

Community Impact Bucks' COVID-19 Briefing #77

Celebrating Diwali safely, lockdown and community transport and #FundAlerts

Short regular briefing from Community Impact Bucks

12 November 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

With the second national UK lockdown currently in force, we have included details on how communities can celebrate Diwali safely and implications for community transport. We also have details of five new funds which can be found under #FundAlerts.

HOW TO ENJOY DIWALI SAFELY DURING LOCKDOWN

This year's Diwali on 14 November 2020 will be celebrated very differently due to the national restrictions which came into effect on 5 November.

This will be a difficult time for many families and friends across the UK who usually come together to enjoy the Festival of Lights. However, communities can still take part in the festival with many events celebrating Diwali moving online: have a look at the free virtual Diwali event being hosted by [Holy Cow](#) on Saturday 14 November (3-6pm) which will include health and wellbeing workshops.

Buckinghamshire Council has also shared other ways communities can take part in Diwali in its recent [news post](#).

NATIONAL RESTRICTIONS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

Journeys for reasons such as travelling for education, caring responsibilities, essential shopping, and to attend hospital, GP and other medical appointments are still allowed under the new national restrictions.

Many of the new services created during the first national lockdown, such as the safe delivery of food and prescriptions, can still go ahead. You can find detailed, updated advice on community transport by visiting the [Community Transport Association](#).

Further details on what is an 'essential journey' can be found in [section 11 of the new government guidance](#) but it is essential that any journey must be done safely and in line with government guidance.

FOCUS GROUPS TO DISCUSS HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SERVICES IN BUCKS

The Buckinghamshire Integrated Care Partnership (ICP), a group of organisations which deliver mental health, social care and physical health care to residents in Buckinghamshire, is looking for individuals to join focus groups to better understand residents' views about health and social care services in the county.

This is a good opportunity for your beneficiaries to have a voice so do please share this information them. The research is being undertaken by agency Verve Communications through a series of focus groups and telephone interviews in November and early December, and will cover a range of subjects including access to care, approaches to providing more local services, planned care and urgent care services.

If your beneficiaries would like to find out more about the focus groups and how to take part, they should contact Marianne Heathcote Woodbridge at Verve via marianne.heathcotewoodbridge@vervecommunications.co.uk / 07789 052422

SAFE DRIVING IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Thames Valley Police is working with the Older Drivers Forum to run a series of free webinars next week (w/c 16 November) aimed at older drivers, as well as their families and friends, with advice on how to drive safely for longer.

The webinars, which coincide with Brake's National Road Safety Week, are now fully booked but will be recorded and made available on the [Older Drivers Forum](#) website. Please do share this link within your networks if this relevant to either your beneficiaries or volunteers.

#FundAlerts

New funds are opened up regularly; to keep up-to-date with the latest announcements and for support on all aspects of funding, visit our [COVID-19 Funding webpages](#) and read our [top ten tips on how to write a successful funding application](#).

Five new funds are outlined below:

- **Funding for social entrepreneurs in England:** grants of up to £500,000 are available for social enterprises which are reliant on trading income and give immediate or longer term support to groups which are at high risk from COVID-19. These could include older people, disabled people, Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic communities or those pushed into crisis as a result of the pandemic. The Fund provides grants of up to £50,000 for ventures which have been operating for under 12 months, and up to £500,000 for those operating for more than 12 months. The deadline for applications is 13 November 2020 at 5pm; for more information, visit the [Inclusive Recovery Fund](#).
- **Funding for not-for-profit organisations to help stabilise and move towards recovery:** Heart of Bucks is expanding its coronavirus funding offer to enable not-for-profit organisations, which have been hard hit by the impact of the pandemic, to start to stabilise their financial and operational position and move towards recovery. Grants of up to £10,000 are available. For more information, visit [Heart of Bucks](#).
- **Funding for small to medium sized organisations affected by pandemic:** emergency grants of up to £1,000 are available to small charities and CICs which are struggling to manage the financial impact of COVID-19 due to loss of income or an increased demand for their services. For more information, visit the [Sylvia Waddilove Foundation](#).
- **Funding for projects benefiting vulnerable young people:** With grants of up to £3,000 available, Buckinghamshire Youth Bank funds activities and projects that benefit vulnerable young people aged 12-19 years, and up to 25 years for young people with disabilities. Expression of interest deadline is 9 December 2020, and the application deadline is 20 January 2021. For more information, visit [Heart of Bucks](#).
- **Funding for projects related to flood damage/prevention or awareness:** Heart of Bucks' Flood Recovery and Awareness Fund is offering grants of up to £5,000 to support projects focusing on flood damage/ prevention or awareness in the form of training or education. Grants can be used to support capital, revenue and project costs and expenditure. Expression of interest must be submitted by 9 December 2020, with an application deadline of 20 January 2021. For more information, visit [Heart of Bucks](#).

If you would prefer not to receive our COVID-19 Briefings, you can **opt out** by emailing info@communityimpactbucks.org.uk

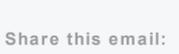


You have received this email as a member of Community Impact Bucks.

Registered Charity No. 1070267

Company Registered in England & Wales No. 3508718

Share this email:



Manage your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

6 Centre Parade Place Farm Way
Monks Risborough, | HP27 9JS GB

This email was sent to .
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

emma

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.