

COVID-19 UPDATE

15th September 2020

Issue 63

Dear Chairman, Councillors, Clerks, Members and Other Partners,

Please find below the latest Covid-19 update:

NEW

New Covid-19 guidance from NALC: what the change in restrictions means for Town and Parish Councils.

NALC has updated their Coronavirus information. This includes an update on restrictions, social gatherings and Council meetings.

The [Health Protection \(Coronavirus, Restrictions\) \(No. 2\) \(England\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 4\) Regulations 2020](#) were made on 13th September and came in to force yesterday, on 14th September. They amend the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (No. 2) (England) Regulations 2020 or "the Principal Regulations", so that people may not participate in social gatherings, in any place, in groups of more than six people, unless they are members of the same household, two linked households or one of the limited exemptions. For instance schools, workplaces, Covid-19 secure weddings/ funerals and organised team sports.

NALC's view is that although the Principal Regulations have now been amended to permit Local Councils to hold in-person meetings on Covid-19 secure premises (they were newly added as an exemption to the *rule of six* gathering limit), their position remains unchanged. NALC highly recommend that Councils continue to meet remotely. The [MHCLG reissued its guidance](#) last week to deal with meetings at section 3d. They continue to recommend that where meetings can take place digitally, without the need for face-to-face contact, they should continue to do so.

This information comes from NALC's dedicated webpage on the Covid-19 pandemic. Click [here](#) to find out more. It should not be used as a substitute for Government advice, however there are some practicalities specific to Local Parish and Town Councils where this information should help plan ahead and manage the risks. If you would like further advice and support on any of these topics for your Local Council, please contact the EALC. This is a fast-moving situation so we will be updating you regularly.

With kind regards,



Communications Officer
EALC, 42B High Street, Great Dunmow, Essex, CM6 1AH
Tel: 01371 879722
www.ealc.gov.uk

Working Hours:
Monday – Thursday: 9am – 5pm
Friday: 8:30am – 4pm