

# BACK IN BUSINESS

ISSUE TWO | SEPTEMBER 2020



Thank you for your continued commitment and support in helping to tackle the spread of coronavirus.

Businesses across the district have been adjusting to trading under new conditions, following the guidance and laws that are in place to keep staff and customers safe.

Creating and maintaining a safe environment and helping the local economy is important to all of us and Folkestone & Hythe District Council is continuing with measures that support businesses to operate safely and encourage people to be responsible and follow the rules.

We are constantly monitoring the situation and reviewing and adapting the measures we have in place where necessary.

## NHS COVID-19 APP

Businesses and venues need to display a mandatory NHS QR code poster, allowing customers to use the new NHS Covid-19 app from **24 September**. The poster is available from:

■ [www.gov.uk/create-coronavirus-qr-poster](http://www.gov.uk/create-coronavirus-qr-poster)

The app provides users with local risk information, alert them if they have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive and very importantly has a built in QR scanner to check-in at venues.

The app will allow us all to know more quickly if we're at risk of the virus, so we can take action, fast, to protect our communities and the ones we love.

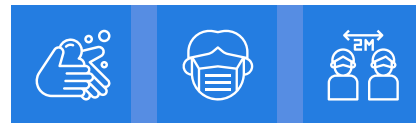
**The more people who use the app, the better it will work. This will help get ahead of the virus and prevent a second wave, local lockdowns and further disruption to the economy.**



Display mandatory QR code poster at your business or venue



Ask customers to scan the code



## HANDS. FACE. SPACE.

The Government is promoting these three simple steps that could make a significant difference in reducing the transmission of COVID-19.

**Hands. Face. Space. means:**

- Wash your hands regularly
- Use a face covering when social distancing isn't possible
- Try and keep your distance from those not in your household.

## THE 'RULE OF SIX'

Social gatherings of more than six people are not allowed in law. The rule came in on **14 September** and applies to indoor and outdoor settings – including pubs, cafes, restaurants and public outdoor spaces.

**Be aware of numbers when customers are making bookings for your restaurant, pub or café – larger groups must be turned away.**

Groups of more than six can be reported through non-emergency numbers, and people who ignore police could be fined £100 with higher fines for repeat offenders.

## WHAT'S THE GUIDANCE ON SOCIAL DISTANCING?

**THE ADVICE IS CLEAR: stay 2m (6ft) away from anyone you don't live with.**

If you can't stay 2m away, you can stay '1m plus' apart. The plus means doing something else to limit possible exposure – wearing a face covering, installing screens etc.

## HOW TO WEAR A FACE COVERING

Face coverings are currently mandatory on public transport, in shops, supermarkets and many other places like banks, museums and galleries. There are certain exemptions to this, for example because of a physical or mental illness or impairment, or disability.

- Wash hands before and after using
- Only handle the straps, ties or clips
- Face coverings should cover mouth and nose while allowing you to breathe comfortably
- Avoid taking off and putting back on a lot in quick succession (e.g. when entering and leaving shops on a high street)
- Wash your face covering regularly or in the case of disposable masks, put it in a waste bin – do not put in a recycling bin



## FACE COVERINGS FOR STAFF

From 24 September it is compulsory for retail, leisure and hospitality staff to wear a face covering in areas that are open to the public and where they are likely to come into close contact with a member of the public.

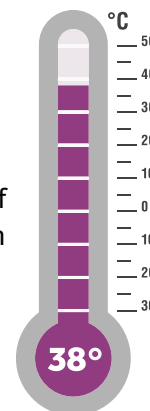
This includes shops, supermarkets, bars, pubs, restaurants, cafes, banks, estate agents, post offices and the public areas of hotels.

There is more advice on this at [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk).

## TEMPERATURE CHECK

You may wish to consider taking the temperature of customers and employees when they enter your premises to check they do not have a high temperature, one of the main symptoms of coronavirus. This can reassure them, and other customers. You must ask their permission before doing so.

**A high temperature is considered to be 38C or above.**



## ACCESS TO FUNDING AND SUPPORT

There are many sources of support and funding available to businesses, including the Government's Kickstart programme which provides funding to employers to create job placements for 16 to 24 year olds. More detail is available on the [Folkestone & Hythe District Council](#) and [Folkestone Works](#) websites.

## 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](mailto:economy@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk).