

# Voluntary & Community Sector Coronavirus Bulletin

## Issue 3 – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2020

### Regular update for:

- Community groups
- Parish Councils

To receive this bulletin e-mail: [community@west-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto:community@west-lindsey.gov.uk)

- Charities
- Town Councils
- Social enterprises
- Community Businesses

## 1. What's New in this Bulletin?

This week we have a reminder about the West Lindsey Community Hub which is helping to match people in need of help with local community groups and charities providing support. We have also updated our information pages on our website with the latest details of support for business, individuals and community organisations.

We have now launched the West Lindsey COVID-19 Community Fund to support groups delivering help to our vulnerable residents. Other funding schemes are also launching to help groups continue the excellent work supporting people during the pandemic.

This week's bulletin also includes our first spotlight on Community Heroes in our district. Please share your group stories with us so we can feature in future bulletins and also shout about the amazing work being done on social media and in the local news. E-mails your stories to: [community@west-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto:community@west-lindsey.gov.uk)

## 2. Coronavirus Update

- As of Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April the total cases in the UK is 70,272 of which 58,817 are in England. There have been 8,958 deaths in the UK.
  - In Lincolnshire there are 392 confirmed cases
  - In North Lincolnshire there are 77 confirmed cases
  - In North East Lincolnshire there are 61 confirmed cases
- For the latest NHS advice on Coronavirus visit:  
[www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)
- For the latest Government advice on Coronavirus visit:  
[www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

### 3. Are you providing support/help to people? Make sure you have registered your group's activities

The Lincolnshire Resilience Forum is maintaining a database of all activities being delivered by community groups, charities and councils to support people. This information is used by our West Lindsey Community Hub to direct calls for help to the most appropriate local group.

If you are delivering any activity in your community to support people during the pandemic please register this with the Lincolnshire Resilience Forum. Please send details of what support you are or can provide including area of operation and how we can contact you. **We cannot pass tasks on to any group which hasn't registered.**

E-mail: [CEC\\_CVC@lincoln.fire-uk.org](mailto:CEC_CVC@lincoln.fire-uk.org)

Thank you to all groups that have already registered.

### 4. Individuals Looking for Help

We are working closely with Lincolnshire County Council to receive calls for help and match people to local groups and charities who can support them with collecting food and medicine. Individuals can request help for themselves or on behalf of a family member online or by telephone.

To request help for yourself or a family member visit:

[www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/coronavirus-help](http://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/coronavirus-help)

Or call: 01522 782189

### 5. Support for Voluntary & Community Sector

Our Communities Team are on hand to help your community organisation to manage the effects of the coronavirus outbreak. We can provide advice, support and direct you to funding opportunities.

We have a dedicated webpage with the latest advice, support and funding for voluntary sector organisations and parish councils.

If as a result of the coronavirus pandemic your community organisation is facing difficulties in maintaining services for vulnerable people please contact us.

Visit: [www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/coronavirus-support](http://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/coronavirus-support)

E-mail: [community@west-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto:community@west-lindsey.gov.uk)

## 6. Grants and Funding

➤ **COVID-19 Community Fund**  
West Lindsey District Council



- A £100,000 fund has been created to help communities as they respond to exceptional challenges over the coming months. We want to support local charities, community organisations and parish councils who are delivering essential services to vulnerable residents impacted by COVID-19.
- Community organisations operating in West Lindsey can apply for a grant of between £250 and £5,000 to deliver projects or services.

For more information and to apply visit:

[www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/funding](http://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/funding)

➤ **COVID-19 Community Fund Scheme**  
Lincolnshire County Council



This scheme provides funding for local projects during the coronavirus pandemic. Each County Councillor can allocate £3,000 towards initiatives which benefit the community.

For more information and to apply visit:

[www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/grants-funding](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/grants-funding)

➤ **Lincolnshire COVID-19 Crisis Fund**  
Lincolnshire Community Foundation



This fund is open to donations from the public and will make grant awards to support community groups who are supporting vulnerable people.

For more information and to apply visit:

[www.lincolnshirecf.co.uk](http://www.lincolnshirecf.co.uk)

### Other COVID-19 Grants and Funding

A wide range of regional and national funding schemes are now available with more being announced regularly. We are providing details of other available funding schemes on our funding pages online.

Visit: [www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/funding](http://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/funding)

## 7. Support for Businesses and Self-Employed

### Grants and Rate Relief

For details of available grants and rate relief schemes to support businesses please visit our dedicated webpage. On this page we have details about:

- Grants for Small Businesses
- Government Support for Business
- Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme
- Business Grant for Retail, Hospitality and Leisure
- Business Rates Holidays for Retail, Hospitality and Leisure

Visit: [www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/coronavirus-business](http://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/coronavirus-business)



### Business Lincolnshire Helpline

Business Lincolnshire are providing a wide range of advice and support during the pandemic. Visit their website for useful advice, FAQ's and checklists. They also provide a COVID-19 Information and Advice helpline.

Visit: [www.businesslincolnshire.com](http://www.businesslincolnshire.com)

Helpline telephone: 01522 782189 (9am to 5pm Monday to Friday)

## 8. How People Can Volunteer



### Voluntary Centre Services

Provide up to date information on volunteering opportunities across Lincoln, North Kesteven and West Lindsey.

Visit: [www.voluntarycentreservices.org.uk](http://www.voluntarycentreservices.org.uk)



### NHS Volunteering

NHS Volunteer Responders has been set up to support the 1.5m people in England who are at most risk from the virus to stay well.

For more information and to register as a volunteer visit:

[www.goodsamapp.org/NHS](http://www.goodsamapp.org/NHS)



### British Red Cross Emergency Reserves

Emergency and community based volunteer roles to support people in need.

For more information and to register as a volunteer visit:

[www.redcross.org.uk/get-involved/volunteer/volunteer-in-emergencies](http://www.redcross.org.uk/get-involved/volunteer/volunteer-in-emergencies)

## 9. Changes to Parish/Town Council Meetings

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government has provided details on two sets of regulations made under the Coronavirus Act 2020.

- The first set of regulations enables all local authority meetings before 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021 to be held remotely and removes the requirement for the annual meeting this year.
- The second set postpones until 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021 local by-elections and other polls, either scheduled or which would otherwise arise before that date.

You can read more about these changes by visiting:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-letter-to-councils-about-local-authority-meetings-and-postponement-of-elections>

## 10. Council Service Disruption

During the Coronavirus pandemic a number of services may be impacted. For details of the latest council service disruptions please visit:

**West Lindsey District Council**  
[www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/coronavirus)

**Lincolnshire County Council**  
[www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/coronavirus)

## 11. Social Media Updates

The following social media sources can be followed for useful advice and updates:

**West Lindsey District Council**  
Facebook: [@westlindseydistrictcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/westlindseydistrictcouncil)

Twitter: [@WestLindseyDC](https://twitter.com/WestLindseyDC)

**Lincolnshire County Council**  
Facebook: [@lincolnshirecc](https://www.facebook.com/lincolnshirecc)

Twitter: [@LincolnshireCC](https://twitter.com/LincolnshireCC)

**NHS UK**  
Facebook: [@NHSwebsite](https://www.facebook.com/NHSwebsite)

Twitter: [@NHSEngland](https://twitter.com/NHSEngland)

**GOV.UK**  
Facebook: [@UKgovernment](https://www.facebook.com/UKgovernment)

Twitter: [@GOVUK](https://twitter.com/GOVUK)

**Voluntary Centre Services**  
Facebook: [@voluntarycentreservices](https://www.facebook.com/voluntarycentreservices)

Twitter: [@VCSLincs](https://twitter.com/VCSLincs)

**Business Lincolnshire**  
Facebook: [@BusinessLincolnshire](https://www.facebook.com/BusinessLincolnshire)

Twitter: [@BusinessLincs](https://twitter.com/BusinessLincs)

## 12. Community Heroes Spotlight

### Volunteers for Caistor

This group of volunteers has come together to ensure residents in Caistor and the surrounding area can get support with getting essential food, toiletries and medicines. The group have supported over 40 people in the community so far and have created a basic provisions store to take in donated items.

For continuity the group matches a volunteer to a specific person or group of people so that they can keep in touch on a regular basis.



Non-perishable donations are being accepted at Caistor Town Hall between 4:30pm and 5pm each week day. The group have been supported by The Caistor Lions, Alpha Fire & Air, Morrisons, Lincolnshire Wellbeing, West Lindsey District Council and Caistor Town Council.

One of the group founders and Caistor Town Councillor, Steve Critten praised the community and volunteers.

He said: “How people in our community are pulling together at this time of need is amazing. We have received lots of donations and support from local residents and businesses. Everything we are doing is all made possible thanks to our amazing volunteers”

Follow this group on Facebook:

[Volunteers for Caistor](#)

### Share your stories about other community heroes

Do you have a story or example of good work in the community to share?

Please share your stories of community heroes so we can raise awareness and pay thanks to the amazing work being done across West Lindsey.

E-mail your stories, photos and videos to: [community@west-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto:community@west-lindsey.gov.uk)