

Dear CCG Stakeholder,

Another Bank Holiday weekend is fast approaching! Whilst GP Practices in North East Lincolnshire will **not** be open on Spring Bank Holiday (Monday May 25) there is advice and treatment available if you or a member of your family becomes ill or injured.

If it's not an emergency but you need urgent health advice then you should ring the Single Point of Access on 01472 256 256. This service provides confidential advice and information 24 hours a day, every day of the year. Trained advisers who are supported by experienced clinicians will assess what you need and either give you advice there and then, or direct you to the appropriate service for your needs.

If you have coronavirus symptoms use the [111 coronavirus service](#) or if you're unable to get online ring 111.

Fortunately, most people do not need professional help for minor ailments. You can treat a lot of minor illnesses at home with what is in your medicine cabinet or first aid kit if you are out and about, or by getting advice from a pharmacy about over the counter medicines. The NHS website is full of trusted information and advice. You can search for your ailment by visiting <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/> .

Some pharmacies will be open on Bank Holiday Monday to ensure you can access services if necessary. You can find out which local pharmacies will be open on Monday via this link [NEL Pharmacies Spring Bank Holiday](#) . Information is correct at the time of publishing but please check with the pharmacy before making a special journey.

Emergency services are operating as usual but you should only go to A&E (sometimes known as "Casualty") or dial 999 in a [real emergency](#) - if you are badly hurt, seriously ill or if you have been advised to go there by SPA (or NHS 111), your GP or a Pharmacist.

Outside of weekends and Bank Holidays, GP practices in North East Lincolnshire are open for patient services although the arrangements are different to enable them to work safely due to coronavirus, and you should not attend a GP surgery unless you have been told to do so. Our practices are operating a triage system to assess all requests for appointments and support via on-line methods or telephone. Patients can then be seen face to face, where this is deemed clinically appropriate.

[Supporting people to recover from Coronavirus](#)

Doctors and nurses working with NHS North East Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group and public health leads, have put together a handy guide to support people recovering from coronavirus or suspected cases of coronavirus. For more information, please click [here](#) .

[A Personal Thank You to Our Local Care Homes and Carers](#)

Christine, Accord member and Community lead with the CCG for Community Care has kindly written heart-warming letters to all of the care homes and each of the four main domiciliary care providers in North East Lincolnshire. You can read more about Christine's lovely gesture [here](#).

You could help make a difference to the lives of local children.

Whilst many of us have been able to overcome challenges of keeping in touch with friends and relatives during the current lockdown by using smartphones and digital devices, not everyone is as lucky.

A number of children in the borough have had to go without seeing any of their relatives for weeks on end due to their unique circumstances. We're talking about children who are in the care of the local authority.

Children and young people who, due to individual circumstances, cannot live at home or with extended family, but many do keep in touch with extended family and relatives through scheduled visits arranged by the Council.

Councillor Ian Lindley, portfolio holder for children, education and young people at North East Lincolnshire Council, said: "Since the Government first imposed the lockdown in March, many of the young people have been unable to see their relatives or talk to them over a digital device.

"Many of us have old phones that we've kept in a drawer or left on the side after we've upgraded that could be put to better use.

"Not everyone has access to the internet and smart phones – this is a way you could make a real difference to someone's life during this pandemic.

"These are some great kids who have been removed from their families – more often than not through no fault of their own – and they just want that contact that they look forward to. For them this is a huge struggle.

"We're asking people and businesses to donate their old smartphones if they can. We've all chucked our old devices in a drawer or left it on a shelf when we've upgraded, so this is a chance to give it a new lease of life and help make someone's day."

For more information, please click [here](#) .

Cervical Screening Scam – Stay Alert

Public Health England (PHE) has alerted us to reports they have received of a possible scam.

It is believed that some women are being contacted by text message, claiming to be from the call and recall service to advise they are overdue for their cervical screening.

The message asks them to call a mobile number and provide personal details.

If you or anyone you know receives a message, please do not respond. These messages are not from the NHS Cervical Screening Programme and the Action Fraud Line has been contacted.

The Humber, Coast and Vale Cancer Alliance will be monitoring the situation and providing regular updates on their social media channels:

Facebook: HCVcancerAlliance

Twitter: @HCVcancer

Opportunities to have your say.

There are lots of opportunities to get involved on the Accord website, including a consultation on North East Lincolnshire Council's Empty Property Strategy. [Click here](#) to take a look at the current opportunities.

Regards



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