

**County Councillor Report- Badsey & Aldington**  
**Month: June 2020**  
**Prepared by Alastair Adams**  
**Littletons Division, Worcestershire County Council**

Dear All,

Since my last report, the world is starting to get back to normal with shops and schools open, many people back at work, and more traffic on the roads.

I attach a colour newsletter from Worcestershire County Council which summaries the many things that have been done by the County Council during the Lockdown.

I also list the latest news announced in the last few days:-

- A "COVID summer school fund" is being set up by the government to help feed children during the holidays. Children eligible for free school meals in term time in England will get a six-week voucher.
- Testing: The Regional Testing Facility at Worcester Warriors can process approx. 600 tests per day. Capacity is managed within the Department for Health and Social Care system, with availability being released to meet demand as required. Review of "pop-up" locations underway as some of the locations re-open, e.g. West Midlands Safari Park.
- Face-to-face birth registrations by appointment resumed last week at four sites across Worcestershire; Worcester (County Hall), Bromsgrove, Redditch and Kidderminster. Over 700 registrations have already taken place and it is expected that the backlog will be cleared by the end of the week.
- As stated previously, 97% of Primary Schools are open for Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils. Up to 60% of eligible pupils attended last week
- Where space and staffing allow, additional Primary School years are now being encouraged to return; good news for schools in the three-tier system.
- Pupils in years 10 and 12 in secondary schools, sixth form and further education colleges across the county returned this week. A limit of 25% of pupil numbers is in operation to ensure compliance with social distancing guidelines.
- 10 of the 11 Household Recycling Centres in Worcestershire are now open. As expected, these are extremely busy and therefore additional traffic management measures have been put in place.
- The level of infections in Care Homes in Worcestershire remains stable and in line with levels across the West Midlands. All staff and residents in Care Homes with positive cases of COVID-19 have been tested.
- Pressure continues to ease on the Acute Trust with the number of active cases and new admissions to hospitals still falling.
- The Test and Trace service is live. A team of Environmental Health Officers and Public Health Practitioners will provide this locally in Worcestershire
- Plans under way to facilitate the phased re-opening of Libraries next month.
- Emergency PPE packs delivered to 190 schools, 135 nurseries and childminders and 14 children's homes
- Highways surface dressing and maintenance returning to "Business as Usual". Construction work on the county's major infrastructure projects are restarting.

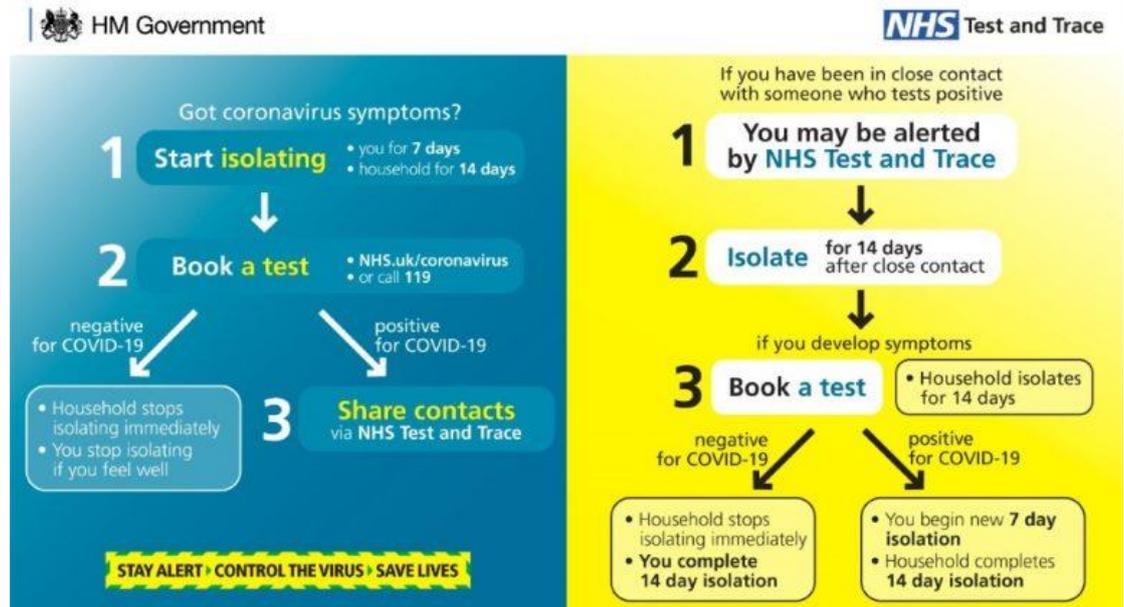
- **COVID-19 STATISTICS**

Official statistics and information are available on the link below:

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-track-coronavirus-cases>

Some key statistics being:

<b>Number Testing Positive in Worcestershire</b>	<b>1434</b>
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**WHERE TO GET FURTHER INFORMATION, HELP AND ADVICE ON COVID-19?**

<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/here2help>

or telephone **01905 768053**

<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/coronavirus>

NHS Website for information on Coronavirus

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Carers who support a family member or friend who require support should contact the Worcestershire Association of Carers on [www.carersworcs.org.uk](http://www.carersworcs.org.uk) or call their Helpline 0300 012 4272.

**Financial support for you**

If you are struggling financially then the advice is to make a claim for Universal Credit, Council Tax Support and other benefits you may be eligible for.

There is more information on the [coronavirus employments and benefits page](#).

## Help paying your Council Tax

If you are of working age and already receiving Council Tax Support you will get a one off reduction of up to £150. This will be applied automatically to your bill. New bills will be issued in the next few weeks.

You can apply online for [Council Tax Support](#) if you are struggling to pay your bill.

More information is available on our [Benefits and Council Tax page](#).

Even if you are not eligible for Council Tax Support, you still may be able to defer your payments for a short period, or spread them over 12 months instead of ten.

Please contact the Council's team by emailing [Revenues@southworcestershirerevenues.gov.uk](mailto:Revenues@southworcestershirerevenues.gov.uk) or call 03004 560560 to discuss your circumstances and they will do their best to help you.

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## Help to find a job

If you have been made redundant, are facing redundancy or are looking for work then the [Worcestershire Jobs Match scheme](#) can help. It has been created to help match businesses struggling to fill vacancies with individuals who have lost their jobs as a result of the Covid-19 outbreak.

We are also supporting the Pick for Britain campaign, to find thousands of workers to help support farmers to harvest fruit and vegetables and help feed the nation.

You can find out more about job opportunities available on our local farms, and other opportunities, on our [Local Job Opportunities page](#).

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## Support for businesses

We have paid out support payments totalling more than £19million to 1,683 businesses. If you are a business and have yet to apply, find out if you are eligible and more information on our [Business Rates Reliefs page](#).

The Government's furlough scheme is now open meaning businesses can apply for help to pay up to 80% of the wages of staff.

[www.businesssupport.gov.uk](http://www.businesssupport.gov.uk) has details of all the support available to businesses.

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## **Highways:**

To keep up to date on the roads affected see

[http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20602/roadworks\\_in\\_worcestershire](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20602/roadworks_in_worcestershire)

Or look at the national roadworks website below, and type in Badsey in the top right box to search. [www.roadworks.org](http://www.roadworks.org)

1. **Speeding on the B4035 near Sladden Close** – Mobile Camera opposite the entrance to Sladden Close – location for van identified – Safer Road Partnership want a Grasscrete platform to be laid so the van won't sink into the mud. Highways agreed to install the platform. It turns out that the grass area where the platform was going to be built for the mobile camera van is not owned by the WCC, but by Rooftop – the Housing Association. So the County Council contacted Rooftop to seek their permission to install it, and after negotiations have got permission. Now it is with the WCC's Legal Team regarding documentation for future maintenance and any indemnity that is required.
2. **Condicup Farm** – Highways have visited the site and confirmed that works on this farm is unlikely to increase the risk of road flooding. *The ditches at Condicup Stables appear to have been redefined in the not too distance past to a good standard. The culvert under the drive is pipes and clear. The poor road surface is on the Gloucester side.*
3. **Brewer's lane – road surface.** Highways inspected the road on Friday 12-JUN and confirmed the “scabby areas” only cover a short section of the road. There are no safety issues that need to be dealt with and it looks as though they are steering marks where people have pulled of the tyres have scrubbed the surface when it is hot.

As always, if you have any issues on any Highways matters, please report it on the WCC website [http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/homepage/98/report\\_it](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/homepage/98/report_it)

Also remember a photo of the Highways problem is as good as “a thousand words” so always take a photo where possible.

#### **County Council Divisional Fund**

The new financial year has started at the County Council, so new Divisional grants are available. So any community organisation that needs a little support to buy equipment or some essential service can apply by contacting me.

**Your County Councillor, Alastair Adams can be contacted on**  
[adams.pebworth@gmail.com](mailto:adams.pebworth@gmail.com) or mobile 07725 979 277 or [www.alastairadams.org](http://www.alastairadams.org)