



Message from the Chief Executive Althea Loderick

I want to extend my ongoing thanks to you all! 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 to support residents, particularly the most vulnerable, 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 **3pm on 22 April 2020**:

- **133,495 cases** of coronavirus have been confirmed.
- There have been **18,100 deaths** in the UK.
- Newham has **885 confirmed cases**.
- We have had to reduce many council services to support social distancing or due to lack of staff.



PPE update

- The safety of our staff is paramount, and we continue to admire the dedication and commitment to public service shown each day by colleagues delivering frontline services.
- **PPE for frontline staff** is discussed daily at the Council's gold meeting. A dedicated team are working full-time to ensure we have sufficient supplies and provide advice to services.
- The council is working with **25 suppliers to source the different types of PPE** required for our frontline workers.
- We continue to focus on getting **PPE which is high quality** and we get through huge levels of stock quickly even when we are replenishing.
- We are working across the council on how to maximise staff and service user safety, and use PPE appropriately, trying to ensure that the **highest risk settings don't run out**.



PPE seminars

- As part of our commitment to staff welfare, we are running daily webinars **until Friday 24 April** on personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Topics include **how to reduce the risk of infection in the workplace**; how to decide **if you need to wear PPE**, and if you do need PPE, **how to request PPE**.
- The daily online meetings, are being held **at 1pm until April 24**. Contact your line manager for information on the log-in details.
- General advice from **Public Health England** [is here](#).



PPE quick view guidance

PPE - Right PPE for Right task based on PHE guidance 02/04/20 and 07/04/20

	Examples of LBN teams	Hand sanitiser/ Hand washing	Disposable Gloves	Disposable Plastic Apron	Fluid repellent surgical mask (Type IIR) (FRSM)	Eye protection +	Filtering face piece (class 3) (FFP3) respirator masks
Cleaning an area where a symptomatic person has been	Any & FM	YES	YES	YES	YES	Risk assess (risk of splashing)	NO
Attending a room with a cohort of symptomatic people inc probable – eg children no physical contact eg reception area	Help Newham Pharmacy, AMHP, 0-19 school nurse, SEND teachers/ drivers Day centres	YES	NO unless contact likely / distance not possible	NO unless contact likely / distance not possible	YES sessional use	Risk assess Yes if a small closed space and many people unwell.	NO
Attending a home with symptomatic person (maintaining 2 metres distance no personal contact or care) *	Telehealth, RMS, housing, some social work / Health visiting	YES	YES	YES	YES sessional use	NO but Risk assess	NO
Attending a household with a symptomatic person (close personal care <2 metres such as personal hygiene other physical contact)	Domiciliary care, district nursing, physiotherapy, OT*, some social work/Health visiting, AMHP	YES	YES	YES	YES	Risk assess	NO
Attending or working in a setting with 2 or more probable or confirmed cases within 2m - any assessment or care	Some Social Work, AMHP, Care Homes, some homeless support	YES	YES	YES	YES sessional use	Risk assess (risk of splashing)	NO

PPE quick view guidance (continued)

PPE - Right PPE for Right task based on PHE guidance 02/04/20 and 07/04/20

	Examples of LBN teams	Hand sanitiser/ Hand washing	Disposable Gloves	Disposable Plastic Apron	Fluid repellent surgical mask (Type IIR) (FRSM)	Eye protection +	Filtering face piece (class 3) (FFP3) respirator masks
Attending a household with an asymptomatic extremely vulnerable# person at >2m	Domiciliary care, care home, Help Newham	YES	You must be well and use handwashing	You must be well and use handwashing	You must be well and use handwashing	You must be well and use handwashing	You must be well and use handwashing
Attending a household with an asymptomatic extremely vulnerable# person (close personal care <2 metre such as washing and bathing, personal hygiene and contact with bodily fluids)	Domiciliary care, care home	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
Driving - Vehicle has No bulkhead with confirmed or possible case <2m	Various transport	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO
Enforcement in public	Neighbourhood Enforcement	YES	If used previously	NO	NO unless entering an closed space with the public	NO risk assess – spitting etc	NO
Refuse and recycling collection	Refuse and recycling	YES	Nitrile under gloves usual work gloves	NO	NO	NO	NO
Delivery and driving delivery	Help Newham, Pharmacy	YES	Only if no personal hand sanitiser	NO	NO Only for pharmacy collection /Delivery into closed space higher risk	NO	NO

Key updates for staff 23/04/2020

- 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.
- The next **#AskAlthea session is 2.30pm today (Thursday, April 23)**. You can register [here](#).
- **Ramadan** is expected to commence tomorrow, Friday, April 24 (subject to the sighting of the moon). Clearly this is an extraordinary time coinciding with the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Staff, colleagues and line managers can find [online](#) **advice to support those who may be fasting**, along with other awareness information for the month of Ramadan.



Thank you #HelpNewham

- #HelpNewham has now reached over 10,000 residents to offer support with food, prescriptions and befriending.
- The efforts of staff coming together from across the council and the voluntary sector to create a brand new service has been nothing short of amazing. Thank you!



**People at the Heart
of Everything We Do**