

Staff News: Take 5

Friday 31 July 2020

Welcome to this week's Take 5, our all new weekly staff update, designed to bring you our latest news summary in a five minute read.

The route out of the Coronavirus crisis: latest guidance



This week, the First Minister announced we will not be moving from Phase 3 to Phase 4 at this time and any changes to lockdown restrictions over the next three weeks will be minimal apart from the following...

It was confirmed that shielding will be paused from Saturday 1 August. This means that the guidance for people who were asked to stay at home and isolate because they were at a higher risk from COVID-19 is now the same as the rest of the country.

Guidance for those with symptoms of Coronavirus has been updated this week to reflect the latest scientific advice. The number of days required for self-isolation for those with the virus or suspected symptoms has been increased from 7 to 10 days.

For more information on all the latest guidance and upcoming changes visit www.gov.scot/

The reopening of schools and nurseries in August has also been confirmed. Full details are on our website www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/openingschools

Holidays abroad and quarantine measures



Travellers to Spain are now required to quarantine for 14 days when arriving home and this measure may be also be re-imposed for other countries.

Your health and wellbeing are always our priority. If you have booked any trips abroad, please follow UK Government foreign travel advice to find out if you need to quarantine on your return and advise your manager as soon as possible.

Your manager will work with you to explore all possibilities to cover required quarantine periods such as: working from home, working time back across the current year or an alternative arrangement by mutual agreement.

The solutions will depend on when the holidays were booked and in some cases you might need to take additional leave if no other options are available. If you booked before any quarantine measures were in place, we will ensure this is managed fairly.

For full details go to www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/coronavirus-staff

Team Up to Clean Up



Local volunteer James Downey

Council-led litter picking events had to be postponed during lockdown, but that didn't stop local volunteers utilising the tools and experience gained through working with our Team Up to Clean Up campaign to help keep Renfrewshire tidy.

Over the course of lockdown, individual volunteers used their limited time outdoors to safely continue their work with a total of 176 litter picks resulting in over 1,000 bags of rubbish being cleared.

Such a dedicated effort just goes to show how successful the campaign and the efforts of our environmental services teams in recent years has been.

Environmental Coordination Lead Officer, Nicola Drummond said, 'It's such great fun working on this campaign and speaking to the volunteers is always inspirational. The love they have for their environment is contagious – we have to constantly evolve to keep up!'

For updates on the campaign follow their Facebook page at [#TeamUpToCleanUp](https://www.facebook.com/TeamUpToCleanUp)

Renfrewshire Leisure: Virtual Summer Series 5k



Record numbers of people have embraced fitness programmes like 'Couch to 5k' this year to help keep fit during lockdown. Are you one of them? If so, perhaps it's time to really test yourself!

Renfrewshire Leisure has launched a three-week virtual 5k in partnership with veteran's charity Erskine and Kilbarchan Amateur Athletics Club. The challenge is to complete one 5k run each week in the fastest time that you can.

The event consists of three individual weeks, from 27 July 2020 to 16 August. You can register for all three of the weeks, or just one or two of them – it is completely up to you.

You can run the distance in any way that suits you. So, this can be an outdoor run or an indoor run on a treadmill.

This event is free of charge, but donations to the Erskine charity are encouraged.

For full event details visit renfrewshireleisure.com/5ksummerseries/

Paisley Fair 2020



Photo courtesy of Renfrewshire Leisure

In celebration of the Paisley Fair holiday weekend, the working day finishes at 2.30pm on Friday 31 July for those currently working from home or in office-based services. This is followed by a public holiday on Monday 3 August.

If you are part of the Flexible Working Scheme, you should make a Business Absence Depart booking on Imperago at 2.30pm <https://renfrewshire-ess.imperago.co.uk/user/login>

If you work in non-office-based roles or services in direct contact with the public, individual arrangements apply. In other operational units (for example, residential establishments) services will be provided as normal.

Did you know?... This special weekend is derived from the days when local workers would be given some time off and many would travel 'doon the watter' with their families en masse to seaside towns like Largs and Saltcoats for a well-deserved break.



Our Health, Safety and Wellbeing at Work webpage is there to provide you with information and contacts to help you keep well during this time.

Visit: www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/health-safety-wellbeing



Don't forget, we'd love to hear from you!

If you have a story to tell or something interesting to share, get in touch with us at: internal.communications@renfrewshire.gov.uk