

COVID UPDATE

What has changed

England has returned to Plan A.

This means:

- The government is no longer asking people to work from home if they can. People should now talk to their employers to agree arrangements to return to the office.
- Face coverings are no longer advised for staff and pupils in secondary school and college classrooms.
- Face coverings are no longer advised for staff and pupils in communal areas of secondary schools, nor for staff in communal areas of primaries.
- There is no longer a legal requirement to wear a face covering. The government suggests that you continue to wear a face covering in crowded and enclosed spaces where you may come into contact with other people you do not normally meet.
- Venues and events are no longer required by law to check visitors' NHS COVID Pass. The NHS COVID Pass can still be used on a voluntary basis.

To keep updated on the latest changes please follow this [link](#).

For the full data sets log on to the [Local Government Association's website](#).



Ventilation Checks, CO2 Monitors



Our Covid advisors are out and about and can offer support to local businesses, Community halls & residents following the announcement of the new

measures.

They'll also be offering businesses a free CO2 reading to measure ventilation in the workplace.

If you'd like to check how well ventilated your premises is, [contact](#) .

Opening a door or windows can be the difference, Stay safe everyone.

Support Service



Struggling with extreme tiredness, shortness of breath, poor concentration ("brain fog") or having difficulty sleeping can often occur after having Covid-19

Hospice Hope is a registered charity and are able to offer FREE Long Covid 1 to 1 support places for over 18s in North West Leicestershire who are experiencing these symptoms.

This is a flexible holistic support programme of 1 hour sessions over 10 weeks which aims to improve mood, movement and wellbeing tailored according to individual need. For more [information](#) ,[email](#) or call Clare on Tel. 07591 952027

Training/Information



LCC communication - Electric Vehicle Car Club - Information Sessions

Parish/Town Councils are being invited to complete an online survey to register their interest in creating an electric car club in their own community. To support organisations who wish to take part in the Electric Vehicle Car Clubs survey, and to find out more about the project. The next session is planned for **Wednesday 2 February 2022 at 7.00pm.**

If you would like to attend one of these sessions, please [email](#) .



LCC communication - FREE WORKSHOP on getting the most out of public engagement

Following a request from parish clerks for advice, Leicestershire County Council is running a free workshop on best practice in public engagement. The workshop is open to all parish clerks and parish liaison officers. It will focus on key principles and tips for engaging on a low budget.

Thursday 3 February / 10am – 11am /
Held online via Zoom.

To attend, please register your interest please [email](#).

Training/Information



RCC Suicide Awareness training - new dates

The Rural Community Council have three upcoming suicide awareness training sessions.

What: Suicide should be a concern to all of us. To increase awareness - and to help remove the stigma which can be a barrier for those in need of help - this free session should interest anyone who wishes to examine their own attitudes and to potentially help someone in distress. A gentle introduction to the subject, it is open to all - including local community volunteers and members of the public, as well as those whose main role is likely to bring them into contact with those at greater risk. Delivered by the Rural Community Council (Leicestershire & Rutland).

When:

Tuesday 8 February 2022 (9:30am to 12:30)

Wednesday 23 February 2022 (9:30am to 12:30)

Where:

Online
Who: These are open to all and free to attend but [registration](#) in advance is required



Get the Ball Rolling campaign is due to be released in Everards pubs on Thursday 3 February, Time to Talk day, and we would appreciate your support in helping us to share these messages via your own social media channels and through your networks. For information, advice and support about mental health and suicide prevention, please our [website](#).



Grants



The NHS CCG Crisis Café grant programme is now live, all of the information about the scheme and how to apply is available [here](#)



Applications open for Omicron grant to support leisure and hospitality businesses

The Omicron Hospitality and Leisure Grant is being administered by North West Leicestershire District Council on behalf of the government, and will support hospitality, leisure, and accommodation businesses that have been impacted by the Omicron variant.

Eligible businesses will receive a one-off grant of up to £6,000.

Grants are available to businesses that have a business rates account as of Thursday 30 December 2021. Full eligibility criteria and how to apply can be found [here](#).

Applications will close on Monday 28 February 2022.

Chief Executive



The Chief Executive of North West Leicestershire District Council (NWLDC) has announced her

resignation from the position as she moves on to new challenges.

Bev Smith, who joined NWLDC in 2017, has led the authority through significant change internally and externally.

Under her leadership, the council has achieved Investors in People status and made the move into modern, flexible working arrangements, with most staff working from home and a downsizing of office space.

We are sure that you will all join us on wishing Bev Good Luck for the future.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee



In 2022, the May bank holiday weekend will be moved to Thursday 2 June and an additional Bank Holiday on Friday 3 June will see a four-day weekend to celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee - the first time any British monarch has reached this historic milestone. Details of funding and other ways to get involved in the jubilee celebrations are below.

NWLDC will be launching a £250 [Platinum Jubilee Grant](#) that will be open to parish councils, community groups and schools (schools need to evidence that their project is totally inclusive of the community). Applications open on 31 Jan and Close on 14 April.

[The Let's Create Jubilee Fund](#) is a £5 million programme that will support community and voluntary organisations in England to develop creative and cultural activities.

[The Awards for All programme](#) is now accepting applications that celebrate the Platinum Jubilee. strongest projects will also promote relationships across generations or develop the skills and experience of communities or encourage the care of/action in the natural world as part of the celebrations.

[The Queen's Green Canopy \(QGC\)](#) is a tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. Everyone across the UK is being invited to plant trees through to the end of the Jubilee year in 2022.

[Fortnum & Mason](#) has launched the nationwide competition to find a pudding to celebrate The Queen in her Platinum Jubilee year. The winning pudding will be an important part of the celebrations marking Her Majesty's 70 years as Monarch. And the creator of the winning pudding will be invited to be at the centre of the celebrations.