

Staff News: Take 5

Thursday 24 September 2020

Your weekly coronavirus update



This week the First Minister announced further nationwide measures to protect the population from the spread of coronavirus.

Current restrictions already in place in Renfrewshire, banning indoor household visits, have been extended across the rest of Scotland. People are also advised not to share car travel.

A maximum of six people from two households can continue to meet in outdoor spaces including private gardens and indoor public spaces such as cafes and bars.

From 25 September, hospitality venues are to close their doors at 10pm.

For staff living in any of the six West of Scotland local authorities currently under local restrictions, you and your whole household are still required to self-isolate for 14 days if you are identified as a close contact of a positive covid case. This includes extended household members and applies to all individuals including children.

These measures will be reviewed within three weeks and planned easing of restrictions for October are not expected to go ahead.

For full details visit the <https://www.gov.scot/>

Stop the spread



This is a critical time and it's so important that we follow the guidelines to prevent a further rise in coronavirus cases.

The expansion of additional restrictions across Scotland has been put in place in a bid to safeguard lives and bring the R number (rate of infection) down below one.

Early data suggests that the local restrictions across the west and central Scotland have had a positive impact in starting to slow the increase of cases. With household restrictions now extended nationwide it is hoped the measures will help to bring the virus back under control.

Let's ensure we all do our bit to stop the spread and prevent further lockdown measures, by sticking to the rules and following the latest guidelines.

No matter where you are, it is vital that you stick to the FACTS:

- Face coverings
- Avoid crowded spaces
- Clean hands and surfaces regularly
- Two metre physical distancing from others
- Self-isolate and book a test if you develop symptoms

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.

Protect Scotland App

Have you downloaded it yet?

The Protect Scotland app from NHS Scotland's Test and Protect is a free, mobile phone app which aims to help break the chains of infection and speed up the process of identifying people at risk of catching coronavirus.

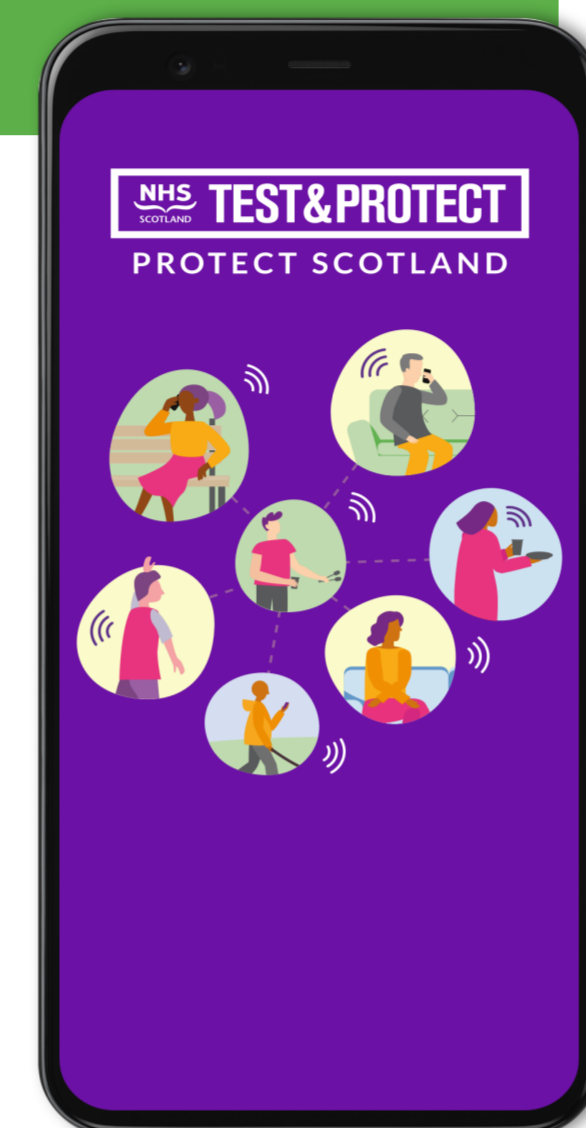
The app is anonymous and easy to use and will alert users if they have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive.

If you test positive, the app can help in determining contacts that you may have otherwise missed while keeping your information private.

The app can be downloaded to all mobile devices via Google Play and the App Store.

As well as downloading it to your personal phone, for those with corporate devices, you can also download it on your work mobile too. Everyone can play their part in reducing transmission by downloading the app.

Go here for more information protect.scot



Check your pay



Our payroll team are always working hard to ensure we all get paid correctly and on time.

To do that, they must have accurate up to date information about any changes that might affect your pay.

Payroll work to regular tight deadlines, so the sooner they are provided with the information they need, the faster they can process this and ensure you receive the correct pay.

Please remember to check your payslip and always inform your line manager straight away if you suspect something isn't right.

Managers are reminded to contact payroll as soon as they are notified of a change to an employees' circumstances that could affect their pay.

For general payroll queries please email payrollgeneral@renfrewshire.gov.uk

Good luck Colin!



We value learning and want to pass on a message of good luck to trading standards trainee Colin Young as he awaits the results of his trading standards exam qualification.

Colin posted his level 1 exam scripts off for evaluation last week and now looks forward to hearing what will hopefully be good news.

Colin started his qualification a year ago, while employed at Inverclyde Council before transferring to Renfrewshire in February, just four weeks before lockdown.

He said, 'Becoming a trading standards officer would mean a lot to me. I've been inspired by the work I've seen in the team during recent months in keeping consumers safe and protected.'

'Distance learning during lockdown has been a challenge. I feel I've missed out on the peer-to-peer training I would've had in the office. But my line manager Faye Wilson and all my colleagues have been amazing and provided me with great support along the way.'



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