

for residents of South Kesteven

SPECIAL EDITION 2020

Helping you through the COVID-19 pandemic

Advice and support for residents and businesses

together we will get through this



www.southkesteven.gov.uk



IMPORTANT

INFORMATION

SOUTH KESTEVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Helping residents through these difficult times

These are some of the ways the council is adapting services to support our residents, businesses and charities during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Coronavirus webpage: We have created a Coronavirus webpage so we can keep everyone up to date with alterations to services and offer advice and support. **www.southkesteven.gov.uk/coronavirus**



Customer services: We are working remotely to protect everyone's health and ensure advice can still be available when people need it most by dealing with enquiries by phone and email. **01476 406080 customerservices@southkesteven.gov.uk**



Housing: We are maintaining critical services including emergency and urgent repairs, priority re-housing, and supporting our sheltered housing schemes.



Homelessness: We have adopted special measures to support anyone who finds themselves homeless during the pandemic to ensure they are not left without a roof over their heads.

Waste collections: We have maintained our full waste collection service across the district with crews taking every precaution they can when it comes to personal and public safety.



Markets: We have kept our local markets in Grantham, Stamford, and Bourne running to support traders and give residents an alternative source of fruit and veg, meat, bread and other fresh foods. Strict social distancing rules apply.

SK Community Hub: We established the hub to provide a first point of contact for people needing support due to Covid-19, and volunteers offering help. If you or someone you know needs support or wants to volunteer, please contact the SK Community Hub by email at **SKCommunityHub@southkesteven.gov.uk or call our dedicated line on 01476 406177.**



Parking: We have suspended all charges across our council car parks to support our communities, particularly key workers or people who are having to make essential journeys.



Council tax: We are being as flexible as possible for residents whose income or circumstances are affected by Coronavirus, and whilst still encouraging everyone to pay, we are offering help by rearranging the monthly instalments.



Rent: We are supporting our tenants who are experiencing difficulties paying their rent and we are tailoring our support to meet specific needs.

Benefits: We are supporting residents who may have been affected by Coronavirus, providing benefits they may be entitled, giving advice, and offering help to pay council tax or rent.

Dear residents,

We are living in extraordinary times as collectively we cope with Covid-19 in our communities. As we adapt to this new, but temporary way of life, I want to assure you that we - your council - are doing everything we can to protect and support you through this pandemic.

Our staff have been voluntarily redeployed to deliver critical community services: from maintaining our waste collections and housing the homeless; to getting vital grants to our local businesses within a 24-to-48-hour turnaround; to setting up a seven-day-a-week community hub for vulnerable residents. We are here for you.



Since the lockdown was announced, we have:

- > Prioritised our critical services with immediate effect
- > Focused our support for local businesses on resilience and continuity
- Written to 14,000 vulnerable residents and all tenants in our 6,000 council homes to inform and support them
- Worked shoulder-to-shoulder with charities, volunteers and community groups to deliver vital grassroots support
- Kept our markets running to support our traders and provide you with an alternative source of fresh food - all with social distancing observed and enforced

Our council offices may be closed as we deliver many of our services remotely to protect your health and that of our staff, but with more than 400 employees working from home, we are only a phone call or a click away. We will keep you fully informed and updated as and when any of our services change. Your local councillors are also always ready to help. For ease, we have included their contacts details and information about which wards they represent on pages, 6, 7, and 8.

Despite all the uncertainty, we remain steadfast in our commitment to you and we will be ready for the recovery, which will come.

Until then, thank you for your many messages of support for our key workers; please stay safe and keep well.

With best wishes,

Lellan Cook

Clir Kelham Cooke Leader of South Kesteven District Council E: kelham.cooke@southkesteven.gov.uk T: 01476 406400

Supporting Our Communities

Befriending Service

We offer a befriending service to proactively reach out to residents we already know may be vulnerable.

Again run by SKDC staff deployed from within the council, the service offers an important lifeline for those who need and want it. By making an initial telephone call, our team is able to establish if someone identified as potentially vulnerable needs help. Those who receive calls are then offered a weekly telephone call for as long as they need it during this pandemic to provide help, reassurance, and a regular contact. If you think that you, or someone you know, might fall into this category of the most vulnerable, please contact the SK Community Hub on 01476 406177.





Working with and supporting local charities

Help for vulnerable residents who can't access cash.

We have provided a grant to The Evergreen Trust based in Stamford, to support its Cash Crisis Partnership (CCP). The aim of the CCP is to enable identified volunteers to buy essential items for isolated residents who can't access their accounts during the lockdown. The Trust is working with a number of volunteers and community groups in Stamford, Bourne, the Deepings, and surrounding areas. Contact Evergreen by email at office@ evergreencare.org.uk or call the SK Community Hub on 01476 406177.

In Grantham, we are working with **BHive**, part of the South Lincolnshire Blind Society, to coordinate volunteers to receive, distribute and deliver essential supplies to vulnerable people. BHive has adapted its mobile electronic payment system so people who are isolating can pay electronically for supplies while maintaining social distancing. BHive can also take remote payment from relatives or friends of vulnerable people who don't live nearby or can't help in person.

Potential volunteers or vulnerable people seeking

help should contact the SK Community Hub on 01476 406177.

Foodbanks across the country have changed how they operate to reduce physical interaction whilst at the same time demand for their help has increased due to the pandemic. We are working with all our foodbanks. In Grantham, we have organised a partnership between the town's foodbank and local Rotary Clubs, who are providing volunteers so deliveries can be made, supporting those who are isolating, or unable to get to a foodbank.

If you need help from a foodbank, or can volunteer, please email SKCommunityHub@ southkesteven.gov.uk or call the SK Community Hub on 01476 406177.

Supporting Our Communities

Member Ward Grants doubled to support local causes

The Council has doubled the Ward Member Grant allocation to £1,000. The increase enables each of our 56 district councillors to help local initiatives that are supporting communities in a variety of ways during the pandemic. The grants can be awarded to registered charities, community groups, voluntary groups, social enterprises, youth groups, and faith or belief groups. Please contact your local South Kesteven District Councillor for more information.

See pages 6, 7 and 8 for your local councillor

Support packages

The Government has announced a whole range of support packages from a Job Retention Scheme, help for the Selfemployed and a Statutory Sick Pay relief package, to deferment of VAT and Self-assessment returns.

For any business support, information or advice contact investSK.

☎ 01476 406374 / 406318
 ➢ business@investSK.co.uk
 [^] www.investsk.co.uk

Domestic abuse awareness

Countrywide, there is an increase in reports of domestic violence and abuse. Our staff remain vigilant to any potential issues. Concerns are reported to appropriate agencies within Lincolnshire's Multi-Agency Domestic Abuse Joint Protocol. A local sanctuary scheme is available to help victims of domestic abuse stay in their home if they wish, as long as the perpetrator doesn't still live there. Equipment such as security locks, spy holes and security lights can be provided. People can leave their home and move in with someone else if thev feel at risk.

If you suspect someone is at risk, please encourage them to seek support. A countywide helpdesk operates from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday. **Call 01522 510041 or email:** info@edanlincs.org.uk For urgent medical or police assistance please call 999. Those at risk, unable to say so over the phone, should stay silent on the line and when prompted by the operator **dial 55**. This will alert the operator of a domestic abuse incident so they can get help without putting the caller at risk.

Help is also available from the 24-hour freephone National Domestic Abuse Helpline. **Call 0808 2000 247.**

Safeguarding

We would usually pick-up on safeguarding concerns through home visits and other face-toface contact. This isn't possible right now, but our duty of care remains.

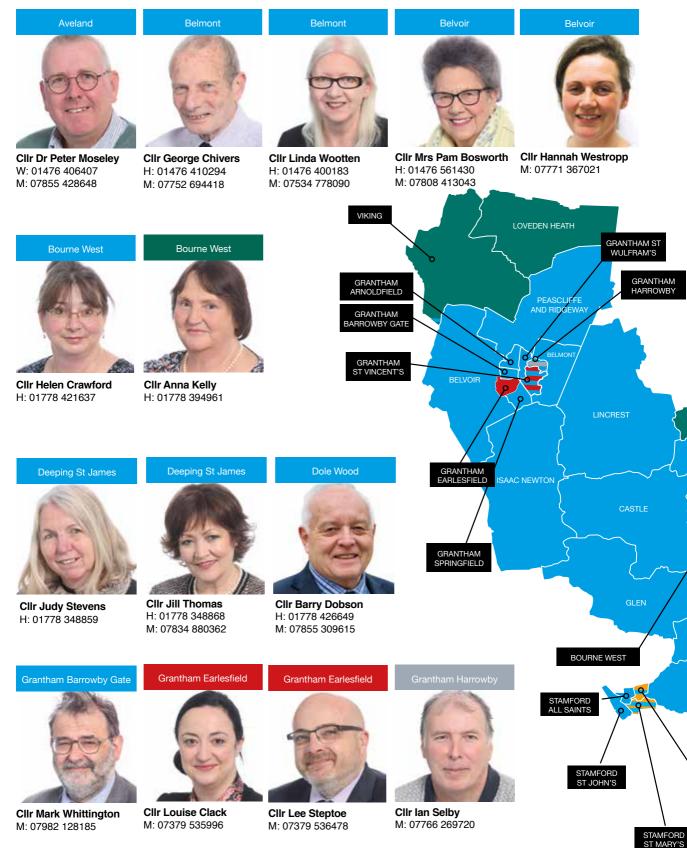
If you are worried about a child needing protection, **call 01522 782111**. If your concern is for an adult, **call 01522 782155**.

Leading the way on Government grants

South Kesteven District Council is among the leading local authorities when it comes to paying out vital grants to help small businesses through the Coronavirus crisis. Together, SKDC and InvestSK contacted more than 2,500 businesses across the district to let them know they're eligible to receive a Government grant. At the time of going to press, more than 1,800 eligible businesses had responded and received payments totalling more than £22 million, ranking SKDC 24th out of 315 local authorities in the country for getting grant money swiftly into the accounts of local businesses.

The grants ranged from £10,000 to £25,000 and were established by the Government to support small businesses and those in the retail, hospitality and leisure sectors.

Councillor contact details



Bourne Austerby



H: home telephone number

Clir Paul Fellows H: 01778 422449

M: mobile number W: SKDC office number

Kev:



Cllr Ms Jane Kingman M: 07932 449845





Cllr Robert Reid H: 01778 395562 M: 07802 354498



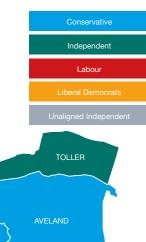
Cllr Philip Knowles

H: 01778 425438





Cllr Mrs Judy Smith H: 01778 422219



BOURNE EAST

DOLE WOOD

MARKET AND

STAMFORD ST GEORGE'S

DEEPING ST JAMES



Clir Kelham Cooke W: 01476 406400 M: 07940 187426



Clir Rosemary Trollope-Bellew H: 01778 560634



Cllr Nick Robins M: 07785 987112



Cllr Phil Dilks M: 07368 256898



Cllr Chris Benn M: 07968 962173



Clir Helen Goral E: helen.goral@south kesteven.gov.uk



Clir Dean Ward M: 07786 076898



Cllr John Cottier M: 07815 675912

Grantham St Vincent's



Cllr Graham Jeal M: 07858 707888



Cllr Hilary Westropp M: 07855 236686



Cllr Nikki Manterfield H: 01476 405011



Grantham Springfield

Cllr Adam Stokes M: 07974 342648



H: 01529 497297

H: 01400 282223

M: 07423 063234

H: 01400 282223

M: 07769 038693

Grantham St. Wulfram's

Grantham St Vincent's

Grantham St. Wulfram's

Isaac Newton

Cllr Harrish Bisnauthsing H: 01780 756000 M: 07852 613857

E: matthew.lee@

southkesteven.gov.uk

Keeping our waste collections going - with your help

The support for our waste collection crews has been truly amazing as residents and business owners recognise the front-line public health service they provide.

At the time of going to print we are still maintaining our normal service despite very challenging circumstances. But demand is increasing as some people leave additional black bags of waste beside their bins for collection. Whilst our crews always do their best to help, this is putting a real strain on the service. If our crews collect more waste, it means they may not be able to complete their rounds, or extra vehicles have to go out. This means an increased risk to our crews and residents. So please try to reduce the amount of waste you put out; reuse items; or increase recycling. We know this isn't easy with people spending more time at home, but if everyone works together, the longer we will be able to keep our vehicles rolling. One final note, please don't burn your garden waste. One of the symptoms of COVID-19 is problems with breathing, so smoke from any such activity may cause problems for anyone in the neighbourhood who may have symptoms. Thank you for your support and help.

What can go in which bin

Black bin/pink b

for non-recyclables

- Food waste (except the SKDC trial area)
- Nappies & sanitary products
- Plastic bags
- Black or brown plastic food trays
- Crisp packets
- Food pouches (e.g. pet food pouches)
- Plastic film
- Toys
- Plastic plant pots
- Polystyrene



Silver bin/clear bag for recycling

- Plastic bottles and containersBottle tops
- Plastic pots, tubs and trays
 all empty, clean and dry,
 with no food residue
- · Glass bottles and jars
- Steel and aluminium food and drink tins and cans
- Clean tinfoil
- Foil trays
- · Aerosols
- All paper and cardboard except shredded paper and tissues



Green bin for garden waste

- Hedge trimmings/cuttings
- Grass cuttings
- Flowers and plants
- · Leaves and bark
- Small twigs and branches

28,000 SK residents joined our Garden Waste Scheme last year. You too can sign-up by calling 01476 406080 or by visiting www.southkesteven.gov.uk



A personal message from Gareth Davies MP



GARETH DAVIES MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

I know this is a worrying and uncertain time for all of us, but our area's incredible community spirit will prevail. Thank you to everyone who has stepped forward to help others, and everyone for listening to, and heeding Government advice. Some of these measures are a difficult ask, but the devastating scenes in Italy leave us in no doubt as to why they are necessary. It is not just the vulnerable or elderly who are at risk, and the actions we each now take will directly save lives.

I want to thank all those on the frontline, from NHS workers and carers, to teachers, food producers, supermarket staff, the police, delivery drivers and prison officers. There are many more of you who are owed our thanks, especially those who are quietly supporting neighbours who need assistance.

I pay tribute to all of you who are selflessly and courageously stepping forward, you are a beacon of hope in these dark times. I remain completely committed to supporting every single one of you throughout this outbreak in whatever way my role as your MP allows.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch. Stay well and stay safe,

Gareth

garethdavies.co.uk/coronavirus gareth.davies.mp@parliament.uk



PROTECT THE NES

@garethdavies_mp f @aarethdavies mp

Sign up to my local newsletter at: garethdavies.co.uk

Stay Home and Save Lives. Even if you have no symptoms you may be carrying the virus. Stay Home.

Useful contacts

- HMRC
 - 0800 015 9559
- **UNIVERSAL CREDIT**

 \bigcirc

- 0800 328 5644
- 111.NHS.UK please only call 111 if you cannot get help online
- \bigcirc LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL HELP 01522 552222

customer_services@lincolnshire.gov.uk

SOUTH KESTEVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL HELP $\langle \rangle$ 01476 406080

customerservices@southkesteven.gov.uk



VOLUNTEER TO HELP IN LINCOLNSHIRE lincolnshirecvs.org.uk/covid-19/

Supporting our Communities



SK Community Hub

One of the first things we did as a council was to establish the SK Community Hub to support vulnerable residents who have been affected by the pandemic.

The hub is open seven days a week, from 8am until 7pm. It is run by SKDC staff who have been redeployed to provide this first point of contact for people who need help, and those who are offering assistance.

The hub works closely with all our partners in the public sector and charities to ensure that our network of support is as robust, and efficient as possible.

If you or someone you know is vulnerable and needs support you can contact the SK Community Hub by email at SKCommunityHub@southkesteven.gov.uk or call our dedicated line on 01476 406177.



How to contact us if you're not online

Please find below contact details for local, countywide and national organisations which may be useful during this period of unprecedented challenge.

Local

South Kesteven District Council

Information and advice on council services and support available for residents. To provide information and advice on council services and support that is available to residents **2 01476 406080** Out of hours 01476 590044 \boxtimes customerservices@ southkesteven.gov.uk **Www.southkesteven.gov.** uk/coronavirus

Countywide

2 01522 696000

support for older people

¹ www.ageuk.org.uk/

lincolnsouthlincolnshire/

Information and advice on

council services and support

Lincolnshire County Council

Lincolnshire)

InvestSK

Information and advice on services and support available to local businesses **2 01476 406374** or 01476 406318 ⊠ business@investsk.co.uk www.investsk.co.uk

SK Community Hub

Help, advice and support for older and vulnerable residents during the pandemic **2 01476 406177** Skcommunityhub@ southkesteven.gov.uk

\boxtimes customer services@ lincolnshire.gov.uk Age UK (Lincoln and South ^A www.lincolnshire.gov. uk/coronavirus-support-Companionship, advice and services

Lincolnshire Resilience Forum

A county helpline for people who are self-isolating. **2 01522 782189** ⊠ customer services@ lincolnshire.gov.uk A www.lincolnshire.gov. uk/coronavirus-supportservices

Food Banks

Support for people who cannot afford food or other essentials. In the first instance please call the SK Community Hub. **2 01476 406177** ⊠ skcommunitvhub@ southkesteven.gov.uk

Lincolnshire Community and Voluntary Service

A charity supporting the health and wellbeing of communities and individuals in Lincolnshire. **2** 01205 510888 ¹ www.lincolnshirecvs.org. uk/covid-19/

available in Lincolnshire. **2** 01522 552222

National advice lines **Citizens Advice**

2 03444 111444 A www.citizensadvice.org.uk/about-us/ contact-us

Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) **2 0345 606 0265** * www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ department-for-work-pensions

Victim Support

2 0808 506 1688 Victimsupport.org.uk

The National Domestic Abuse Helpline **2000 247**

NHS- non-urgent medical need **111** Www.111.nhs.uk/

If you are online

You can find the latest information, help and support during COVID-19 by visiting our website at www.southkesteven.gov.uk/coronavirus