



BIZ BUZZ CRISIS UPDATE 26th NOVEMBER 2020 (1300)

THE NEW LOCKDOWN RULES FROM NEXT THURSDAY.... DISAPPOINTMENT AS NORFOLK, SUFFOLK & CAMBRIDGESHIRE IN LEVEL 2.... POSTCODE CHECKER SO YOU CAN FIND OUT WHO IS IN WHAT ZONE.

England's current lockdown will end just after midnight on Wednesday 2 December. So the new rules come into force on Thursday. Norfolk and Suffolk will be placed in tier 2 which is regarded as "high". It'll be reviewed on December 16th and every two weeks thereafter. It means the counties are rated as being on high alert. This means the areas are believed to have a "higher or rapidly rising level of infections".

Tier two (high)

- No mixing of other households indoors aside from support bubbles will be allowed
- A maximum gathering of six permitted outdoors - including in a garden, or a public place
- Shops, gyms and personal care services (such as hairdressing) can reopen (if Covid-secure)
- Pubs and bars will remain closed unless they can operate as restaurants. Alcohol can only be served as part of a "substantial meal" until 10pm. Venues must close at 11pm.
- People will be encouraged to reduce the number of journeys they make and to avoid travelling into Tier 3 areas, except for reasons of education or work.
- Overnight stays will only be permitted for those in the same household or support bubble and covid secure accommodation can open.
- Large events including sport and live performances will be open to the public but limited to 50pc capacity or 2,000 outdoors and 1,000 indoors.
- classes and organised Sports can take place outdoors but not indoors if there is any interaction between two different households.
- Collective worship, weddings and outdoor sports can resume (with restrictions)but people must not interact with anyone outside their household or support bubble.
- Fifteen guests will be allowed at weddings and civil partnerships, increasing to 30 for funerals.
- Non-essential foreign travel allowed, subject to quarantine rules

GOVERNMENT POSTCODE CHECKER: Be aware the government's sites crashed almost instantly they were set up this morning <https://www.gov.uk/find-coronavirus-local-restrictions>

HOW HAS THE DECISION BEEN MADE?

There are 5 criteria that determine why any area is in a certain tier.

1. Case detection rates in all age groups,
2. Case detection rates in the over 60s
3. The rate at which cases are rising or falling.
4. The positivity rate i.e. number of positive cases detected as a percentage of tests taken
5. Pressure on the NHS, including current and projected occupancy.

REACTION Andrew Proctor, leader of Norfolk County Council was disappointed. "People in Norfolk have really worked hard to protect each other and protect the county." He had hoped that the county would be in Tier 1. However, he said it was essential that people stuck to the restrictions in the hope that the county could go into a less restrictive tier when the situation is reviewed. There was no local debate or negotiation in the making of this decision. Health Secretary Matt Hancock said the measures were necessary given "the scale of the threat" faced by the UK.

Anyone in Norfolk who is experiencing Covid-19 symptoms should book a test. See the details here: www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/

If you need to get information, advice or need to apply for loans from **Breckland District Council** here is the link: www.breckland.gov.uk/coronavirus

All Biz Buzz crisis updates are to be found on www.np4nb.online