

Appendix 1 - Information on Food Access & Support – October 2020

As part of Derbyshire's response to COVID-19 and to help minimise the spread of the virus to other people, it recognises that some individuals may continue to need support with basic needs such as getting food.

This paper outlines options available in the event that people either need to self-isolate, or are otherwise financially impacted as a result of the virus. The Community Response Unit (CRU) can offer advice on how to access a range of support channels to help people access food.

Derbyshire County Council is working with partners and local voluntary organisations, to support individuals and households who are in one of the following groups to access food:

1. **Those self-isolating after testing positive to Covid 19** – those people who have tested positive to Covid 19, who will need to self-isolate for at least 10 days from when symptoms started (even if it means they self-isolate for longer), and with no support network available to shop on their behalf
2. **Those self-isolating because they have symptoms (but are still waiting for a test)**– those people waiting to access a Covid 19 test, but who are displaying symptoms of coronavirus (a high temperature, a new, continuous cough or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste) and therefore need to self –isolate for 14 days, but have no support network available to shop on their behalf
3. **Those told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace Team or the NHS Covid 19 App** – individuals who have been told to self –isolate for 14 days by either the Test and Trace Team or the NHS Covid 10 App (due to being in contact with a person who has tested positive), and with no other support network available to shop on their behalf
4. **People who receive informal care from family/friends where their carer needs to self-isolate (leaving them without anyone to collect food)** – to support vulnerable people whose carers need to self-isolate, where no other support systems are in place
5. **Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV)** – *The National Shielding Programme is currently paused (Oct 2020) but system leaders are maintaining lists. In the event that the Government advice on Shielding changes, the CRU will need to provide support to people in this group, who have no other support systems in place.

Food supply for this group: In a change to previous provision, no national system for the provision of food parcels will be initiated. If shielding is implemented in a local area, DCC will support CEV residents with no other support networks to access food using routes that promote independence and choice. People will be asked to contribute financially to cover the cost of any food provided.

6. **Clinically Vulnerable Groups** - people who are more vulnerable to serious illness if they contract the COVID-19 virus but have no other support network to shop on their behalf, including:
- Anyone aged 70 or over
 - People with certain underlying conditions that entitle them to a free flu jab
 - Pregnant women

The full guidance can be found [here](#)

Note: Some clinicians are also advising some patients to stringently socially distance before attending important hospital procedures, so we will advise on how to access food where no other support systems are in place

7. **Other Vulnerable Groups** - In addition to those people who are clinically vulnerable there are a wide range of other people who may also be vulnerable as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak, and have no other support network to shop on their behalf, including
- People whose existing services are impacted by the COVID-19 response e.g. substance misuse
 - Homeless people
 - People living in more rural/isolated communities
 - Traveller community

This list is not exhaustive and further guidance on those communities who are more vulnerable can be found [here](#)

8. **Financial hardship** – those individuals experiencing financial hardship as a result of Covid 19, and therefore unable to buy food
9. **Children eligible for Free School Meals** – children who meet the eligibility criteria for receiving Free School Meals (this does not include the universal school meal offer provided to all Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children).

Food Supply Options For Groups 1 - 7

There are a number of food supply options for those groups of people who need to self-isolate, or are vulnerable but don't have any other support networks to shop on their behalf, these are outlined in the table below.

Our strategy follows national government guidance on food provision and promotes independence and choice. Direct provision of food parcels will be on an exception only basis.

The CRU will discuss individual needs and support people to access one of the following provisions:-

Option	Notes
On –line supermarket priority delivery slots (Tesco/Iceland)	<p>CRU can create a priority online shopping slot for those struggling to access a delivery slot themselves. People can then order their own shopping and pay for it on line. This option is bespoke to their own needs.</p> <p>If the person self-isolating does not have access to the internet they can nominate a carer or friend to do this on their behalf.</p> <p>The CRU generate the priority slots using a national scheme.</p> <p>More information here:- https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/social-health/health-and-wellbeing/health-protection/disease-control/coronavirus/community-response-unit/if-you-need-help/if-you-need-help.aspx</p>
Local commercial offers	<p>For those without internet access, the CRU will be able to direct people to other local commercial offers where you can pay for your own shopping on delivery/over the telephone and have it delivered e.g. Morrison’s Door Step Deliveries</p> <p>https://my.morrisons.com/doorstep-deliveries/</p>
Voluntary and Community Sector Support	<p>The CRU are working closely with CVS partners across Derbyshire to support people in local communities to access food.</p> <p>This is done primary via the Derbyshire Home From Hospital Scheme https://www.dhfh.org.uk/</p> <p>With additional support from local CVS Shopping Schemes, Hot Food Batch Cooking Programmes or Mutual Aid Groups.</p> <p>Discuss options with the CRU</p> <p>Note: People will be expected to pay for their own</p>

	shopping and there may be an additional delivery charge for some services.
NHS responders	<p>NHS volunteer responders can also help with collecting shopping</p> <p>Note: People will be expected to pay for their own shopping.</p> <p>https://nhsvolunteerresponders.org.uk/</p>
Basic Emergency Food Parcels	<p>In very exceptional circumstances e.g in the event of an emergency (less than 48 hours of food in the home), the CRU can provide and deliver a one off emergency food parcel at a cost of £25/person. This is to support those who can afford to pay for food whilst the other options outlined above kick in.</p> <p>Payment will be collected using a contactless debit/credit card reader. The contents of the box are basic ambient store cupboard provisions only.</p> <p>Those people in financial hardship should follow financial hardship option outlined below instead.</p>
Local Area Co-ordinator Support/ Bespoke shop	<p>In very exceptional circumstances e.g. in the event of an emergency (less than 48 hours of food in the home) and where there are specific dietary requirements, the CRU can collect a one off emergency shop, until the other options outlined above are mobilised. This is to support people who can pay for food but due to dietary/allergy issues are unable to be supplied with an emergency food box.</p> <p>Payment for the shopping will be collected on delivery using a contactless debit/credit card reader.</p> <p>People in financial hardship should follow the financial hardship option outlined below instead.</p>

Food Supply Options Of Group 8 – Financial Hardship

Different arrangements are in place for people who are experiencing financial hardship and don't have the means to buy food.

Food supply for this group: the Derbyshire Discretionary Fund can provide emergency cash vouchers to eligible Derbyshire residents that can support in buying food.

The DDF can also make referrals to food banks. Derbyshire residents can apply through the Community Response Unit.

Alternatively there is a network of food banks across Derbyshire that can provide food parcels to people in financial hardship. Additionally a number of community cafes across Derbyshire are also delivering Hot Meals at low cost via batch cooking schemes. For more information please visit <https://www.ruralactionderbyshire.org.uk/foodbanks>.

Food Supply Options For Group 9 - Children Eligible For Free School Meals (Fsm)

Schools remain responsible for providing Free School Meals to those children that are eligible to receive them, even where they are not in attendance because they:

- are self-isolating
- have had symptoms or a positive test result themselves
- are a close contact of someone who has coronavirus (COVID-19)
- are not attending as a result of local lockdown arrangements

Schools are taking different approaches across Derbyshire to providing Free School Meals. Parent and carers of eligible children should contact their school to find out what arrangements are in place.

Parent and carers can still register their children for Free School Meals if they meet the eligibility criteria. Please visit www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/your-child-at-school/meals/school-meals/free-school-meals.aspx or call 01629 536400 or 01629 536481.

Derbyshire Community Response Unit

For more information about the response to COVID-19 in Derbyshire please visit www.derbyshire.gov.uk/coronavirus. This website provides more details of the support available to local residents. If people need help and have no friends or family to call on, the Community Response Unit can help them by:

- access food
- collecting and delivering prescriptions
- phoning for a chat if someone has no one to talk to

To contact the Community Response Unit, please call 01629 535091 or visit www.derbyshire.gov.uk/coronavirus.

