

22 December 2020

# Councillors' Connection

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All the latest information for residents is available on the [Coronavirus webpages](#) or over the phone on 0115 981 99 11.

## Latest advice on forming a Christmas bubble



Following the government announcement on Saturday, residents are being urged to adhere to the latest advice about forming a Christmas Bubble.

The new regulations mean they can now only be formed on Christmas Day.

Notts remain in Tier 3 which

means very high alert restrictions will remain in place throughout the rest of the month. The next review date is Wednesday 30 December.

Our Leader Cllr Simon Robinson said: "We know it's hugely disappointing for everyone that Christmas plans have now changed but we must continue to show the strength and resilience we have this year to beat this virus.

Jonathan Gribbin, Director of Public Health for Nottinghamshire said: "Sadly, the new restrictions also mean that you should stay local even if you do form a bubble for Christmas Day. That means avoiding any unnecessary travel outside of Nottinghamshire.

"It is a concern to hear that the new variant of COVID-19 is passed on more easily.

"But it is important to remember that we already know exactly how to stop its spread. It still comes down to frequent hand washing, use of face coverings in enclosed spaces, and complying with social distancing measures such as maintaining a 2-metre distance from others.

"What is important now is that we follow these rules with even greater attention and rigour than before. That is what is needed because when we do it, that is what breaks the chain of transmission."

Full details on the measures are available at [www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/coronavirus)

The new Tier 4 restrictions announced by government in other parts of the country also means people who live in those areas are not allowed to mix with any other households at all. People in Tier 4 areas cannot form a Christmas Bubble. Only essential travel to Tier 4 areas – such as for work purposes - is allowed.

## COVID-19 vaccine roll out continues



Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust and Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust continue to deliver COVID-19 vaccines through their roles as local Hospital Hubs.

They are focussing on patients who are aged over 80 and care home staff, alongside hospital, wider NHS and social care colleagues.

The delivery of vaccinations is proceeding well with good feedback from staff and citizens.

It is still their intention over the coming weeks to open both Vaccination Centres, sites such as leisure centres or social facilities outside of the hospitals with good transport links and also smaller Local Vaccination Services, predominantly based in GP surgeries.

The phased roll-out of the vaccine will take many weeks for all of the eligible groups to be vaccinated.

Citizens will be contacted when it is their turn to be vaccinated and will be provided with all the relevant information then.

No one will be able to get booked in for a vaccination by calling your GP or turning up at a hospital without an appointment.

Visit [the NHS vaccination pages for Nottinghamshire](#) to find the latest information.

## Thank you for supporting Rushcliffe's Waste teams this year



Thanks to all residents who continue to demonstrate their support for Rushcliffe's hard-working Waste teams during this challenging year.

## Christmas bin collection date changes

Christmas Bin Collection Dates graphic. It features the Rushcliffe Borough Council logo and a table of collection dates for Grey and Blue bins. The background is blue with white stars and a white speech bubble. At the bottom, there are cartoon bin characters and a green banner with the text 'RUSHCLIFFE - GREAT PLACE + GREAT LIFESTYLE + GREAT SPORT'.

Grey Bins		Blue Bins	
USUAL COLLECTION DAY	YOUR BIN WILL BE COLLECTED ON	USUAL COLLECTION DAY	YOUR BIN WILL BE COLLECTED ON
Friday December 25	Wednesday December 23	Friday December 25	Thursday December 24
Monday December 28	Wednesday December 30	Monday December 28	Tuesday December 29
Friday January 1	Monday January 4	Friday January 1	Thursday December 31

Garden waste collections will resume in January and residents should refer to their collection calendar for specific dates.

RUSHCLIFFE - GREAT PLACE + GREAT LIFESTYLE + GREAT SPORT

Changes to bin collection dates over the festive period - just those who have their bins collected on Fridays and Mondays affected.

For any questions, please email [media@rushcliffe.gov.uk](mailto:media@rushcliffe.gov.uk)

## Virtual Civic Carol Service



Thank you to everyone who was able to attend our virtual Civic Carol Service in conjunction with St Giles' Church in West Bridgford on Sunday.

The service featured a range of musical styles, with contributions from all ages.

The traditional service of Nine Lessons and Carols was streamed online on the church's website at

<http://www.stgilesparish.com/christmas.html>

Mayor Cllr Sue Mallender said: "Thank you to St Giles' for letting me join in with your Carol Service as Mayor of Rushcliffe. It was wonderful.

"If you missed it, you can watch it back on [St Giles' YouTube channel](#). A reminder that my chosen charities for this year are [Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust](#), [Trent District Community First Responders](#) and [Musicworks](#).

## Winners and nominees praised in our Celebrating Rushcliffe Awards round-up

The winners and shortlisted nominees of our Celebrating Rushcliffe Awards have been praised for their contribution to life in the Borough in a round-up following the virtual showcase earlier this month.

You can view a video of their reaction at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IFwB5nV5Wzk> and the awards can be viewed again at <https://www.youtube.com/user/RushcliffeBC>

The accolades were capped by Mac Blackman receiving the Pride of Rushcliffe Award for his remarkable 25 years of training and support at Rushcliffe Athletics Club.

Look out for Lady Bay's The Good Weigh - winning the Environmental Project award - and Musicworks, the Heron Music Cafe - winning the wellbeing award. Also CHEFF was shortlisted for the food and drink award.

## Simple steps to stay safe at parks, open spaces and play areas this Christmas



Follow simple steps to have fun safely this festive season.

It is anticipated many sites including Rushcliffe Country Park and Bridgford Park will be among those to remain very popular across the Borough over the holiday season.

People need to get regular exercise and fresh air to assist everyone's mental and physical health, especially as those based in the County are still only able to meet in wider open spaces

in line with current Tier 3 restrictions, with the exception of Christmas Day.

Therefore, given the expected higher footfall at parks and open spaces, please follow these tips to ensure everyone can enjoy a safer experience when visiting the locations.

- Follow the on-site signage and remember to physically distance from others at all times
- Wash your hands before and immediately after visiting
- Only one parent or support bubble member should accompany a child at any play area.
- No one should visit a site if they feel unwell
- Consider returning at a quieter time should you arrive to find parks or facilities already busy
- Follow current guidance to use open skate parks in line with Skate England advice at <https://bit.ly/3r4WQNO>
- Follow the above points if using the 4X Bike Track at Rushcliffe Country Park
- Outdoor gym equipment remains open in line with the latest government guidance.

High Street Ambassadors are continuing to provide advice and reassurance at sites across the Borough, highlighting signage that reiterates the measures to follow at each location.

Sanitisation of facilities at all play parks takes place routinely and any feedback on the sites is requested to be sent to [facilities@rushcliffe.gov.uk](mailto:facilities@rushcliffe.gov.uk)



## Have your say on Planning Enforcement Policy



The Borough Council is reviewing and amending its Planning Enforcement Policy. It allows intervention should a breach of planning control take place and assess any harm that is caused.

Have your say on how this is applied between now and January 29 here: <https://bit.ly/3myHv41>

## COVID digital recovery grant to give businesses a further boost



The Borough Council are giving eligible high street businesses or established business groups another boost with a COVID Digital Recovery Grant that can further help them adapt and improve their online presence or sales.

Small to medium size retail, hospitality, personal care, leisure, tourism and other enterprises in the Borough can now access up to £1,000 over and above existing central government grant

support by visiting <https://bit.ly/3IQWfuG>

Part of the recovery plan on the pandemic, the funds allow businesses to create or improve a website, seek advice and support on improving their social media presence or create greater online transactional capability.

It can also aid local retail groups or traders' associations supporting or enhancing the development of, for example, an online market place for their town or village.

Applicants must be a High Street business who pay their business rates to the Council or receive small business rate relief with between 1.5 and 30 employees.

All appropriate licences and permissions must be in place and full criteria is available on the webpage.

## Citizen's Advice Bureau update



Discussions have recently been undertaken with the Citizens Advice Bureau regarding the way in which services are delivered to Rushcliffe residents.

As part of a transformational change to embed the virtual services implemented during the lockdown it has been agreed to amend the Outreach Service at Fountain Court, West Bridgford into an online service to help ensure greater accessibility.

This new consolidated service will be delivered via the Main Bureau in Nottingham which will have an expanded online advice capacity and will also include limited face to face advice by appointment, where telephone or other non-face to face means are not possible.

This change will align with the way services are currently being delivered in other areas of advice and housing support. If you have any further questions, please contact Donna Dwyer, Strategic Housing Manager on 0115 914 8275 or email [ddwyer@rushcliffe.gov.uk](mailto:ddwyer@rushcliffe.gov.uk)

## Census 2021 roles available



Next year will see the Census 2021 take place and there's set to be lots of temporary job roles available for residents at <http://orlo.uk/U4o5s>.

Application windows are open now too for Census Area Managers, team leader and officers amongst others

with many more going live in January.

**All the latest information for residents is available on the [Coronavirus webpages](#) or over the phone on 0115 981 99 11.**

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Please give feedback on your correspondence with us today here:

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Sign up to receive our business newsletter - <http://eepurl.com/dbczkn>

Call us on 0115 981 9911 (8.30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday), email [customerservices@rushcliffe.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@rushcliffe.gov.uk) or visit [www.rushcliffe.gov.uk](http://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk)



Rushcliffe Borough Council  
Finalist, Local Authority of the Year 2019