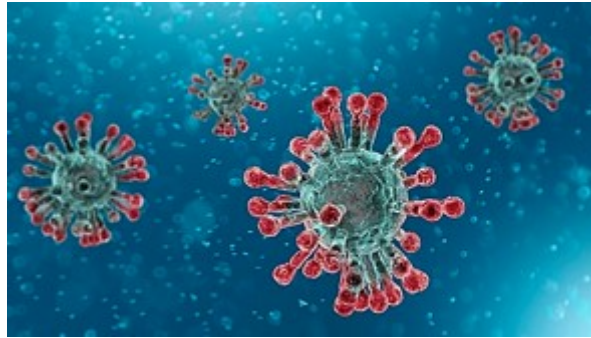




# EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

## Coronavirus (COVID-19)



EPC will pass on any information we are directed to share with parishioners via our website and our Facebook page.

In the first instance parishioners should refer to <https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response> as this has the most up to date information.

### 31/03/2020 Update

#### **Police Powers**

We have been asked to remind residents of the new police powers which are being introduced in the interest of public health.

For a full list of these, please see the link below and feel free to share with your residents and networks.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/police-given-new-powers-and-support-to-respond-to-coronavirus>

#### **Advice on elderly or potentially vulnerable residents and Coronavirus**

In the case of potentially vulnerable residents, If they have not already received a letter from the government highlighting them as vulnerable, the link for people to register with the government as vulnerable and needing help is [www.gov.uk/coronavirus-extremely-vulnerable](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus-extremely-vulnerable) and there is also a helpline on 0800 0288327.

Over here is the list of who qualifies as extremely vulnerable:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19#what-do-we-mean-by-extremely-vulnerable>



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If you hear of any local people who are likely to qualify but haven't received the letter, please do ask them to register above and raise this with their GPs or hospital clinicians (as per the government guidance above).

If residents have received the letter from the government advising they are one of the vulnerable members of society and should isolate for 12 weeks they will be getting a food parcel delivered in the next few days.

## **Doorstep Scamming**

Please find below information and advice issued by Buckinghamshire Council regarding doorstep scamming of the elderly and vulnerable during the corona virus isolation of such groups.

To report scams in the Buckinghamshire area please use the following link [trading.standards@bucksandsurreytradingstandards.gov.uk](mailto:trading.standards@bucksandsurreytradingstandards.gov.uk) or call on 01296 388788.

Doorstep scammers are taking advantage of the coronavirus emergency to con elderly and vulnerable people.

There has been a rise in the number of scam complaints related to the coronavirus outbreak, according to Buckinghamshire and Surrey Trading Standards team, who are urging members of the public to be aware. Since the beginning of the month the total number of scam complaints has increased by 40%.

Latest complaints include reports of a South Buckinghamshire woman in her 80s who answered the door to a man who tried to demand £220 in cash to complete a health and safety check. Additionally, there have been widespread complaints of scammers trying to take people's bank details to cover payments for school meals whilst the schools are closed.

Residents are also being urged to be especially wary of people offering or selling:

- Virus testing kits – these are only offered by the NHS.
- Vaccines or miracle cures – there is currently no vaccine or cure.
- Shopping or medication collection services that require payment upfront.
- Home cleaning services.
- Overpriced or counterfeit products.

Residents must also be wary of emails, texts, telephone calls and messages via social media from scammers offering refunds on taxes or bills, as these are highly prevalent.



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Trading Standards have provided some helpful tips to help prevent people from becoming victims of scams:

- Don't be pressurised into making a decision. If someone is trying to rush you or panic you, they are probably trying to scam you.
- Only purchase goods from trusted retailers.
- Be suspicious of requests for money upfront.
- Do not give your bank card or bank details to a stranger. Never write your PIN number down.
- Know who you're dealing with – if you don't know the person who's offering you help then ask to be introduced by someone that you know and trust.

Gareth Williams, Buckinghamshire County Council's Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Health, said: "I am absolutely appalled that anyone would use a time of national emergency to target vulnerable and older people. This is as low as you can get.

I'm heartened by the fantastic number of people locally who want to help others, and I'd encourage anyone looking out for their elderly and vulnerable neighbours to keep an eye and ear out for these types of scammers."

If you have information or are worried about coronavirus related scams please contact Trading Standards. You can email

[trading.standards@bucksandsurreytradingstandards.gov.uk](mailto:trading.standards@bucksandsurreytradingstandards.gov.uk)

or call on 01296 388788.

## 26/03/2020 Update

**"New information from Sainsbury's**

**Supporting elderly and vulnerable customers:**

**We are doing our best to offer online delivery slots to elderly, disabled and vulnerable customers and these customers have priority over all slots, and have proactively contacted 270,000 customers who we identified as elderly or vulnerable based on the information we had**

**This week we will receive the government database that tells us which people in England the government considers to be most vulnerable, to offer those registered with us a delivery slot.**



## EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

You can register as vulnerable to coronavirus on GOV.UK to get added to our list in the coming days.

EPC understand that the GOV.UK registering facility is for Parishioners who have been identified by the NHS as most vulnerable and who have already received a letter informing them of their situation as someone who's extremely vulnerable to coronavirus.

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In response to the many elderly or vulnerable people who are being advised to self-isolate **Bucks CC** have launched their **online community support hub** [18 March 2020]. This will help people to find ways to get involved or find support.

The page can be found here

<https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/coronavirus/>

### **People without internet access**

Bucks CC fully appreciate the community hub relies heavily on internet access. They are working on developing support through libraries and council receptions (the new council access points). We are also asking any vulnerable or older person who is self-isolating and needs support, or anyone concerned about them, to call the council on **01296 383 204**.

**Please note the Pastoral Team at St Mary's, Eaton Bray and The Eaton Bray Good Neighbours Scheme also cover Edlesborough and Northall.**



## EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

A graphic of a coronavirus particle, a spherical cluster of red and white proteins, positioned behind the word 'CORONAVIRUS' in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The text is set against a white background with a dark blue border.

# CORONAVIRUS

In light of the current Coronavirus situation the Pastoral Care Team at St. Mary's, Eaton Bray welcomes your assistance in identifying any of our parishioners who might be sick or otherwise benefit from their support during this challenging time.

Please contact Gaye Soule on 07807924218 (m) or send an email to [admin@stmaryseatonbray.org.uk](mailto:admin@stmaryseatonbray.org.uk) in this regard.

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The Eaton Bray Good Neighbours scheme will continue to operate and the details of what they do can be seen in FOCUS.

Call them on 07930 987064 if you need assistance and they may be able to help. The line is manned from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday. At other times you can leave a message.

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If you know anyone living close to you who is not online or “internet savvy” please print this off and put it through their door.

### [Announcement from Martin Tett regarding Coronavirus](#)

*Update on the Coronavirus outbreak from Buckinghamshire Councils – a letter from Shadow Executive Leader Martin Tett*



# EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

I would like to update you on what we are doing across the councils in Buckinghamshire in response to Coronavirus, what you can do to protect yourself and others, and how you can become involved in supporting your community.

Firstly, my thoughts are with all people in Buckinghamshire who have been negatively impacted in any way by this crisis. These are difficult and very challenging times. This makes it even more important that we come together to support each other. We're already seeing so much fantastic work going on across the county.

The current situation will no doubt test and stretch our ability, but the council is committed to providing community leadership and support wherever possible.

What are we doing?

The Coronavirus outbreak is of deep concern to everyone in Buckinghamshire. We are working together, across all the councils in Buckinghamshire, with Public Health England and the Department for Health and Social Care to tackle the Coronavirus (Covid-19) outbreak to support our residents, communities, businesses and schools during this difficult time.

We are closely following government guidance to provide accurate and up to date information. We are well-prepared for these situations and have robust plans in place to focus on keeping essential services running to look after our elderly, the most vulnerable, children, and safeguard local communities.

As the impact of Coronavirus increases, we may need to make some temporary changes to some services. This is so we can protect people from infection and use our staff and resources where they are most needed. It is important that we communicate any changes to residents and ongoing engagement with communities will be a priority. Information about any service changes will be released to the press and published on our website [www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk](http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk)

We know that some of you will still want to get in touch face to face so, for now, we are keeping our main libraries and council offices open to answer your questions and provide advice. You can see which libraries are open at [www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/libraries)

We are also keeping our country parks open with no parking charges so you can get out for some fresh air and stay healthy.

How can you help?

It's crucial at times like this that everyone pulls together. In Bucks we are proud of our local communities and the voluntary and community work they do. I am truly humbled by the number of people and organisations coming forward and volunteering to help others in their towns and villages.

We know people, particularly if they are in isolation, are going to need support with practical things like getting medicines, doing grocery shopping, or caring for beloved pets, as well as dealing with the mental effects. The voluntary and community sectors will have a key role to play in supporting people.



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If you are healthy and looking at ways you can help, take a look at our central community hub. This can be found on our new website at [www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/coronavirus)

We are also looking for people with skills. Visit our website and complete the 'I want to be involved' form at [www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/coronavirus)

If you are a vulnerable or older person who is self-isolating, or know of someone who needs help get in touch with us; visit [www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/coronavirus)

What you can do to protect yourself and others

It's everyone's responsibility to make sure we are doing everything we can to protect ourselves, our families and others around us.

1. Try to stay calm – be prepared and plan for the self-isolation of yourself or others but avoid panic buying so that others are not faced with empty shelves. Supermarkets inform us that there are no shortages. I have written today to all the major supermarket companies in Bucks asking them to offer priority personal and online shopping to the elderly and key vulnerable groups.

2. Stay healthy – there are lots of ways to stay healthy. Get outside and go for a walk in one of our country parks or visit National Trust parks for free but do maintain a safe distance from other people.

3. Be alert to the symptoms and follow the government guidance - maintain good hygiene, reduce non-essential contact and stay at home if you have either:

- A high temperature – you feel hot to touch on your chest or back
- A new continuous cough – this means you've started coughing repeatedly

It is particularly important for people who are over 70, have an underlying health condition or are pregnant to follow this advice as much as possible.

Find out more here: [www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/coronavirus)

Support our NHS

If you are worried about your symptoms it is important that you do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital. This could spread the infection and put our doctors and health services at risk.

Go to <https://111.nhs.uk/> or if you cannot go online call 111. This is so we can keep phone lines free for those who need it most.

The government have also advised that testing for Coronavirus is not needed if you are staying at home. You do not need to contact 111 to tell them you are staying at home, but if you are concerned about your symptoms and need urgent medical help call 999.

Keep up to date



# EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Advice is changing all the time. There is a lot of information being shared about Coronavirus. There is a lot of misleading or even 'fake news', particularly online.

Make sure the information you are following is from a trusted source - the government, NHS or Public Health England. For local information follow our social media via the twitter handle @BucksCouncil and keep an eye on our webpage [www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/coronavirus) .

We are also writing to our vulnerable and older people who use our services to make sure they have the information they need to stay safe and well.

## Supporting Bucks businesses

I am aware that Buckinghamshire is a county of many businesses from the very large to the very small. These are very difficult times for companies and the many people who work for them.

We are channelling support through the local Buckinghamshire business 'hub', Bucks Business First (BBF), as details are confirmed.

If you are a company who wants advice on current local or government support, such as that announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, find out more via BBF at [www.bbf.uk.com/covid-19](http://www.bbf.uk.com/covid-19) .

## The new Buckinghamshire Council

The government's postponement of local elections until May 2021 will not stop the launch of the new Buckinghamshire Council. All five existing councils will be replaced by the one, new Buckinghamshire Council on 1 April. Plans for this are well advanced and we are already working together as one team to respond to the Coronavirus outbreak.

Lastly, I am also immensely proud of the dedication of all the staff in our local councils, NHS, social care, police and other key services who are continuing to work tirelessly to keep people safe and secure. I would like to pass on my thanks for everyone's work in these unprecedented times.

Martin Tett Leader of the Shadow Executive