



Community Link April 2020

Getting through this together

Many of the sources and links you may already be aware of. We have tried to update on some services but have chosen not to duplicate information that is with partner organisations so please look at their websites for more information as a valuable resource for you.

We have however highlighted links to funding and information we feel is appropriate or have been asked to communicate more widely.

We continue to encourage organisations to list their revised services on <https://www.oxfordshireallin.org/>. This will be helpful for both County and District Councils to track service changes.

Cherwell Council service updates

Much of the response by Cherwell District Council is being communicated through our website which is being updated as information comes through so please check back regularly.

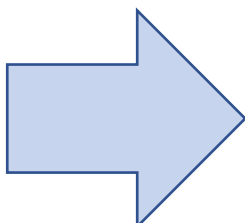
<https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/info/4/business/675/covid-19-guidance-for-businesses>

Including food regulation and advice, council tax, business guidance support, planning, car parking charge waiver, tenant and landlord guidance, waste and street cleaning.

NEW - For wellbeing <https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/Activity-and-wellbeing-hub>

Also includes links to Oxfordshire wide agency support including Schools and social care services and arrangements from Oxfordshire County Council

<https://news.oxfordshire.gov.uk/coronavirus-information-from-the-government/>



Supporting you and each other

Many of you will already be in touch with each other through the great networks in Cherwell and many of you will be familiar with Angela, Pat, Keith, John, Emily, Roz, Pat and Tessa to name a few, from the respective organisations below who at this time alongside many volunteers are working tirelessly to maintain services.

The Wellbeing (Community Development) Team remain working to support partners and residents. Many of the team are now assigned to support identified shielded residents to support their needs whilst a number of staff are working daily to help support groups and additionally support them as volunteers at the weekend.

<https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/directory/98/external-voluntary-and-community-organisations>

[Oxfordshire Community and Voluntary Action \(OCVA\)](#)

[Community First Oxfordshire](#)

[Charity Mentors Oxfordshire](#)

[Oxfordshire Community Foundation](#)

[Citizens Advice North Oxfordshire and South Northants](#)

[Oxfordshire Youth](#)

[Action with Communities in Rural England \(ACRE\)](#)

Funding Support – local

<https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/info/118/communities>

https://www.banbury.gov.uk/Emergency_Battle_Fund_30779.aspx

<https://www.bicester.gov.uk/covid-19-grant-application/>

Funding Support – county wide

<https://oxfordshire.org/grants-2020/community-resilience-grants>

<https://oxfordshire.org/resilience-fund-overview/>

<https://www.thamesvalley-pcc.gov.uk/>

Funding Support – National

<https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/info/4/business/675/covid-19-guidance-for-businesses/3>

(The above may apply if you have a ‘public hall’ and you receive a charitable discount from your Business rates – therefore Community Halls should look at this.)

<https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/>

[The Waste and Resources Action Programme \(WRAP\)](#)

<https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/our-funds>

<https://www.princes-trust.org.uk/about-the-trust/coronavirus-response/enterprise-relief-fund>

<https://tescobagsofhelp.org.uk/tesco-community-grants/>

<https://www.nsun.org.uk/nsun-covid-19-fund>

<https://www.morrisonsfoundation.com/latest-news/covid-19/>

<https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/covid19>

<https://ocva.org.uk/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-information-and-support-across-oxfordshire-for-voluntary-community-groups/funding-sources-during-coronavirus-pandemic/>

National Guidance for the charity sector – function and running

<https://www.ncvo.org.uk/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-the-charity-sector>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-business-support-grant-funding-guidance-for-businesses>

<https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/info/4/business/675/covid-19-guidance-for-businesses>

<https://www.activeoxfordshire.org/covid-support-and-recovery-service>

Numbers to support vulnerable residents

Extremely vulnerable residents support line

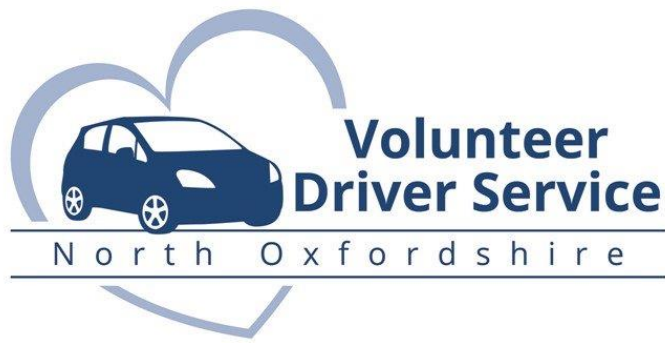
Cherwell residents:

 **01865 89 78 20**

 **shield@oxfordshire.gov.uk**

Mon to Fri 8:30am to 8:00pm

Sat and Sun 9:00am to 5:00pm



Free basic Emergency Food Parcel – Cherwell wide

The Citizens Advice/SOFEA partnership continue to offer food parcels to those in need across the Cherwell District. The parcels are for those who have no support

network or access to money and who cannot physically leave the house. For support call 0300 30 30 125 and leave your name and telephone number only and a volunteer will return the call.

Thank you to Keith, Pat, Nate and volunteer drivers again for their work. And the work across the community.

Community Connect

Support and guidance on how to keep well at home, what support is available and how to manage anxiety and food concerns

0300 004 04 01

Age UK Oxfordshire

01865 411 288

[NEW - 24/7 Mental Health Helpline for Oxfordshire - NHS](#)

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/>

Banbury Mosque

Banbury Masjid Mosque is distributing packs to isolated and older residents. Please email or text 07480 666939 or email banburymosque@yahoo.com with the following information:

Name/Contact number/Address/Age

Delivery of medication

For those **shielding patients and most vulnerable** an innovative new service, connecting running and cycling clubs with local pharmacies, is helping to deliver much needed medication to self-isolating residents in Cherwell.

Cherwell District Council 01295 227001 or contact
healthyplaceshaping@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

This service is run with the kind support of local running and cycling groups across Cherwell area/Banbury, Bicester and Kidlington and to day over 1000 miles have been covered with over 400 deliveries (in Banbury and Bicester).

Support for you

Behind every organisation working to support residents are residents themselves – we are all effected by the current difficult circumstances.

[NEW - 24/7 Mental Health Helpline for Oxfordshire - NHS](#)

[Every Mind Matters](#)

[Mental Health Foundation](#)

<https://www.bbowt.org.uk/>

[Government Mental Health and Wellbeing Advice](#)

<https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/Activity-and-wellbeing-hub>

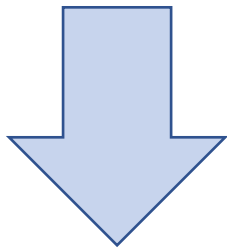
Guidance for parents and carers on supporting children and young people's mental health and wellbeing during the coronavirus (COVID- 19) outbreak. This includes guidance for CYP with LD, Autism and physical health conditions.

[Government guidance on supporting children and young people's mental health and wellbeing](#)

Scams and financial issues

Citizens Advice is urging people not to give cash or bank cards to strangers, who may show goodwill, but are actually leaving people out of pocket. It is important to know that banks will not cover any losses if someone hands over their bank card or gives their PIN number to someone else, even someone they trust. <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/>

<https://www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk/>



Researchers from the University of Oxford are conducting a study to determine how common coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is in the UK community. The University is looking for volunteers aged 18 years or older who have never been diagnosed with COVID-19 to participate from their home.

[oxonvolunteers.org/University of Oxford research](https://oxonvolunteers.org/University%20of%20Oxford%20research)

VCS survey

This [Covid-19 Voluntary and Community Sector Survey](#) has been co-produced by Oxfordshire All In, Oxfordshire Community Foundation, Oxfordshire Youth, Community First, Citizens Advice and OCVA to form a joint picture of how organisations are responding to Covid-19 and the support you require, including showcasing the fantastic work taking place.



We would like to say thank you to Rosie Phillips, Community Development Partner – New Developments who has worked tirelessly alongside the volunteers at Kingsmere Community Centre and for her work with volunteers at Longford Park Community Centre. Rosie has now left, and we have 2 more fantastic community centres that we hope in the coming weeks will be opening their doors once more.



With thanks and credit to Molly for creating her own Rainbow as a sign of hope using a stained glass effect.



Sue photographed this message. Although now attached to a public footpath post in Oxfordshire this quote may have come from a lot farther afield though!