

Hampshire County Council Divisional Report for Hambleton Parish Council

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

It is more than regrettable that the virus is still with us although on the decline and we have entered a new era of lockdown easing. Many of our residents are quite rightly still fearing this pandemic; equally many are sticking zealously to the mantra “**Stay Home, Protect the NHS, Save Lives**”.

To enjoy this summer safely:

- Stay two metres apart from others. If this isn't possible, it's one metre plus – which also requires something extra to be in place such as a screen or face-covering
- Stay at home and get tested if you have symptoms
- Wear a face covering on public transport or in enclosed spaces
- Wash your hands often and as soon as you get home.

Please be assured that specialists from Public Health England (PHE) are still working with Hampshire County Council and NHS colleagues to continue to help combat this pestilence. The priority is to ensure critical local services to Hampshire residents are maintained and signposting people to the most up-to-date official sources of information and advice.

The Coronavirus Hampshire Helpline Hantshelp4vulnerable is for frail or vulnerable residents who do not have support from family, friends or their local community, and who need urgent assistance with essential food or household supplies, the collection of medication, or who are at risk of loneliness. Anyone in need of help can call 0333 370 4000 seven days a week, from 9am-5pm. Hantshelp4vulnerable provides advice and information, as well as co-ordinating requests for practical help, passing them through to the appropriate Local Response Centre – there is one based in each of Hampshire's 11 districts.

Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs)

A new [pre-booking system for residents to access Household Waste Recycling Centres \(HWRCs\)](#) to manage demand and reduce queuing traffic was introduced at all Hampshire HWRCs from Monday 15 June.

Please remember, government guidelines state the public should stay at home as much as possible to stop coronavirus spreading. Please consider whether it is essential that your waste is disposed of at this time. We thank all Hampshire residents for your continued patience and co-operation.

Please note that site staff will implement a practical system that closes the queue at an appropriate point. This could mean that if there is a large number of vehicles in the queue before closing time, they may be advised that they should return another day. In some circumstances this could be an hour or more prior to closing.

Whilst a restricted service is available, we request that residents limit themselves to one visit a week. You may be turned away if you make a second visit within this period.

The following measures will be in place at all sites:

- Use of sites is only for essential disposal of waste whereby storing such waste causes a risk of injury or to health
- As per government guidelines, residents who are clinically extremely vulnerable and are shielding are strongly advised not to visit a site
- Restricted numbers of vehicles will be permitted to access the site at any one time and site staff will enforce this at the site entrance
- We ask that one person per household visit the HWRC. Only the driver will be permitted to leave the vehicle to handle and dispose of waste. Blue Badge holders who are unable to dispose of waste without assistance will be exempt from this rule.
- Commercial vehicles are permitted as we recognise this might be the only mode of transport for some households. Vans should be bringing no more waste than that which would fit in an average saloon car boot. Site staff may decline access to any vehicles carrying large volumes of waste due to current high demand.
- Trailers are not permitted. Enforcement of social distancing on site means severely reduced capacity for manoeuvring trailers.
- To ensure the safety of residents and site staff, no walking in of waste is permitted.
- Due to social distancing measures, unfortunately site staff will be unable to provide any assistance with unloading material or carrying material. Please ensure you only bring the amount of waste you can comfortably carry and empty into containers.
- All site users must keep a 2-metre distance from others at all times.
- For your own safety, please wear gloves.
- Most waste materials will be accepted. Materials not accepted at this time include textiles and chargeable waste streams (soil, rubble, plasterboard and asbestos). Please do not bring these items to site.
- CCTV is in operation and body cams will be utilised by site staff.
- Reuse sales areas will remain closed. Where possible, please continue to store items of furniture or donate to local furniture charities / use online platforms. Please see the [Smart Living website](#) for more information on furniture reuse.

Please note there is likely to be queuing at the sites, please be patient or consider visiting at a less busy time. There will be zero tolerance of abuse of site staff and staff will be wearing body cameras.

The start date for the [HWRC vehicle registration scheme](#) has been postponed in light of the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic. The online vehicle registration system remains open and we encourage residents to take the opportunity to register their vehicles ahead of the scheme opening.

All of Hampshire's 24 Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs), alongside HWRCs in Southampton and Portsmouth, are now open from 10am to 6pm. Use of sites is only for essential disposal of waste whereby storing such waste causes a risk of injury or to health.

The new pre-booking system to manage demand and reduce queuing traffic was introduced to regulate traffic to avoid congestion. Do check the hants.gov.uk website for the latest information. As per government guidelines, residents in the specified vulnerable category (those who are clinically extremely vulnerable, people over 70 and pregnant women) are strongly advised not to visit a site.

Stay safe, stay well, stay alert and please self-isolate if requested.

Cllr Roger Huxstep
Member for Meon Valley Division
Hampshire County Council

6th July 2020