

Latest position from Government

From MHCLG:

- [Face coverings to become mandatory on public transport](#)
- [Funding for new coalition of vulnerable children's charities](#)
- [PPE portal for social care and primary care providers](#)
- [Funding for frontline domestic abuse charities](#)
- [Trade Union facility time reporting](#)
- [Staff and exposed patients and residents in health and social care settings](#)
- [Waste crime](#)
- [FAQ on what the public can and can't do](#)
- [Loneliness, social isolation and coronavirus](#)

Latest guidance:

- Announcement that those advised to shield can take initial steps to safely spend time outdoors - <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-hails-resilience-of-shielders-as-restrictions-set-to-ease>
- Guidance on shielding updated
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19>
- Reopening High Streets Safely Fund guidance updated to version 2
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/reopening-high-streets-safely-fund-guidance>
- Guidance on accessing green spaces safely updated
- <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-on-accessing-green-spaces-safely>
- Guidance on phased return of outdoor sport and recreation in England updated
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-phased-return-of-sport-and-recreation/guidance-for-the-public-on-the-phased-return-of-outdoor-sport-and-recreation>
- Guidance on implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings updated - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings>
- PHE's review of disparities in risks and outcomes published
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-review-of-disparities-in-risks-and-outcomes>
- Guidance on what childcare services, early years settings, childminders and councils need to provide during the coronavirus outbreak updated
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures>
- Guidance on household waste and recycling centres updated
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-to-local-authorities-on-prioritising-waste-collections/guidance-on-prioritising-waste-collection-services-during-coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic>
- Guidance on staying alert and safe updated
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/staying-alert-and-safe-social-distancing/staying-alert-and-safe-social-distancing>

Links:

- [Guidance for local councils and LRFs during the coronavirus outbreak](#)
- [Previous MHCLG bulletins](#)

- [MHCLG Twitter](#)
- [Latest information on coronavirus on gov.uk](#)
- [NHS information on coronavirus](#)
- [Q&A from Public Health England on coronavirus](#)
- [FAQ from the Cabinet Office](#)
- [Public Health England's guidance about coronavirus \(COVID-19\) for health professionals and other organisations](#)
- [PPE guidance hub](#)
- [The latest travel advice on gov.uk](#)
- [Cumbria County Council - Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Latest Information](#)
 - [Cumbria County Council - Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Local Communities](#)

Council updates

Visitors to Lakes asked to act considerately

As the lockdown begins to ease, the Lake District has seen a significant increase in the number of visitors. While many are acting in a considerate way, there have been instances of visitor behaviour that has put pressure on the local communities and the emergency services.

Richard Leaf, Chief Executive of the Lake District National Park Authority comments: "We're delighted the nation has such an appetite to visit the Lake District. Our communities have been hit hard by COVID19 and as they start to recover, we ask all our visitors to be kind to both people and the place when they arrive. We've had some real issues with littering, fires, illegal camping and terrible car parking in the last couple of weeks.

"We recognise that people have spent many weeks cooped up at home and being in such a beautiful place as the Lake District is exciting but please remember it's also a place when people live and work. Please make sure that there is no trace of your visit and you leave with great memories."

Agencies are urging people to follow the Countryside Code on their visit:

Respect other people:

- consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors. Do not block and narrow roads with your car. Only park in marked car parks. Inconsiderate parking could prevent emergency vehicles passing you. Please visit saferlakes.co.uk and only travel to places that have available parking.
- leave gates and property as you find them and stick to paths. Sanitise your hands before and after you touch anything.

Protect the natural environment:

- leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home
- keep dogs under effective control
- Do not light fires or BBQs. It is very dry and fires can spread quickly endangering the natural environment, people's homes and lives.

Enjoy the outdoors:

- plan ahead and be prepared. Don't take risks in the water or on the fells.
- follow advice and local signs.

Inconsiderate parking caused particular problems for the county's emergency services.

Craig Drinkald, Area Manager, Head of Community Safety, Cumbria County Council Fire and Rescue Service, said: "While we understand that people want to get out and enjoy our county's beautiful scenery, it's important everyone does so responsibly.

"We are asking people to ensure they park in a safe and considerate way that allows access for fire appliances and other emergency vehicles. If you can't guarantee this then please find a safer alternative place to park or return at a different time. Fire engines are approximately 2.5 metres wide. Therefore if you're parking your vehicle and don't think a van could get through the space, it's extremely unlikely that a fire engine will either. So please keep this in mind, especially on our narrow country lanes. The delays this can cause could cost lives. We'd also urge people not to light fires or BBQs. The weather has been exceptionally dry for weeks and the potential for dangerous wild fires is high."

Sector Manager for North West Ambulance Service (NWAS), Rick Shaw, reiterated this advice. He said: "As people head to Cumbria to enjoy the outdoors in the beautiful county, we ask that they are considerate of their parking and make sure that they leave enough room for ambulances and other emergency services to get through. In a life-threatening emergency every second counts and if an ambulance is delayed due to dangerous and thoughtless parking, it really can mean the difference between life and death. We know that the vast majority of people do act responsibly but please bear in mind that we need extra space to allow large vehicles to pass at speed if necessary."

The full countryside code can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code>.

Discretionary business grant scheme update

A new discretionary grant support scheme which opened to South Lakeland businesses last week will close on **Monday, 15 June**.

Central government has made additional funding available to district, borough and city councils to provide further grants to businesses which have been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Councils in Cumbria, including SLDC, have been working together since the initial announcement of the Local Authority Discretionary Grants Fund to develop a shared approach to ensure any schemes offered are coherent throughout Cumbria.

The initial guidance provided by Government excluded those businesses that were eligible for the Self-Employment Income Support Scheme, but through continued local and national representation by councils and partners, the criteria of the Local Authority Discretionary Grants Fund was amended on 23 May to include these businesses.

Although each of the councils in Cumbria has been provided with differing sums of finance, the intention has been clear from each council and its elected members that the aim must be to support the largest number of businesses possible, whilst still following the Government's guidelines.

Government has set down key criteria for businesses to be able to access the Local Authority Discretionary Grants Fund.

Eligible businesses must:

- Have been trading on 11 March 2020
- Have not have been eligible or received a grant from the existing Covid grant schemes or other support schemes (excluding the Self-Employed Income Support Scheme).

In addition to the eligibility criteria, Government has said that the grants are aimed at the following businesses:

- Small or micro businesses
- Businesses with relatively high ongoing fixed property-related costs
- Businesses which can demonstrate that they have suffered a significant fall in income due to the Covid-19 crisis
- Businesses which occupy property, or part of a property, with a rateable value or annual rent or annual mortgage payments below £51,000 (where a rateable value exists this will be the figure used).

The guidance on the fund has set down that the grants can be allocated in amounts of £25,000, £10,000 or the local authority has discretion on any amounts it wishes to provide under £10,000.

Given the limited funding being made available it is unlikely that any of the councils will award many, if any, grants of £25,000 as this would quickly deplete the available fund and may mean a larger number of businesses going without much-needed money.

In South Lakeland online applications for the Local Authority Discretionary Grants Fund opened on Monday, 1 June and applications are open for two full weeks, meaning applicants need to submit their application before **midday on Monday, 15 June**. Applications will close at this point.

Once the two-week window has closed, applications will be assessed with funding prioritised and paid out to businesses as soon as possible.

For more information about the scheme in South Lakeland and to check eligibility criteria see the SLDC website: <https://www.southlakeland.gov.uk/business-and-trade/coronavirus-covid-19-business-support-grants/>

Details of the discretionary business grants guidance issued by central government to local authorities can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-business-support-grant-funding>

Advice for businesses planning to re-open

SLDC has produced guidance on what action businesses need to take to safely reopen and operate in line with new government guidance.

The information on SLDC's website includes guidance on how to make a risk assessment, specific government advice for different types of business, making equipment checks and checking water systems and checking for Legionella.

The web page also has specific advice for food businesses.

The information can be found on the website at: <https://www.southlakeland.gov.uk/your-environment/coronavirus-covid-19-support-and-advice/reopening-your-business-coronavirus-covid-19/>

Community Recovery Centres update

Local leaders have praised the amazing community response to developing Cumbria's four Community Recovery Centres from the teams that built the centres to the generous volunteers willing and trained to staff them.

Work on the centres took place in early April at a time when hospital admissions were rising rapidly and Cumbria Forum partners made a commitment to be ready in case they were needed.

The centres were transformed from sports halls into wards with privacy screening, hospital standard beds with appropriate catering and sanitation facilities. The centres were planned for use by patients leaving hospital, but needing a little extra time and care before going back to their homes.

Due to the overwhelming response from people living in Cumbria respecting guidance around social distancing, handwashing, our local hospitals have been able to maintain enough capacity to care for all covid-19 patients requiring a hospital admission.

When the centres were built we could not be sure that the number of people becoming ill with covid-19 would be the way it has, and we are now in the very fortunate position of not needing to use the centres.

Peter Rooney, chief operating officer for NHS North Cumbria CCG, said: "The NHS is very grateful to the many volunteers who volunteered to work in the centres, and to the local organisations which helped with the development work."

"At the time we were seeing high numbers of hospital admissions and the volunteers who came forward did not have any doubt lots of nervousness at our volunteer training sessions, but also incredible generosity and commitment."

"We are also grateful to people across Cumbria who have been following the social-distancing and hand-washing advice. We have no doubt that this has helped prevent our hospitals being overwhelmed and we'll need everyone's support to ease the pressures on our services."

Hilary Fordham, chief operating officer for NHS Morecambe Bay CCG, said: "We are very grateful to the many volunteers who volunteered to work in the centres, and to the local organisations which helped with the development work. We were able to provide quality facilities at short notice, from the NHS and from local businesses and the collaboration of our partners, as well as the owners of the venues including GLL and Furness Academy and the local authorities."

"This has been a real team effort from all involved and we have been fortunate not to need to use the centres. We are now looking at ways to ensure that we have sufficient capacity to support patients over the next phase of the pandemic."

In April, 160 volunteers were recruited in a couple of weeks and trained to provide patient support, with support from other health professionals.

Four centres were developed in March and early April in:

- Furness Academy, Barrow
- Sands Centre, Carlisle

- Kendal Leisure Centre
- Leisure Centre, Whitehaven

Penrith Leisure Centre was held in reserve in case it was needed.

The centres have been ready to go if needed but now the Community Recovery Centres at the Sands and the Furness Academy in Barrow will be stood down. All the resources and equipment will be put into other facilities stood up in other facilities at short notice.

The Sands Centre is due to be redeveloped as part of a Carlisle City Council investment project to create new facilities for the community. Furness Academy is re-opening as a school and needs its sports hall to be stood down.

Kendal and Whitehaven will continue to be held for the time being while conversations about their future use will be taken down and reconstructed at short notice. The Strategic Coordinating Group is keen to keep them in case of a second spike now or in the winter.

There was also the possibility of using Penrith Leisure Centre which was held in reserve and never used. It also now increased capacity for Cumbrian patients needing intensive care with the development of new hospitals in Manchester and the north east.

Assistant Chief Constable Andrew Slattery, Chair of the Strategic Co-ordinating Group for Cumbria, said in a news that we can begin to return the Recovery Centres back to their normal use for the communities.

“We were faced with a serious challenge in March, when Government predictions indicated that the numbers of Covid-19 cases in Cumbria was expected to overwhelm the resources of our local NHS hospitals.

“As a contingency, the Strategic Coordinating Group worked urgently with military planners and local authorities to use the Recovery Centres and provide additional bed capacity, whilst hoping that it would never be needed.

“Through the fantastic efforts of the two hospital Trusts in building capacity, combined with the effective containment measures, the numbers of cases were contained within hospital premises – but at times it was very close.

“We were extremely relieved that the Recovery Centres were not occupied but the potential for a ‘second wave’ of Coronavirus cases is very real and it would be unwise to dispose of these facilities in their entirety. They are mothballed and the resources kept in reserve so they can be swiftly reinstated if required.

“The creation of the Recovery Centres was a terrific example of local authorities, with the support of the NHS, working together to achieve a common goal and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have helped to tackle Covid-19 in Cumbria.”

The Strategic Coordinating Group has thanked the following:

Carlisle and Whitehaven:

NHS

Carlisle City Council

GLL

J&J Contracting Ltd

J&J Electrical (Cumbria) Ltd

Cumbria Mechanical Ltd

Postlethwaite Construction Ltd
SM Flooring Ltd
Stobbarts Ltd
Shaun Bell Electrical Ltd
Barrie Haigh Painting Contractors
Jackson's Joinery
Andersons (Carlisle) Ltd
CEF
Premier Electrical Ltd
Edmundson Electrical
Connexions Group Ltd
Wolsley
Contract Flooring
NHS Hygiene
NHS teams including Helen Gulston from the Stores team
Donations in Whitehaven from:
Morrison's
Number 11 Restaurant
Sandwich Man

Barrow

Furness Academy - especially John Rawsthorne COO, Stuart Redfern Site Manager, Jayne Beech
BAE Systems
Barrow Borough Council
NHS Morecambe Bay
Ward Group Painting
Leck Construction
Optech Fibres
Travis Perkins
Jacksons Timber Ltd
Pickering Scaffold
T Ward & Son
JT Atkinson

Kendal:

South Lakeland District Council
GLL
Cruden Property Services,
David G Bushell Electrical Contractors)
Castle Alarms Ltd,
Athena PTS
Nationwide Fire Training Limited
IT Shaw Ltd
Alan Hodgson's Decorators
Russell Armer Homes
Timber Frame North West

County Council welcomes funding for cycling and walking schemes

The Department for Transport (DfT) has now announced the allocation of funding for Cumbria as part of their £225m Emergency Active Travel Fund.

They will release the funding in two phases; the first tranche of £45 million will be released as soon as possible and can be used to install segregated cycle lanes, widening pavements and other pop up measures, the second tranche will be released later in the summer to be used to install further, more permanent measures to cement cycling and walking habits.

The main purpose of the initial funding is to promote cycling and walking as a replacement for journeys previously made by public transport. Their funding is therefore weighted towards areas which until the crisis had high levels of public transport use, especially for short and local journeys.

Cumbria County Council received confirmation last week that £233,000 has been allocated as part of the first tranche. However, a regional press notice from the DfT later confirmed that combined indicative allocation for Cumbria of both tranche one and two of the Fund is £1,167,000. This means that Cumbria could receive a further £934,000 as part of the second tranche. For both phases, receiving the grant will be dependent on a convincing case being made to the DfT.

Cumbria County Council's Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, Cllr Keith Little said: "In anticipation of this announcement, we have been working for a number of weeks on identifying potential schemes in each of our six districts. We are now working to prioritise which of these schemes could be delivered within this first phase of funding that will achieve the greatest impact to submit to the Government for their approval by 5 June."

Any temporary or permanent changes require Traffic Regulation Orders and the appropriate use of recognised safe traffic management systems to ensure the safety of all road users.

Active at Home campaign from Public Health England

Public Health England has produced an 'Active at Home' booklet that provides practical guidance to older adults on home-based activities to maintain their strength and balance. It follows concerns that low levels of physical activity in older adults will lead to reduced fitness resulting in loss of independence and need for care in the future.

- [Download a copy \(PDF\)](#).
- Find out more from Active Cumbria at www.activecumbria.org/stayinworkout.

Emergency Support Line

An emergency support helpline set up by the county council with support from partners including SLDC, is continuing to support vulnerable members of the community.

The most common contacts are for medication and prescription collections, food supplies and from family members who are isolating or live far away from their elderly loved ones who they would normally care for.

The helpline exists to provide support to people at 'high risk' who aren't able to rely on neighbours, friends or family members, and may be struggling for food, medicines or other essential supplies. The requests for help are matched with local support which is being

offered by a network of community groups, volunteers, redeployed council employees, and local businesses. In South Lakeland alone there are 99 local community groups that we are linked in to providing support 'on the ground'.

How to contact the Emergency Support Helpline:

- Phone - The emergency support helpline number is **0800 783 1966**.
- Online at [cumbria.gov.uk/covid19form](https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/covid19form).
- Email your request for help to **COVID19support@cumbria.gov.uk**.

The telephone call centre operates **Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm and 10am to 2pm at weekends**. The service also accept referrals from members of the public who may be concerned about people in their community.

PLEASE NOTE: District and parish councillors can help to raise awareness of the helpline, as can members of the public, volunteers and local businesses, by downloading a pack of useful resources to print and share from www.cumbria.gov.uk/coronavirus in the 'Download and share campaign resources' tab.

These resources are publicly available for people to share in their local communities, to raise awareness of the Emergency Support Helpline, promote safeguarding and other important messages.

Please help to spread the word about the helpline in your communities by putting up posters or flyers and sharing with anyone you think may benefit from this support.

Victims of domestic abuse in Cumbria urged to report it

Cumbria County Council and Cumbria Police are joining forces to reach out to people across the county who are at risk from domestic abuse.

A new campaign has launched encouraging victims, or people who are concerned about their friends, family or neighbours, to report incidents to Cumbria Police.

Report domestic abuse:

- Call 101, or report online at www.cumbria.police.uk.
- If you are in immediate danger, always call 999 and ask for the police.

Cumbria Police and safeguarding partners are also holding new online Domestic Abuse Surgeries, on the police's [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages, every Monday and Wednesday between 11am-1pm. These live chat events make it easy for people to ask questions and seek advice, questions can also be asked anonymously.

Government instructions over the past few months of lockdown were designed to keep us safe and to protect the NHS by staying at home. The worry has been that the stay at home message was not ideal for victims of domestic abuse who may have found it harder to escape their abusers or even to report them.

Domestic abuse is always unacceptable and everyone is entitled to live safely, without fear of violence or abuse. For anyone who feels they are at risk of abuse, it is important to remember that there is help and support available to you, including police response, online support, helplines, refuges and other services. Victims are not alone.

Friends, family, neighbours and community members can be a vital lifeline to those living with domestic abuse. If anyone is worried that someone they know may be a victim of domestic abuse, reassure them that the police and support services are here to help and direct them to sources of support.

Find out more at www.cumbria.police.uk and always report it.

Locality updates

Members of the public can now subscribe to locality specific email updates to receive news and information about how public services and local communities are responding to the coronavirus outbreak. You can also access the latest edition of the South Lakeland Newsletter and the updated community resilience directory, at cumbria.gov.uk/coronavirus/communities.asp.

How you can help if you're on social media

Agencies across Cumbria are continuing to share trusted key messages, advice and guidance and you can help by sharing this on your own accounts on Facebook and Twitter. Every share or retweet means we reach more people and spread important messages wider across our communities.

Here are some some key accounts for you to follow:

Organisation Facebook

Department of Health and Social Care
<https://www.facebook.com/DHSCgovuk/>

Twitter

@DHSCgovuk

Public Health England

<https://www.facebook.com/PublicHealthEngland/>

@PHE_uk

NHS Cumbria County Council

<https://www.facebook.com/NHSwebsite/>

@NHSuk

<https://www.facebook.com/CumbriaCC/>

@CumbriaCC

NHS North Cumbria Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)

<https://www.facebook.com/nhscumbriaccg/>

@NHSCumbriaCCG

North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust

<https://www.facebook.com/NCICNHS/>

@NCICNHS

Morecambe Bay NHS Trust

<https://www.facebook.com/UHMBT/>

@UHMBT

NHS Morecambe Bay Clinical Commissionin g Group (CCG)	https://www.facebook.com/morecambebayccg/	@MorecambeBayCCG
Cumbria Police	https://www.facebook.com/cumbriapolice/	@CumbriaPolice
South Lakeland District Council	https://www.facebook.com/southlakelanddistrictcouncil/	@SouthLakelandDC

Useful links

- [Find the latest online from nhs.uk](#) for symptoms and dos and don'ts.
- [Find the latest online from gov.uk](#) for staying at home, social isolation and shielding guidance.
 - Also, [gov.uk coronavirus guidance collection](#) for health professionals, employers, businesses and other organisations.
- [Q&A from Public Health England on coronavirus](#)
- Volunteering across the county is being coordinated by Cumbria CVS and partners via a new website at [SupportCumbria.org.uk](#).
- [Cumbria County Council - Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Latest Information](#)
[Cumbria County Council - Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Local Communities](#)