

BACK IN BUSINESS



Shops, restaurants and other businesses across the district have been steadily reopening following months of lockdown.

A huge collaborative effort by businesses, organisations and individuals is helping to welcome people back safely to our high streets.

Folkestone & Hythe District Council has put in place a series of measures in support of this. We recognise the situation is constantly subject to change and we are monitoring it closely - we'll adapt plans and interventions if needed.



DOWNLOAD OUR BUSINESS RECOVERY TOOLKIT

Our business recovery toolkit has information on how to reopen and operate safely, including links to the most up-to-date government advice.

Download it from www.folkestone.works or email economy@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk for your copy.

WELCOMING CUSTOMERS BACK

Helping customers feel welcome and safe will build their confidence about using your business.

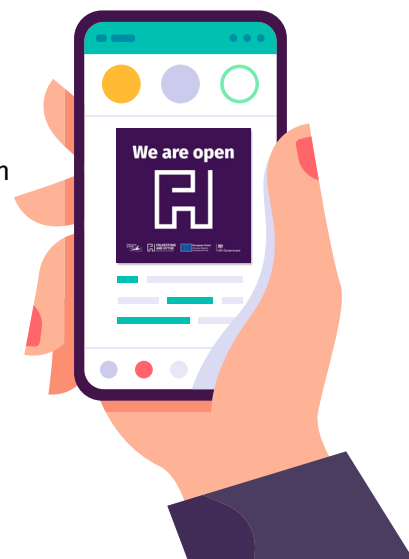
Signs and posters in your window should let shoppers know the safety measures to expect inside. More vulnerable customers may prefer information to be communicated verbally or need extra help in your shop.

Social media is a great way to announce you are open. Share opening times and photos or videos of what's going on in your business – it will all help raise awareness that you are open and COVID- secure.



DOWNLOAD OUR PRINTABLE POSTERS

Download posters to remind people of social distancing, face coverings and other guidance to print and display in your business from www.folkestoneandhythe.gov.uk/get-involved.



SOCIAL DISTANCING

Social distancing is expected to remain in force for some time.

Current government guidance says:

“People should either stay 2m apart or ‘1m plus’ – which is one metre plus mitigations. These mitigations will depend on the workplace or setting. For example, on public transport, people must wear a face covering, as it is not always possible to stay 2m apart.

“In other spaces, mitigations could include installing screens, making sure people face away from each other, putting up handwashing facilities, minimising the amount of time you spend with people outside your household or bubble, and being outdoors.”



You can find COVID-19 secure guidance to help businesses at www.gov.uk

EAT OUT SCHEME

Restaurants have until **31 August** to register for a new Eat Out to Help Out scheme – check www.folkestone.works for more information.



FACE COVERINGS COMPULSORY FROM 24 JULY

It's compulsory to wear a face covering in shops and supermarkets from **24 July**. The new rule does not currently apply to retail staff.

Current government guidance states:

“...shops and supermarkets will be expected to encourage compliance with the law (as they would do more generally) and can refuse entry. In both cases, if necessary, the police have the powers to enforce these measures, including through issuing a fine of £100 (halving to £50 if paid within 14 days).”

FOLKESTONE WORKS FOR SUPPORT AND FUNDING ADVICE

Folkestone Works supports local businesses to start up, grow and succeed. Visit the website for information, including a page dedicated to Covid-19 advice and funding support www.folkestone.works.

A BOARDS

The council is requesting the removal of A boards outside shops to allow additional space for social distancing. This will be subject to ongoing review.



PAVEMENT LICENCES

The rules on licensing have been simplified and are under constant review. Ensure you meet the current requirements by emailing economy@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk.

PARKING

Council car parks are open as usual. If you have a question about parking in your area please email parking.services@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk.

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE UPDATES



Folkestone Works regularly shares information that supports businesses in the Folkestone & Hythe district. You can sign up by emailing economy@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk.