

Crofton, Ryhill & Walton

(incl Havercroft with Cold Hiendley, Notton,
Chevet & Winterset)



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June 2020 (2)

COUNCIL UPDATE

COOLING DOWN

Wakefield Council is warning everyone, especially young people and their parents, of the dangers of swimming in open water.

As the coronavirus lockdown begins to ease, people have been enjoying the sunny weather in the district's parks and country parks. However, there are concerns that people are swimming in the water at some of these sites, despite signs clearly warning them not to do so.

Swimming in open water is extremely dangerous. Hidden dangers can lurk beneath the surface of ponds, lakes and flooded quarries, such as discarded waste which can trap people, as well as slippery rocks and sudden changes in water depth.

But, if anyone is tempted by a cooling dip, please remember that water can become dangerously cold when it gets deeper and you never know what's under the water such as tangles of weeds and rubbish, which raises the risk of drowning or of suffering a severe injury.

Our emergency services and NHS are already under immense strain so please don't put other lives at risk by putting your own life at risk. Please keep away from open water and stay safe.

DISCARDED LITTER



During the very warm weather, parks and open spaces have been awash with visitors, overflowing bins and discarded litter have been reported bulletins have been put out

regarding take your litter home but sadly these in many places have been ignored. Enforcement Officers (external) are being brought in to patrol the parks and open spaces to see if this makes any difference.

GRASS CUTTING

Council teams have continued cutting grass on, or adjacent to highways, roads and footpaths. This is a statutory obligation for the Authority.

Any remaining gardeners are being deployed on maintaining schools, parks, bowling greens, golf courses, cemeteries and crematoriums although the main focus remains on cutting highways grass.

Large areas such as parks, for the moment, are being left, when the current situation eases then normal service will be resumed.

OTHER NEWS

29 car parking areas have been reopened and social distancing signage introduced.

Fishing clubs have been allowed to re-open under social distancing guidelines.



Enforcement and the Police will be focusing on breaking up groups of people who are not adhering to the self-distancing instructions at some of the busier Countryside sites.

Signs have been installed at all facilities which could encourage congregation including tennis courts, play areas, Multi use Games areas and skate parks advising the public to social distance.

Total number of calls for Environment officer for the last week have been 87 calls from the public and 42 for the Dog warden service.

On the 3 June 2020, in West Yorkshire there are 1,843 cases in Leeds, 1,343 cases in Bradford, 761 cases in Kirklees, 756 cases in Wakefield and 296 cases in Calderdale.



Supporting local small businesses


The Council's six markets support around 200 small businesses and over recent months the Markets Team has been working with traders to help them face the challenges presented to their businesses by the current lockdown measures and adapt for the future. Since the lockdown measures were introduced the Council has continued to run its markets to allow essential goods traders to operate. Whilst this has presented a number of challenges in ensuring the public, traders and staff are able to remain safe it has provided an importance source of fresh produce for local communities and a lifeline for a number of local businesses.

This has been accompanied by ongoing work by the Markets Team to help traders successfully access the range of COVID support available for small businesses and the self-employed, as well as helping traders plan for the changing retail landscape as the current restrictions are relaxed but social distancing measure remain.

A particular focus on the business support and advice from the team has been on helping traders develop an online presence (or helping those who already had this increase their reach) to sell their products and, for those who are able to, diversify into delivery services. This has involved sharing best practice and learning between businesses, signposting traders to further support including training and funding opportunities and encouraging them to think differently about how their business can operate in the future. This work will continue as we welcome back more traders into our markets as and when the wider



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CORONA VIRUS SCAM ALERT

WEST YORKSHIRE TRADING STANDARDS NEWSLETTER

West Yorkshire Trading Standards weekly update on COVID-19 related scams.


PPE Warning

The current pandemic has seen a huge increase in the need for PPE, particularly face masks across the world. Unfortunately fraudsters have been quick to react and bring to the market many products which don't meet the stringent safety standards expected of them.

There are 3 different types of mask...


01

PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) (May also have a valve fitted). Only masks designed to protect the wearer are PPE. These should be kept available for those in high risk medical environments and other roles where PPE is a necessity.




02

'Surgical'/'Medical' masks designed to limit the transmission of infection. Mainly provides protection for others from the wearer. These are often used by medical staff and patients.



03

General face coverings (including homemade masks and coverings). Intended to reduce the risk to the public but not the individual. These are for use by the general public.



How to spot a fake PPE mask

- The mask or packaging should have the name and address in the EU of its manufacturer or importer.
- The 'CE' mark should be present alongside a 4 digit number this identifies who assessed the safety of the product.
- The mask or packaging should be marked with 'EN 149:2001+A1:2009'
- The mask or packaging should state either 'FFP2' or 'FFP3'. If products are only marked as 'KN95' or 'N95' without the above information they are unlikely to have had their safety correctly assessed.

WEST YORKSHIRE TRADING STANDARDS NEWSLETTER

Scams Trending Regionally & Nationally

- Fraudsters have set up a fake website, impersonating the NHS website. The website contained numerous links that claimed to offer updates about COVID-19. But clicking on the links prompted the user to download and save a file called COVID19.exe. This file contains information stealing malware.
- Action Fraud reports an increase in emails purporting to be from TV Licensing claiming that the recipient's direct debit has failed and that they need to pay to avoid prosecution.
- An increase in reports of scam callers claiming to be from NHS Test and Trace service asking for payment details in order to purchase a test kit. Currently, coronavirus test kits are provided by the NHS, so they are therefore free of charge. NHS contact tracers will call you from 0300 013 5000 or send you a text message from 'NHS'. NHS contact tracers will never ask you to make any form of payment or purchase a product of any kind and they won't ask for details about your bank account. Contact tracers will not ask you to download any software to your PC or ask you to hand over control of your PC, smartphone or tablet to anyone else. Finally, they won't ask you to call them back on a premium rate number (starting 09, or 087).

The week in stats...

West Yorkshire = 7 COVID-19 intelligence logs submitted from 25.05.2020 to 31.05.2020 and 30 complaints / enquiries

COVID-19 intelligence logs for Yorkshire & Humber Region from 25.05.20 to 31.05.20 = 25

Total Amount of National Trading Standards Sanitised Intelligence Logs - 4933 (01.03.2020- 31.05.2020)

Test and trace guidance is available on the Gov.uk website




Report to us:


New mailbox to deal with reports of Covid-19 Scams in West Yorkshire:
Covid19.Scams@wyjs.org.uk

Forward scam emails to report@phishing.gov.uk

Report scams to Action Fraud: 0300 123 2040


Report complaints to Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline: 0800 223 1133



@wytradstandards
Regular updates can also be found on:
 @SAFERProject

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a place to call home: Energy and Homeowner Support Team

June 2020 Newsletter



We hope everyone is keeping well and managing to safely enjoy some of the sunshine. As more services are starting to open up, below is an update on the support we can offer.

Lucky Castleford resident benefits from free boiler



Through partnership working with Better Homes Wakefield and Scarbrook Heating and Plumbing, the Council gave a free boiler to a vulnerable resident who otherwise would not receive the help they needed.

Mr Hobson from Castleford who received the free boiler couldn't believe his luck

'Thank you so much from the bottom of my heart for everything that you have done, we really appreciate everything you have done for us. I took a whim when I rang you, I've never had much luck but I can't thank you enough'

**Better Homes
Wakefield**

Support for private tenants with broken or inadequate heating

This month sees the launch of our new heating scheme aimed at private rented residents who are vulnerable to the cold. We can provide a free gas central heating system to qualifying households.

This reduces the impacts of a cold home as well as saving money on energy costs. Qualifying landlords would join our Wakefield Responsible Landlord Scheme too, bringing additional benefits

Advice for those struggling with their money and bills

Our Money Smart team can help you if you are struggling with money or bills or just want to try and stretch your money further and make it work harder. This free service is open to private rented tenants and homeowners across the district. We can support with budgeting, advice on reducing bills and if you need it, help to tackle debt.

Warm Homes Fund

The Warm Homes Fund scheme is open for homeowners who don't have gas central heating. Through this scheme, eligible owners can have a free gas central heating and we can help you to get the gas supply connected if needed. We only have limited funds, so don't delay if you are interested

Support for those struggling with their mortgage

The Mortgage Breathing Space team are here to help homeowners who are struggling with their mortgage or facing repossession. We can help with talking to lenders, offer an interest free secured loan to clear arrears and stabilise the mortgage plus give money and debt advice.

We have new leaflets plus information on our social media pages. Please get in touch if you would like some leaflets, to refer a client or to arrange for us to visit and talk about our schemes

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BUSINESS AS USUAL

Much has been happening across the ward but its all been via Facebook, email or phone.



Residents have been really concerned about fly tipping particularly in Havercroft Tup Lane, around Anglers Country Park along Back Lane Winterset and Walton Nature Reserve.

The Council are usually very good at collecting rubbish usually within 24 hours but this it taking up valuable resources that could be utilised elsewhere.

The #stopthedrop campaign is being publicised in social media and the message 'take your litter home' is being promoted wherever we can.

If anyone sees anyone fly tipping they should report straight away particularly if they see the vehicle and can get any of the registration number, without of course, putting themselves in danger.

We have undertaken a 'Smiley Sid' initiative along Cow Lane because residents were concerned about speeding, however, during the hour we were there no one was recorded as travelling above the speed limit 30mph.

It is our intention to undertake a number of these operations across the ward over the next couple of months.

Both Crofton & Havercroft Food Banks continue to help struggling and vulnerable families across the Ward, however food donations are always required, if anyone can help please contact us.



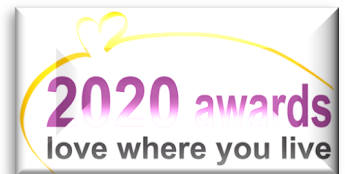
Walton Sports Club have recently been helped with a grant to update their Referee facilities at the club

Crofton Cricket Club too are being helped with a grant to install bowling nets.

Notton Play area has just been complete this will provide an updated play space for the children.

Neighbourhood Improvement Grants of up to £1,000 are advertised and are available to any community groups, we are always available to help if anyone is unsure as to whether they are eligible.

Love Where You Live Awards, each year WDH recognise those individuals or groups who are going that extra mile to help in their communities, once again Havercroft Parent Forum have been nominated, lets wish them luck.



Waste Sites now open for large vehicles and trailers, but visitors are being asked to remain patient.



FROM SATURDAY 6 JUNE
FOR ESSENTIAL VISITS

Vans, pickups (open or closed back e.g. Ford Ranger, Mitsubishi L200 etc), minibuses and trailers will be allowed at all Renewi household waste recycling centres

WEEKENDS ONLY

bit.ly/CoronaWFD

wakefieldcouncil
working for you

If anyone requires any further information on any of the subjects mentioned please contact us and we will try and help. If anyone requires any help or support we are still 'open for business' contact details within this publication.

stay safe,

Albert, Faith & Maureen

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