

Community Impact Bucks' COVID-19 Briefing #74

New national restrictions & how they affect voluntary organisations

Short regular briefing from Community Impact Bucks

4 November 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

Following the [Prime Minister's announcement](#) on Saturday, a second national lockdown will start from tomorrow (Thursday 5th November) until Wednesday 2nd December.

While we are waiting for further details to be released, we have collated some key information below which is of relevance to charities and community groups.

NEW NATIONAL RESTRICTIONS AND VOLUNTEERING

We have some [advance information](#) to share about what the new lockdown means for volunteering. As the Volunteer Centre for Buckinghamshire, accredited by NCVO, Community Impact Bucks received this early information from the Office for Civil Society (OCS), part of the Department for Digital, Culture and Sport.

OCS will shortly be publishing updated guidance to help organisations understand how to involve volunteers safely and effectively during COVID-19. As soon as this is available we will share it with you. You can also access our [COVID-19 Volunteering](#) and [COVID-19 Volunteer](#) resources, including the updated [Key Information for Volunteers guidance](#) in line with the new restrictions.

If you have any questions, please email
volunteering@communityimpactbucks.org.uk

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE VOLUNTEER MATCHING SERVICE UPDATE

The Volunteer Matching Service team is still taking requests for all volunteering roles but will be prioritising any new emergency/frontline roles as they come in.

If you need volunteers, submit your volunteer requirements via the [request form](#).

If you would like to know more about how volunteers are matched with organisations, read [All About the Volunteering Matching Service](#).

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

On the 31st October the Government announced it is extending the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme for a month, with employees receiving 80% of their current salary up to a maximum of £2,500. Organisations will be able to bring furloughed employees back to work on a part time basis or furlough them full-time, and will only be asked to cover National Insurance and employer pension contributions.

The Job Support Scheme, which was scheduled to come in on Sunday 1st November, has been postponed until the furlough scheme ends.

In addition to this, business premises which are forced to close can receive grants worth up to £3,000 per month under the Local Restrictions Support Grant. We'll share more information about eligibility when this is available.

For more topline information on the Job Retention Scheme and business grants, read the [Government's announcement on economic support](#).

PUBLIC FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES TO BE SUSPENDED

The Fundraising Regulator and Chartered Institute of Fundraising have issued a [statement](#) that they expect charities and their partners to pause public fundraising activities during this second lockdown. This includes door-to-door, street and private fundraising activities.

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