



CLUN DIVISION

E-BULLETIN NO 16

From Nigel Hartin

07583 962292 or email nigel.hartin@shropshire.gov.uk



Printed, published and promoted by N.Hartin, 14 Ladywell, Bucknell SY7 0AZ

HM Government

NHS

CORONAVIRUS

NATIONAL RESTRICTIONS

5 November to 2 December

National restrictions apply to England:

Meeting Indoors You cannot meet anybody socially indoors unless they are in your household or support bubble.	Meeting Outdoors You can meet with 1 person from another household in outdoor public spaces, following social distancing. Children under 5 and anyone dependent on continuous care do not count towards the 2 person limit.	Weddings and Funerals Weddings, civil partnership ceremonies can only take place where one of those getting married is seriously ill and not expected to recover. Funerals can take place with up to 30 people in attendance.	Working from home You must work from home if you can. If you cannot work from home you should continue to go to work (unless you are clinically extremely vulnerable).
Essential Shops Open. Essential shops should follow COVID-secure guidelines.	Non-essential Retail Closed. Can only open for click-and-collect and delivery services.	Exercise You can exercise outside on your own or with your household; your support bubble; or one person from another household.	Leisure and Gyms Closed, except for allotments and outdoor playgrounds.
Hospitality Closed except for takeaway, click-and-collect, drive through and delivery services. Takeaway not permitted after 22:00.	Education Early years, schools and FE colleges open. Universities must reflect wider restrictions.	Healthcare Services You can leave home for any medical reason.	Residential Care Care homes are encouraged to provide safe, COVID-secure visiting opportunities. See the guidance for details on how to keep visits safe.
Travel You must not travel in the UK or overseas other than for permitted reasons, including work, education, medical reasons, caring responsibilities or for essential retail.	Public Transport You may still use public transport, but should only travel for permitted reasons and should look to reduce the number of journeys you make, avoid travelling at peak times, and walk or cycle where you can.	Overnight Stays Overnight stays and holidays away from primary residences are not allowed, except for work and other exempt purposes.	Entertainment and tourism Entertainment venues are closed. Public gardens at visitor attractions are open.
Vulnerable People If you are 60+ or clinically vulnerable, be especially careful to follow the rules and minimise contacts with others. If you are clinically extremely vulnerable you are advised to stay at home as much as possible, except to go outdoors for exercise or to attend essential health appointments.	Worship Closed except for: Funerals, broadcasting acts of worship, and individual prayer.	Childcare Registered childcare and childcare activities open to enable parents to work, or respite care. Parents can form a childcare bubble with another household for informal childcare, where the child is 13 or under.	Youth Clubs and Activities Some youth services are able to continue, such as 1-1 youth work and support groups, but most youth clubs and groups will need to cease for this period.

For more information and detailed guidance visit:
gov.uk/coronavirus



Grant to help residents affected by COVID-19

Shropshire Council has been allocated a 'Local Authority Emergency Assistance Grant for Food and Essential Supplies' to support people who are struggling to afford food and other essentials due to COVID-19.

If someone is finding it difficult to pay for some of their essential costs due to COVID-19, or has become homeless or is concerned about losing their home, they can call Shropshire Council on 0345 678 9078. Shropshire Council will go through an initial application with them to establish their circumstances and will advise them of any other information needed for their application to be considered.

Please note that this is limited funding and once spent, the Council will no longer be able to provide assistance from this grant funding so please don't delay.

If you have any queries regarding this grant, please contact them on 0345 678 9078.

Further information is available on Gov.UK:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-local-authority-emergency-assistance-grant-for-food-and-essential-supplies/coronavirus-covid-19-local-authority-emergency-assistance-grant-for-food-and-essential-supplies>



Help in Shropshire for those on a low budget

As the recession deepens, more people are losing their jobs and facing hardship. Shropshire Larder (shropshirelarder.org.uk) - is the most comprehensive directory of services for people living in Shropshire on a low budget. It has information on how to access a foodbank or community food project, and how to eat well on a budget. It also covers how to get support with benefits, housing, and debt

Enterprise South West Shropshire

Message from Enterprise House: "We're sorry to tell you that all our services are suspended until December 2nd. This includes Library, Theatre, IT Centre and Village Outreach. We will periodically monitor emails and the voicemail but nearly all our staff are furloughed and the only functions that we can fulfil are the simple management of our building and its tenants. Sorry for this but we are regarded as non-essential and must adhere to the government guidelines."

Local Support and Prevention Fund

This scheme is targeted at helping vulnerable people to meet their immediate short term needs in the event of a crisis and also to support vulnerable people to live independently in the community. All awards made are non-repayable and may be made up of awards in kind such as food parcels, furniture or fuel credits.

You can contact the Shropshire Council Welfare Reform and Support Team on 0345 678 9078 to ask for a paper form or complete a telephone application

You can also download a printable form from the relevant council web page for LSPF

<https://new.shropshire.gov.uk/benefits/what-help-can-i-claim-from-the-council/local-support-and-prevention-fund/>

FEEDING BIRDS THIS WINTER

Follow this link for advice from the RSPB for feeding birds this winter:

www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/advice/how-you-can-help-birds/feeding-birds/



Shropshire Hills AONB Conservation Fund, 2021-22 open for applications



For more information & how to apply see www.shropshirehillsaonb.co.uk



SpArC Bishop's Castle - COVID-19 Update

The Leisure Centre The leisure facilities will be closed as from Thursday 5th November.

The Theatre SpArC Theatre have to close their doors again just as they were getting going. However it is hoped that they will be running again in December.

During this lockdown local businesses that are remaining open, offering online or delivery services can be found by following this link <https://bit.ly/2HU0fuE>

Shropshire Council will be visiting Bishop's Castle with their mobile "Shropshire Local Unit" on Thursday 19th November between 10 am and 4 pm. Shropshire Council, in response to the current lockdown, have put together this mobile unit as an interim measure to support vulnerable people during this time. The mobile unit will be located near the Co-op in Bishop's Castle.



Postal Voting Anyone can apply to have their ballot papers sent to them by post, instead of going to vote in person at a polling station. By completing and submitting a postal vote application form, you can choose to vote by post:

Contact: Electoral Services at Shropshire Council: elections@shropshire.org.uk or 0345 678 9015

NEWS FROM SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL

Libraries: As of Thursday, libraries will be expected to close except for any click and collect type service.

Household waste recycling centres: At this point they are not expecting waste and recycling services to be listed as one of the non-essential services that should close. These can therefore remain open. As always, the decision on whether to open a recycling centre rests with the individual local authority, taking into account the safety of staff and managing the risks on a site-by-site basis.

Outside and farmers markets: MHCLG has clarified that traders selling essential items can continue to trade.

Caravan parks: These can stay open if accommodating people as their primary residence.

Financial help during the November Lockdown in England:

The Furlough scheme at 80% is extended to **March**

Grants of up to £3,000 per month for premises that are forced to close. See below.

Business Closure Grants – Grants of up to £3k are to be paid where there is a business closure. The banding of support is as follows –

- ☐ Properties with a rateable value of £15k or under = £1,334 per month
- ☐ Properties with a rateable value of between £15k to £51k = £2,000 per month

Properties with a rateable value of £51k or over = £3,000 per month

Self-employed:

To reflect the recent changes to the furlough scheme, the UK-wide Self-Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS) will be made more generous – with self-employed individuals receiving 80% of their average trading profits for November.

And to ensure those who need support get it as soon as possible, payments will also be made more quickly with the claims window being brought forward from 14 December to 30 November.



UNIVERSAL CREDIT

The impact of Covid-19 is affecting many people and households in different ways including financially. If you need to check potential eligibility for Universal Credit, including support with housing costs, the following link will help to determine eligibility prior to submitting an application: www.entitledto.com



Local Walks

Whilst gyms and leisure centres may be closed during this lockdown period you can still exercise outdoors and this time with one other person.

The link below takes you to the **BC Walking for Pleasure** series of downloadable leaflets, all of which have at least 3 variations of different lengths. Here are some examples around Bishop's Castle, why not give them a try:

1. Wintles/Woodbatch 1.75 - 6.25 miles
2. Lydbury North/Oakley Mynd 2.5 - 7 miles
3. Hell Hole/ Acton Bank/Brockton 3.25 - 8 miles
4. Bury Ditches/The Stepple/Merry Hill 2.5 - 5.25 miles
5. Clunton Coppice/Sowdby Wood/Purslow 2.5 - 4.75 miles

<http://www.bishopscastle.co.uk/walks-in-the-area/>

Remember to follow the Countryside Code.

NATIONAL COVID ALERT

STAY HOME

5 NOV – 2 DEC

Only leave home for food, medical reasons, exercise, education or work

You must work from home if you can

Avoid travel unless essential

Schools and essential shops will remain open

Remember: wash hands, cover face, make space

Find the latest guidance and exemptions at [gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

STAY ALERT ▶ CONTROL THE VIRUS ▶ SAVE LIVES

Co-op Community Fund

The Co-op Community Fund has selected three local causes for the year from October 25 2020 to October 23 2021. The causes are :

SpArC

<https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/46310>

Bishops Castle Railway Society Weighbridge Project

<https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/45367>

Empathy for Special Children

<https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/53888>

Every time a Co-op member buys a Co-op branded product, 2% of the spend goes to the member and 1% to her/his chosen cause.

If you are not already a member you can join online at [coop.co.uk/membership](https://www.coop.co.uk/membership) or by downloading the Co-op app.

Even though these causes are linked to Bishop's Castle Co-op, money can be raised in this way anywhere in the UK.

This is a very easy way to support local good causes when shopping: it doesn't cost you anything but can make a real difference to the local charity that you select.

WALES UPDATE

Although Wales came out of lockdown on 9th November, Shropshire residents should not be travelling over the border except for:

- Food and other essential shopping.
- Work
- Education.
- Seek or give medical care.
- Care for children, the elderly or the disabled.

INTERACTIVE COVID MAP

See link below to interactive map illustrating cases by post code:

<https://coronavirus-staging.data.gov.uk/details/interactive-map>

www.shropshirelibdems.org

ALL INFORMATION CORRECT AND UP TO DATE AS WE GO TO PRESS