

Forwarded on behalf of Shropshire Council 25/8/2020

Good afternoon,

Let's start with the good news; the recent outbreak of coronavirus in Craven Arms has been managed well and there have been no new cases in the area. This successful containment involved a lot of local people working closely with staff from Shropshire Council, Public Health England (PHE) and other key partners. Thank you to all involved. It goes to show that the coronavirus can be managed and contained, even if we are not able to eradicate it fully yet. However, across Shropshire, there has been a small increase in the numbers of Covid-19 positive cases since our last update. We've seen small number of cases in last two weeks, generally amongst the younger population who have displayed milder symptoms. This small trend reminds us that we need to get the messages about keeping safe and well out to all ages of people in our communities.

Community posters and information

A range of posters have been added to the Shropshire Council website which can be used in your communities and workplace. They contain the most up to date coronavirus public health advice and include simple messages about:

- Contact tracing: what it is and privacy reassurances
- Face coverings
- Knowing the symptoms
- Park and playground opening
- Safe ways to enjoy the summer, and
- How long to self-isolate

The posters are available in a range of languages too. They can be found at this link: <https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/coronavirus/resources-and-grant-funding-opportunities-for-local-communities/posters-for-use-in-local-communities/>

A series of Easy Read posters are also available on the link below:

<https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/the-send-local-offer/coronavirus-information/easy-read-materials/#>

As I tend to be one of those people who walks half way to the shops before remembering my face mask, I feel it's always worth reminding everyone that wearing face coverings has become mandatory in many places, and so full guidelines and exemptions can be found

here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own>.

Return to school helpline

If you should have any concerns about children, as the School holidays near their end, a new helpline is now available for parents, carers and children to help ensure a safe and worry-free return to school next month.

The support line – 0345 678 9008 - will be in operation until 2 September. It will be open from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday. Please just call if you have any concerns at all.

And finally, '**Help us improve the experience of anyone leaving hospital**' – this is the aim of a new survey being launched by Shropshire Healthwatch. Running from 1st September to 31st October 2020, the survey aims to gather the views and experiences of anyone who has been in hospital and then left in the last 6 months, so that services can be improved during what could be difficult winter months ahead.

The survey goes live on 1st September and we believe that your feedback and comments are invaluable. Help us to learn the important lessons from the pandemic and so improve services to people throughout Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin and Powys. Full details will be in the next update.

Stay safe and have a good week,

Best wishes

Lisa

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