



FEBRUARY 2021

NEWS



SUMMARY: WHAT YOU CAN AND CANNOT DO DURING THE NATIONAL LOCKDOWN

You must stay at home. The single most important action we can all take is to stay at home to protect the NHS and save lives.

You should follow this guidance immediately. This is [the law](#).

Leaving home

You must not leave or be outside of your home except where necessary. You may leave the home to:

- shop for basic necessities, for you or a vulnerable person
- go to work, or provide voluntary or charitable services, if you cannot reasonably do so from home
- exercise with your household (or support bubble) or one other person (in which case you should stay [2m apart](#)). Exercise should be limited to once per day, and you should not travel outside your local area.
- meet your [support bubble](#) or [childcare bubble](#) where necessary, but only if you are legally permitted to form one
- seek medical assistance or avoid injury, illness or risk of harm (including domestic abuse)
- attend education or childcare - for those eligible

If you do leave home for a permitted reason, you should always stay in your local area - unless it is necessary to go further, for example to go to work.

Staying in your local area means stay in the village, town, or part of the city where you live.

If you are [clinically extremely vulnerable](#) you are advised to only go out for medical appointments, exercise or if it is essential. We recommend that you do not attend work.

Full details on government website (link below)

[National lockdown: Stay at Home - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)



CV19 TESTING SITES

More testing sites are opening across Hampshire, making it easier and more convenient for local people to access testing for coronavirus. These are **appointment-only**, walk-through sites and will help ensure access to prompt testing, particularly for those who are unable to access testing sites by car, which is key to preventing further spread of the virus. See our [press release for more information](#), including advice on when to get a test and how to get one. It's important that anyone with symptoms – however mild – seeks a test promptly.



NFDC COVID SAFETY AMBASSADORS

As part of their Coronavirus response and work to help keep the area safe, New Forest District Council have trained Covid Safety Ambassadors (CSAs) who will be working across the district from 2 December.

With funding allocated from central government, the new Covid Safety Ambassadors will support residents, businesses and visitors to the Forest to understand and follow current restrictions. They will be seen in areas across the district where people are likely to gather outside.

Cllr Diane Andrews, NFDC's portfolio holder for community affairs said:

"It's a comfort to see our friendly Covid Safe Ambassadors will be out and about as part of our community. We know that our residents want to do the right thing and our ambassadors will be able to offer the public reassurance and confidence, and give reminders on social distancing, wearing of face coverings, and good hand-hygiene.

"We have identified, with the help of our partners and other organisations in the district, some local areas that may benefit from someone on hand to offer reassurance and advice – for example in high streets on market days, at busy schools, and at transport terminals.

"The CSAs are not there to enforce any rare breaches, but if required, they will collaborate with other agencies on that, they are there to offer advice and reassurance to the public."

The team of CSAs are NFDC staff who, due to their existing skills, have been redeployed from other services. Jordan, who usually works in leisure services said, "I'm really pleased that I can play my part in helping people to understand how they can meet the restrictions and keep everyone safe. It can be confusing when the rules change. I see my role as being able to give a friendly reminder and as someone to seek advice from."

Residents are reminded they can visit the government's website for the latest coronavirus guidance at any time: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

The council's website contains a summary of the restrictions, information about impact to services and support for residents and businesses who are struggling at this time:

<https://www.newforest.gov.uk/coronavirus>



CORONAVIRUS VACCINATION SCAMS

As of 7 January 2021, Action Fraud had received 57 reports from members of the public who have been sent text messages claiming to be from the NHS, offering them the opportunity to sign up for coronavirus vaccinations. The texts ask the recipient to click on a link which takes them to an online form where they are prompted to input personal and financial details. In some cases, the online form has looked very similar to the real NHS website.

Pauline Smith, Head of Action Fraud, said:

"Remember, the vaccine is only available on the NHS and is free of charge. The NHS will never ask you for details about your bank account or to pay for the vaccine. If you receive an email, text message or phone call purporting to be from the NHS and you are asked to provide financial details, this is a scam."

How to protect yourself:

In the UK, coronavirus vaccinations will only be available via the National Health Services of England, Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland. You can be contacted by the NHS, your employer, a local GP surgery or pharmacy, to receive your vaccination. **Remember, the vaccinations are free of charge and you will not be asked for a payment.**

The NHS will never:

- ask for your bank account or card details
- ask for your PIN or banking passwords
- arrive unannounced at your home to administer the vaccine
- ask for documentation to prove your identity, such as a passport or utility bills

If you receive a call you believe to be fraudulent, hang up. If you are suspicious about an email you have received, forward it to report@phishing.gov.uk. Suspicious text messages should be forwarded to the number 7726, which is free of charge.

If you believe you are the victim of a fraud, please report this to Action Fraud as soon as possible by calling 0300 123 2040 or visiting www.actionfraud.police.uk.

ActionFraud

National Fraud & Cyber Crime Reporting Centre

 **0300 123 2040** 

SCAM WARNING: FAKE DPD EMAILS AND TEXTS

Action Fraud has seen a surge in reports relating to fake emails and texts purporting to be from DPD. The messages claim that DPD was "unable to deliver your parcel today" and provide instructions on how the recipient can arrange another delivery. The links in the emails and texts lead to fake websites that are designed to steal money, as well as personal and financial information.

Victims of this scam have reported losing over £242,000 since June. For more information, please visit <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/alert/fake-dpd-messages-lead-to-over-200000-in-losses-since-june>

How you can protect yourself:

- If you're unsure whether the email or text is genuine, then don't use the link. Instead, visit the DPD website by entering the official web address directly into your browser's address bar, or search for it and follow the search results.
- Remember, your bank will never ask you to transfer money to another account or contact you out of the blue to ask for your PIN or full password.

- If you have received an email which you're unsure about, you can report it by forwarding it to report@phishing.gov.uk. You can report suspicious text messages by forwarding them to **7726**.

For more information about how to protect yourself from fraud and cyber-crime, please visit www.actionfraud.police.uk/cybercrime



THE FOOD LARDER is a community larder run by volunteers for the benefit of their local community. It is a membership scheme aimed at helping people make their money go further by reducing food shopping bills (members can make a considerable saving each year).

A bag will be prepared in advance, and the Food Larder strives to offer a variety of products which can top up their cupboards and fridge. It is estimated that the "bag" will hold an average of £10-£15 worth of products (dependent on household size). A typical bag can include some of these items: Pasta, rice, coffee, tea bags, tinned meats, tinned fish, tinned desserts, soups.

Fresh fruit and vegetables are also included and some fridge products such as meat, raw/cooked and dairy may be included. Clients will need to bring suitable bags, including a cool bag.

The Food Larders are in regular locations, at the same day and time each week (see table overleaf). A Fareshare Van will arrive at the location and volunteers will serve customers on a first come, first served basis.

How to become a member? To apply for membership, a Fareshare application form needs to be completed and proof of ID and address needs to be provided. Applications forms can be requested by emailing FSSouthernCentral@fareshare.org.uk, or as a client you can provide a form, or they can fill out a registration form at any Food Larder there and then, and pay and collect their food at the same time. Forms need to be returned to Fareshare Southern central, Unit 1 Sunset Business Park, Totton, SO40 3WX.

FareShare will contact the client when they can start using the Food Larder. All details given by the client is held by FareShare and not shared with third parties.

How to pay? Payments are made by cash at the Food Larder. No payments are made online.

How much is the membership? Memberships vary and are dependent on the size of the household.

- Single person £2.50 per week 10 products per week, plus fruit and vegetables
- Person household £3.50 per week 15 items, plus fruit and vegetables
- 4 Person household £5.00 per week 25 items, plus fruit and vegetables

Where can I find a Food Larder

Marchwood: Monday 12.30 - 2pm Village Hall, SO40 4SX (from the 25th January 2021)

Ashley Hub: Tuesday 9.30am - 11am Baptist Church, New Milton BH25 5AA

Hythe: Tuesday 12.30 - 2pm St Anne's Community Centre, (from the 26th January 2021) Hythe, SO45 3QR

Totton: Wednesday 9.30am - 11am Testwood Baptist Church, 283a Salisbury Road Totton SO40 3LZ

Pennington: Thursday 1pm - 2.30pm St Marks Community Hall SO41 8GN

Blackfield: Thursday 9.30 - 11am Queen Elizabeth Recreation Centre, (from 28th January 2021) Blackfield, SO45 1YP

Calshot: Thursday 12.30 - 2pm St Georges Hall, Calshot, SO45 1BN (from 28th January 2021)

Ringwood: Friday 1.30 - 3pm Leisure Centre BH24 1PX



MESSAGE FROM FORESTRY ENGLAND, SOUTH DISTRICT

In February, Forestry England staff and contractors will be working in King's Garn Gutter Inclosure located just south east of Fritham.

Our work will include the removal of conifer trees from the western portion of the Inclosure. The aim of this work is to begin to achieve the overall and long-term vision of the Forest Plan, a process that has been consulted upon. The approved Forest Plan ensures the long-term sustainable management of the Forest Inclosures to improve their condition, quality and connectivity to the wider New Forest landscape.

The removal of the conifers here, is a process identified to return this part of the Inclosure back to open Forest, a grazed habitat type which supports special conservation features internationally renowned and designated as a Special Area of Conservation and Site of Special Scientific Interest.

The work will also retain suitable native trees to provide connectivity to the old growth woodlands, which is a special feature of the landscape - supporting a unique assemblage of rare plants and fungi invertebrates, specialist woodland breeding birds, and other associated wildlife.

Over the course of the next year further work will be carried out in the Inclosure to increase the quality of the woodland for biodiversity by removing non-native species including Corsican pine. This thinning work will take place through the woodland but will also be concentrated around opening the network of footpaths to create better conditions for wildlife.

Overall, this work will enhance not just the biodiversity but also people's experience of the area by creating more open sunny trackways where wildlife can thrive and be seen and enjoyed by all.

The area will remain open during the work, however there will be times when certain paths will be temporarily closed to allow access for the machinery and felling. Safety information signs will be in place and we ask visitors to pay attention to keep safe.

We may have to temporarily close Janesmoor car park, the exact date for the closure is yet to be determined but will be advertised locally ahead of time. We aim to re-open the car park as soon as the tree felling close to the car park has finished.

All our management activities are part of a carefully managed programme and are carried out in

accordance with the required permissions and in line with industry standards to ensure they continue to deliver benefits for people, nature and the economy.

The timings of this work are subject to change – signage on site will be updated to reflect any changes. If you have any questions or comments relating to the works you can contact us at southern.enquiries@forestryengland.uk or visit <https://www.forestryengland.uk/new-forest-tree-removal> for more information.

Thank you for your co-operation and understanding.



CAUTION URGED DURING THE DEADLIEST MONTHS FOR THE NEW FOREST ANIMAL ACCIDENTS

Commuters are urged to be vigilant as accidents involving animals in the Forest peak between 5pm and 8pm on weekdays in the winter months.

They are also being encouraged to slow down from 40mph to 30mph, a move which adds only three extra minutes to most journeys across the Forest and can drastically reduce accidents involving animals.

How drivers can help:

- Be ready to stop – animals can step out even when they've seen you approaching.
- Drive slowly, especially at night – there is a pool of darkness behind the headlights of approaching cars - an animal may be standing in it.
- Give animals grazing by the side of the road a wide berth – cross to the other side of the road and be prepared to STOP if there is on-coming traffic.
- Grazing animals on both sides of the road? Take extra care – they may cross to join their friends.
- One animal by the roadside means there are others close by – be aware.
- Bends and tops of hills need more care – animals may be standing in the road just out of sight.
- Reflective collars worn by some ponies may help you see them in the dark - but be aware that not all ponies have them.
- Deer can easily jump the fences alongside roads like the A337, A31 and A35 – and when there is one deer more will usually follow.

Be animal aware at all times.



Animal Deaths and Roger Penny Way: Petition from the New Forest Speed Awareness Campaign

This comes in the aftermath of 3 donkeys, 4 ponies, and 2 sheep killed.

For a petition to be brought to Council for a full debate it must have 1,700 signatures. The petition, from Gilly Jones of the New Forest Speed Awareness Campaign, is currently signed by 989 local people (at the time of writing this publication). The petition reads as follows:-

“We the undersigned petition the council to add its support to calls for the introduction of an Average Speed Camera system on the B3078”

If you wish to support this campaign, please open the link below. It takes a matter of seconds.

<https://democracy.newforest.gov.uk/mgEPetitionListDisplay.aspx?bcr=1>

If a resident is unable to get online and wishes to add their support to an ongoing e-petition, they can do so by writing to the following address, with their name, address and a short note clearly identifying which e-petition it is they wish to sign:-

Democratic Services Manager,
New Forest District Council,
Appletree Court,
Beaulieu Road,
Lyndhurst,
SO43 7PA



When is the Census?

Census Day is **Sunday 21 March 2021**.

This means that the answers that you give in the Census questionnaire must accurately reflect their household on this date. However, you will be able to complete the questionnaire as soon as you receive the invitation pack. You will also be able to respond for several weeks afterwards.

What is the Census?

The census is a survey that happens every 10 years and gives us a picture of all the people and households in England and Wales. The census is unique. There's simply nothing else that gives so much detail about us and the society we live in. It tells us what our needs are now, and what they're likely to be in the future. It also gives a snapshot of how we live, for future generations to look back on. It's been giving this detailed picture since it began in 1801.

Understanding the needs of local communities helps organisations such as councils and health authorities plan and fund public services across England and Wales. Census outputs help decide where billions of pounds are spent, for instance on roads, schools or hospitals.

Information from the census is also important in helping lots of other people and organisations do their work. Charities and voluntary organisations often use it as evidence to get funding. It helps businesses to understand their customers and, for example, decide where to open new shops. Plus, those doing research, like university students and people looking into their family history, use the information. It also provides important information on population diversity, allowing organisations to know whether they're meeting their responsibilities and triggering action where necessary.

Without the census – and without people from every community telling us about themselves, their household and their home – it'd be much more difficult to do this. That's why it's so important everyone takes part.

Peter Dewbery | Census Engagement Manager



NEW FOREST
NATIONAL PARK

ELECTIONS 06 MAY 2021

These include the delayed Police and Crime Commissioner election from May 2020, along with the Hampshire County Council elections and a number of Town & Parish by-elections, either delayed or arising since May 2020.

Given the ongoing pandemic these arrangements are being kept under review, but we have been asked to continue with our preparations at this stage.

For this election it will be more important than ever to ensure voters are adequately informed of their options on how to vote and **in particular the option to apply for a postal or proxy vote.**

Thank you in advance.
Kind Regards

Rebecca Drummond

Service Manager – Elections and Business Improvement
New Forest District Council

Click on the link below for further information on how to register to vote, as well as postal or proxy vote
[Voting and elections - New Forest District Council](#)



TREE CUTTING IN FRITHAM – POWER BEING TURNED OFF

The Forestry England in Fritham have instructed SSE to turn off the power while they carry out tree cutting safely.

We have looked at the network and we are able to generate a vast majority of the area to allow them to carry on as normal, which will of course mean 8 generators having to be located over the period from **08/02/2021 to 22/02/2021**, only 4 households will be off on one day for 3.5 hours. We will be working with Natural England on best areas to place these, while still being able to reach the transformers.

Regards,

Rebecca Botto

Customer & Community Advisor



DOG WALKING PROFESSIONALS HELP CARE FOR THE FOREST

Professional dog walkers have teamed up with the New Forest National Park Authority to create a best practice checklist for responsible businesses.

The New Forest dog walkers' charter lists 24 ways that businesses can help care for the Forest and provides a standard mark for pet owners to find responsible dog walking businesses.

The New Forest has rare wildlife, protected habitats, livestock, farming and forestry operations and is a very popular place for dog walking.

All professional dog walkers that walk in the New Forest National Park are being encouraged to abide by the best practice standards set out in the charter, which has three main themes: 'operating the business in a professional manner'; 'staying safe and respecting the environment' and 'being considerate to other Forest users'.

Jeanette Muldoon, Director of The Family Dog Club based in Exbury said: *'We have been training dogs and their owners for 10 years now in the New Forest, and we are lucky enough to enjoy working with Forest organisations promoting responsible dog walking in the Forest, for example a National Park ranger chatting with our puppy clients. We think the new Charter is a fantastic idea which can give owners reassurance that the person they choose to walk their dogs adheres to guidance on best practice whilst respecting the New Forest National Park.'*

New Forest Dog Owners Group represents more than 1,000 dog owners and supports the new Charter. *'The way to preserve our freedom in the Forest is to behave responsibly, whether that's individual owners or professional dog walkers,'* says NFDog Chair, Heather Gould.

'Clearly dogs need to be under control. A maximum of six not only seems fair but ties in with other aspects of professional dog walking such as insurance. Equally, if someone is trusting their dog to a walker, they can be reassured that things like emergency first aid have been thought about. No one wants an accident, but dogs are mostly regarded as family members and can't speak for themselves, so they need the best care and welfare standards.'

"Of course, most professional walkers and dog owners are already responsible. But it takes just one or two to not behave and we all have a bad reputation. The Charter helps prevent this. I am keen to recommend to our members and other dog owners that if they use a dog walker, check they've signed the Charter and behave responsibly. A lot of discussion went into this Charter, many professionals contributed, and there were meetings and workshops to consider the widest range of views and experience.'

While a survey conducted in 2018-19 showed professional dog walkers were less than 1% of people in the New Forest's open heathlands and woodland, they visit very frequently, often with multiple dogs.

A recent national survey revealed that since the initial Coronavirus lockdown dog ownership has increased. 41% of current pet owners got a new pet during lockdown and 30% of dog owners also say they would spend more money on dog walking services in the near future.

The Charter is supported by the New Forest National Park Authority, New Forest District Council, Test Valley Borough Council, Hampshire County Council, Hampshire Constabulary, Natural England, Forestry England, Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, National Trust, Bird Aware Solent and New Forest Dog Owners Group. The Kennel Club also fully supports the initiative.

The Professional Dog Walkers' Charter for businesses builds on the Dog Walking Code to guide individuals which we developed with New Forest Dog Owners Group and is now well established.

New Forest National Park Authority member Patrick Heneghan said: *'By committing to this charter, local dog walking businesses are able to demonstrate that they will operate both in a professional manner and in a way that takes into account the unique characteristics of the New Forest landscape.'*

'We and our partners have worked closely with such businesses to develop the New Forest Professional Dog Walkers' Charter. Companies who sign up to the charter will be listed on the National Park website enabling dog owners to be reassured that their dogs will be cared for by professional dog walkers following industry best practice in care and welfare, and that every effort is will be made to respect the special qualities of the National Park.'

The charter backs the existing campaigns led by Forest organisations such as:

- keeping to the tracks to protect rare ground nesting birds
- parking only in designated car parks
- keeping your distance from the livestock
- picking up and disposing of dog waste
- having dogs under effective control at all times.

Sam Jones, Head of Recreation and Public Affairs for Forestry England, said: *'Forestry England welcomes the introduction of the New Forest National Park Authority's new charter for professional dog walkers. As a key partner, we are keen to find effective ways to engage with dog walkers. It's essential that all dogs are exercised responsibly in the New Forest. We look forward to the roll out of this new charter and hope that all local dog walking businesses sign up to the best practice standards it sets out, taking vital steps to protect nature and being considerate to other Forest users.'*

To see the full charter and to sign up, visit www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/pdwc. A vinyl sticker is available for businesses to display on their vehicles to demonstrate and promote their good practice.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



23 FEBRUARY
7:30pm

BRAMSHAW PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

By Video Conference.

Bramshaw Parish Council convene by Zoom conferencing tool (used by MPs and the PM himself) on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7:30pm.

Members of the public are welcome to join. You can find all Agendas and Minutes on Bramshaw Parish Council's website www.bramshaw.org.uk

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