for now.

The First Minister noted encouraging news that Level 3 restrictions appear to be having a stabilising effect on the number of coronavirus cases however there remains cause for concern in a number of areas, including Renfrewshire.

In order to remain on the right path and prevent the need for a move to Level 4 protective measures, it's vital that we all continue to stick to the rules.

We know restrictions are tough, and this involves sacrifices for many, but the more that people put their own twist on the rules, the longer it will take to emerge from this crisis.

Remember stopping the spread starts with all of us.

For the very latest information and guidance go to <https://www.gov.scot/>

National Face Covering Exemption Card



A Scottish Government exemption card for face coverings is now available for those who cannot wear face coverings for legitimate reasons.

The guidance in use of face coverings is an important part of the strategy to combat coronavirus. But not everyone can wear one.

That's why the Scottish Government has developed an exemption policy in close consultation with Disabled People's Organisations (DPOs), equality, carers, age, mental health and learning disability, and asthma and lung stakeholders.

We must be compassionate and understanding during this challenging time. The purpose of this card is to support those who cannot wear a face covering to feel more confident and safe when accessing public spaces and using public services.

The card is available through Disability Equality Scotland (DES) on behalf of the Scottish Government.

Request a card at www.exempt.scot or via a free helpline on 0800 121 6240

Talk Money Week



This week is Talk Money Week and the Money and Pensions Service wants us to do just that – talk money!

The coronavirus pandemic has impacted the economy and people's personal finances. It's also meant that many of us are spending more time at home with our immediate families, but that doesn't mean we are financially closer. Conversations about money are just as challenging yet more important than ever.

Having important money conversations helps us build financial confidence and resilience to face whatever the future might bring.

On Wednesday our HR&OD team hosted a virtual learning event to share information on the services available from Scotwest Credit Union. If you took part, we hope you found it useful.

For lots of advice on accessing affordable credit locally visit the Renfrewshire Affordable Credit Alliance website at www.raca.org.uk

You can learn more about managing your finances, and have a conversation about money at maps.org.uk

Getting it right



With so much going on just now, and so many of us doing great work, looking after our colleagues, family, friends and communities, we are all acutely aware of our own personal values and principles.

Last year we started a conversation with our staff and the people of Renfrewshire to find out what the most important values are that we should live by at Renfrewshire Council.

From this, we arrived at our four core values and officially launched them earlier in 2020. They are:

- We are **fair**; we treat each other and everyone we deal with respectfully and work hard to build trust in Renfrewshire Council.
- We are **helpful**; we care about getting things right and are always approachable.
- We are great **collaborators**; we work as one team and with people who care about this place.
- We value **learning** to help us innovate, improve and deliver better services

For more information, staff case studies and ideas on how you too can get involved go to www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/ourvalues

Help advance child protection training for Renfrewshire



Part of the Renfrewshire Child Protection Committee's (RCPC) role is to plan and provide child protection training within Renfrewshire. Now they want to hear from you, so they can understand your current knowledge and skill level to help shape learning and development in 2021.

Through its multiagency approach, the RCPC aims to develop strong interagency relationships to maximise good practice and collaboration across the board.

The more we can all work together and improve our understanding of child protection issues, the more we can do to support the children of Renfrewshire throughout the coronavirus pandemic and beyond.

Please complete the following survey by 5 December to help the RCPS gain a full understanding of our learning needs as an organisation.

Scan the QR code on your mobile device or go to <https://link.webropolsurveys.com/S/009A3BB04AA0E3DA>



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