

Please ask for: Ivan Browne
Director of Public Health

Telephone: (0116) 454 0113
Date: 25 September 2020

Re: Rise in Coronavirus cases

Coronavirus remains a significant threat to our communities. Recently cases have sharply risen locally, as well as nationally, and we must act quickly to reverse this trend and stop the virus taking hold in our communities. If this upward trend continues, we risk seeing more of our loved ones, friends and families being admitted to hospital, leading to more suffering and more deaths within our communities. Already 329 Leicester people have died.

It is vital that we continue to follow Public Health advice so we can reverse this upward trend in the number of infections and protect our family, friends and communities.

In Leicester we are still subject to Leicester specific enhanced restrictions which means that you cannot:

- Meet family or friends from other households in homes or private gardens unless you have formed a support bubble
- Stay overnight in another person's home, unless you've formed a bubble with them
- Meet up with anyone you don't live with inside a café, bar, restaurant or other indoor space.

In addition to these local restrictions it is really important that we follow these rules:

- Limit your contact with other people and stay two metres apart from anyone you do not live with
- Work from home if you can
- Wash your hands regularly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser
- Wear a face covering in enclosed public spaces and wherever it is difficult to maintain 2m distancing
- Do not meet in any public outdoor space in groups of more than 6 people at any time – those in breach of this could face a significant fine
- Self-isolate and book a test as soon as you start to show symptoms; the symptoms of coronavirus are:
 - new and persistent cough
 - high temperature
 - loss or change to smell or taste
- Isolate for 14 days if anyone you live, or have been in close contact with, with shows symptoms or has a positive test.

From 28 September those in breach of self-isolation requirements will be liable for a significant fine of up to £10,000. Help will be available for those on low incomes who need to isolate.

Please also remember the new national guidelines namely, that pubs and restaurants now have a curfew of 10 pm and the number of people able to attend weddings has fallen from 30 to 15 – funerals are unaffected.

I remain grateful to all of Leicester's communities in working together to tackle this rise in cases, and I would ask you to continue to also follow the Public Health advice and to encourage others to do so.

For the most up to date information go to our website [Leicester.gov.uk/coronavirus](https://leicester.gov.uk/coronavirus); follow us on social media: Facebook ([Leicester City Council](https://www.facebook.com/LeicesterCityCouncil)); Twitter ([@Leicester_News](https://twitter.com/Leicester_News)) and You Tube [Leicester City Council](https://www.youtube.com/LeicesterCityCouncil) and subscribe to our e-newsletter Your Leicester (search for [Your Leicester on the website](https://www.leicester.gov.uk/your-leicester)).

Please share this letter with all your networks and urge your friends and families to follow the guidelines. They are in place to protect you and your loved ones.

Thank you

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ivan Browne". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'I' and 'B'.

Ivan Browne, Director of Public Health Leicester City Council.