



Message from the Chief Executive Althea Loderick

I hope as many of you as possible enjoy something of a break over Easter. I want to thank all of you for your service, particularly those who will be working over the holiday to protect critical services and support the most vulnerable.

The current situation is incredibly difficult for people in terms of their physical and emotional wellbeing and I know all staff are working above and beyond the call of duty often while trying to care for friends and family.

This update has been created specifically for staff who don't have access to council IT systems so that we can keep you up-to-date on general news about Coronavirus and any issues specific to your service. Please check the new staff pages on the website: www.Newham.gov.uk/staffinfo regularly for updates.

Thank you!

Coronavirus (Covid-19)

Keeping you in touch

- This is a slide-based briefing which should be cascaded to all staff through line management chains and shared / discussed with all those who are not on email at weekly or daily briefings. It is issued to Managers at least 2x per week on Tuesday and Thursday, or more frequently as required. It can be also be accessed on the new staff information page: www.Newham.gov.uk/staffinfo
- More detailed information and guidance is on the [new Covid19 pages](#) on the Intranet and managers should ensure all staff (who have email) are able to access it.
- **This briefing covers:**
 - Latest national / regional / local figures re cases
 - Latest guidance and advice
 - Key local updates
 - Key messages for staff in Newham

National and local status

The number of infections continues to grow, as of **5.30pm on 8 April 2020**:

- **60,733 cases** of coronavirus have been confirmed.
- There have been **7,097 deaths** in the UK.
- Newham has **535 confirmed cases**.
- We have had to reduce many council services to support social distancing or due to lack of staff.



Update on PPE

- Over the coming week, we will be running a series of webinars for managers to cover topics such as how to reduce the risk of infection in the workplace; how to decide if you need to wear personal protective equipment (PPE) and if you do need PPE how you can request this. Managers will be sent further information about this next week.
- We have also developed a series of guidance documents on infection control. These documents cover topics such as how to set up a safe working environment and what measures you can take to keep healthy and safe if you visit a residents home as part of your job (e.g. carer; repair worker). This guidance will be available on the intranet next week.
- Keep a look out on our social media pages for further messaging around how to keep healthy and safe during this time. You can follow us on:
Twitter <https://twitter.com/NewhamLondon>
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/newhamcouncil/>
Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/newhamlondon/>

Key messages for staff 09/04/2020

- The numbers of people being infected and tragically dying from Covid-19 is still rising. We are seeing the **first patients admitted into NHS Nightingale**.
- Newham Council has **sadly had news of the death** of a member of staff from the homelessness team. The staff member had worked for Newham for a number of years and had been off work unwell for some time. He sadly passed from Covid-19 on Saturday. Our thoughts go to his family, friends and to his colleagues in the HPAS team.
- For those of us that have lost friends or loved ones, **Cruse Bereavement Care** have put together a variety of free to access [resources](#).
- Staff are reminded that if you need advice or support, please **ask for help at any time**. You can access our Employee Assistance Programme www.employeeassistance.org.uk (access code: Newham), with freephone access 24 hours-a-day, 365 days-a-year to counsellors and advisors on 0800 328 1437 (minicom: 01482 661 814). You can also contact hr@newham.gov.uk to request a chat with a Mental Health First Aider.

Key messages for staff 09/04/2020

- The **#HelpNewham Hubs delivered nearly 900 food packages** to Newham residents last week - a huge effort on the part of the team who have set up a significant logistical operation in a matter of days.
- **Parking and Highways teams** have been ensuring free parking availability for key workers and NHS staff, **parks staff** keeping our green spaces open for essential exercise, and **our licencing and enforcement teams** stepping up work to enforce against traders not following government guidelines
- This week will **see prescription delivery and telephone befriending services** also rolled out. This ability to respond so quickly and effectively to the needs of our residents is a testament to the talent of our staff and volunteers.
- The first group of staff from Environment and Sustainable Transport were formally **redeployed this week to essential functions** in other areas and we expect large numbers of staff across the organisation to be doing the same over the coming weeks.
- Our hope is that as well as providing essential services to our residents, these redeployments also act as **opportunities for staff and managers** to get to work alongside colleagues from other service areas, and gain new skills and experiences.

Residents give thanks to council staff



John Gordon
@JohnGor21813282

@NewhamLondon can somebody please pass on my thanks to our caretaker and the road sweeper that does the area by West Ham station. They are carrying on and doing a great job while this deadly covid 19 bug is keeping us all scared in our homes.

10:41 · 08/04/2020 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)



Nick Monopoli @NickMonopoli · 1d
Replying to @NewhamLondon
[@JamesAsser](#) and [@rokhsanafiaz](#)

The rubbish collectors and litter pickers are amazing! They should all get a bonus and a raise!

1 5



Craig Atkins @cta84 · 2h

Some good news. An uncle of mine in the at-risk group and self-isolating, today received a lovely food parcel full of essentials. Thank you @NewhamLondon @juliannemarriot There are so many people that deserve our praise and attention, let's focus on them rather than the fools.

2 9



julianne marriott
@juliannemarriot

Replying to @cta84 and @NewhamLondon

That's nice to hear. And it's all down to amazing #Newham staff and volunteers. Hope your uncle is doing OK. Wonder if we need a twitter account showcasing recipes/ideas from the food parcels.

13:03 · 08/04/2020 · [Twitter for Android](#)

Thank you for all your are doing



A “thank you” drawing left by a young resident on a bin in E15