

Rushcliffe Borough Councillors' Report on Covid-19 situation, 2 April 2020

Hi everyone, we hope you are all staying safe and keeping well. These are difficult times for everyone but Lady Bay is a strong community and we'll all get through this together.

Loads of you are doing so many brilliant things to help each other out, so a big heartfelt THANK YOU to all of you!

The various Facebook & WhatsApp groups are a great way for people to stay in touch and the Lady Bay website is a very useful port of call for all kinds of information about shop opening hours, what deliveries are running, transport information and so on. Thanks to everyone who is helping to keep these up to date and doing the admin.

We know not everyone is on social media or online so please do stay in touch with your neighbours in other ways too, a phone call or a chat over the garden hedge (while keeping 2m or 6' apart!) is always good. Or contact the Community Helpers, who now cover every street in Lady Bay.

As your local councillors Sue and I are available to help in any way we can, please do get in touch if you need help or if you think someone else may need help. Even if it's not a borough council matter, we will do our best to help. Remember that Lady Bay ward covers both sides of Radcliffe Road, so if someone in the Edward, Ella or Crosby Road area needs help, that's us too.

Sue & I both have day jobs with Nottingham City Council though we are both working at home at present. Sue has been redeployed to the Home Care service so some of the time she is out helping vulnerable adults and people recently sent home from hospital.

Council meetings have been suspended for now apart from Cabinet and Planning, the former meeting by video conference and the latter having yet to be arranged. We hope that other meetings such as Full Council and Scrutiny groups can be restarted soon using video conferencing and will be making representation to see when that can be done.

Rushcliffe Borough Council is working hard to keep providing the services we all rely on. Some have had to be suspended for now, leisure and sports centres for example. But most are carrying on, with staff being redeployed to front line services where needed.

Senior officers and the Leader of the council are also part of the Local Resilience Forums (LRF). They were set up by the Civil Contingencies Act and are multi-agency groups that become active when there is an emergency situation – i.e. like the recent flooding, a terrorist attack or the current coronavirus pandemic. They operate in a command and control manner usually chaired by the police, whilst the emergency is live. Once the response to the emergency has been dealt with, matters are usually handed over to local authorities to deal with the “recovery” phase – i.e. getting back to normal.

The borough council works with the LRF on a constant basis and brings together the police, health & social care, city & county councils. Co-ordinating the response to the national outbreak of coronavirus is challenging and there is a huge amount of work going on outside of the amazing work being done by the medical communities.

Stay safe, look after each other, and let's all look after Lady Bay.

Best wishes,

Sue & Richard Mallender

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