

The local Litter Picking group has asked me to publicise the opportunity to comment on a planning proposal for a fast food outlet to be established within the ASDA car Park. The official date for consultation has actually passed, however, I am told that the Council does sometimes take note of comments up until the decision has been taken and certainly their web site is still accepting comments today. If you do wish to make your views known this is the web addresses

<https://planning.reigate-banstead.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=makeComment&keyVal=R4IW59MVKSX00>

Health Bulletin

The COVID statistics relating to Surrey had been published each Friday up until 25th February when they were temporarily discontinued. However they restarted weekly publication on Tuesdays with effect from 15th March. You can view the current and historic reports here:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/emergency-planning-and-community-safety/coronavirus/local-outbreak-plan/figures-and-statistics/full-report>

Unfortunately the latest data shows a very significant increase in infection rates with a rate of 969 new cases per 7 days per 100,000 population in Reigate & Banstead. This is nearly double the rate as compared with data up to 25th February which was showing just over 500 cases per 100,000 population. The current rate would equate to over 90 new cases per week in Tadworth & Walton. The underlying cause of this increase is a new variant of the Omicron version of COVID which is estimated to be 1.4 x more contagious than the standard version. A further factor is that more people are catching COVID for a second or even third time. In the 3 months since the new variant became dominant 3% of people who previously had COVID have caught it for a second time.

Fortunately it appears that in the vast majority of cases the effects are relatively mild. Denmark which had this new variant Omicron before the UK suffered a very big increase in infections which started to subside after about 3 weeks.

The legal requirement to self-isolate if testing positive for COVID has been rescinded. However, please note the pandemic is not over, so it's important we continue to take simple and effective actions that will protect our families and communities, particularly those at the greatest risk of severe illness.

[Guidance for people with COVID-19 and their contacts](#)

If you have COVID-19 you can infect other people from 2 days before your symptoms start, and for up to 10 days after. You can pass on the infection to others, even if you have mild symptoms or no symptoms at all. While the legal requirement to self-isolate is no longer in place, if you have COVID-19 you should still follow guidance to stay at home and avoid contact with other people. You should:

- Not attend work/school. If you are unable to work from home, you should talk to your employer about options available to you.
- Ask friends, family, neighbours or volunteers to get food and other essentials for you
- Not invite social visitors into your home, including friends and family
- Postpone all non-essential services and repairs that require a home visit
- Cancel routine medical and dental appointments. If you are concerned about your health or you have been asked to attend an appointment in person during this time, discuss this with your medical contact and let them know about your symptoms or your test result
- If you can, let people who you have been in close contact with know about your positive test result so that they can follow this guidance

HOWEVER:

Many people will no longer be infectious to others after 5 days. You may choose to take a [LFD](#) test from 5 days after your [symptoms started](#) (or the day your test was taken if you did not have symptoms) followed by another LFD test the next day. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, the risk that you are still infectious is much lower and you can safely return to your normal routine.

VACCINE

Everyone aged 16 and over is eligible for the COVID-19 booster vaccine from three months after the second dose. Book an appointment [online](#) or find [a walk-in site](#). Everyone aged 12 – 15 can have now their 2nd dose, at least 3 months after their 1st dose.

Spring Booster Campaign

In preparation for the roll out of COVID-19 spring booster vaccine, UKSA has published [a guide to the spring booster for those aged 75 years and older residents in care homes](#).

COVID-19 spring booster will be offered to people aged 75 and older, residents in care homes for older people, and those aged 12 years and over with a weakened immune system. Appointments will be available from the National Booking Service shortly.

This link provides details of vaccination centres in Surrey – the nearest to us is Walton Pharmacy in Walton Street.

[Vaccination Centres](#)

Details regarding eligibility to use Walk-In Vaccination Centres can be found here [a walk-in clinic](#).

Boosters updates for the most vulnerable

People who are severely immunosuppressed can now book their booster (4th dose) appointment [online](#). All of these must apply:

- You're aged 16 years old or over
- You have a letter from a GP or hospital specialist inviting you to book a 3rd dose or booster (4th dose) for people with a severely weakened immune system. You'll need to bring the letter with you to your appointment.
- It's been 2 months (61 days) since your previous dose - you'll be shown appointments from 3 months (91 days) after your previous do
- If you think you're eligible for a booster (4th dose) but you do not have a suitable letter, contact your GP or hospital specialist.
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For general details relating to COVID visit here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

And for details of Flu Vaccinations visit here:

[nhs.uk/wintervaccinations](https://www.nhs.uk/wintervaccinations)

Test Kits

You should check availability and obtain a code before trying to get one from a local pharmacy. Remember **the availability of free test kits is planned to cease after 1st April**.

[Order a lateral flow test online](#)

If required you can book a PCR test here:

[free PCR test](#)

Neighbourhood Watch Report

Police Burglary Reports for the North of the Borough March 5th – 14th

05/03/2022 between 18:30 to 18:58. Downs Wood, Epsom. Attempted Residential Burglary. Method of Entry- Attempted forced entry through a window at the rear of the property. Stolen: Nothing taken

07/03/2022 between 12:45 to 15:00. Carshalton Road, Banstead. Attempted Residential Burglary. Method of Entry- Attempted forced entry through the front door of the property. Stolen: Nothing taken

12/03/2022 17:55. Merefield Gardens, Tadworth. Residential Burglary. Method of Entry- Forced entry through the front door. Suspects have been disturbed and then left the property. Stolen: Nothing taken

Between 11/03/2022 00:01 to 13/03/2022 22:00. Brighton Road, Tadworth. Residential Burglary. Method of Entry- Forced entry through the ground floor window. Stolen: Silver Cutlery, Jewellery, and a Handbag.

13/03/2022 10:12. Tattenham Way, Tadworth. Residential Burglary. Method of Entry- Forced entry through the rear patio window. Stolen: Not confirmed at this time.

14/03/2022 12/03/2022. Brighton Road, Tadworth. Residential Burglary. Method of Entry- Entry through the ground floor window. Stolen: Nothing taken

Catalytic Converter Thefts in Reigate & Banstead

Week to 7th March - we have had 2 catalytic converters stolen. One in Hillside, Banstead and one in Manor Close, Horley. The vehicles have been a BMW 3 Series and Honda CR-V.

Week to 15th March - there have been 11 thefts this week.

- In the North: Whitebeam Close, Josephine Avenue (x2), Tumblewood Road and Fiddicraft Avenue.
- In the South: Denton Close, Heathfield Drive and Edgefield Close.
- In Central: Bancroft road, Alexander Road and Delabole Road

The vehicles have been Toyota Prius, Toyota Auris, Lexus and Lexus RX, BMW 220 and BMW 318.

Please be aware that some of the CATCON thieves appear to have recently switched from targeting vehicles in public car parks to stealing from vehicles parked on driveways. These are dangerous professional criminals and, if you see a theft in progress, you should alert the police using 999 rather than attempt to tackle them yourself.

SCAM Reports

[Donate safely](#) for Ukraine

The Government supported Disaster Emergency Committee group of 15 Charities supporting Ukraine can be found here:

https://www.dec.org.uk/?gclid=CjwKCAiAjoerBhAJEiwAYY3nDDg0kFVmR88VJRHZZmU8oE-K-Qz4ccBrl50x_ZGkFsvqfr_s6WDeJhoC-uQQAvD_BwE

I had this response from a local resident to my recent scam reports:

I read your advice regarding scam emails.

I have two in these last 2 weeks both looking very authentic but actually not.

- 1) From the DVLA advising that payment by card had failed.
- 2) From TV licensing advising that my Direct Debit was due that day.

Have you been a victim of fraud?

If you or someone you know is vulnerable and has been a victim of fraud please report online. Report fraud or attempted fraud on the Action Fraud website or call 0300 123 2040.

General Advice regarding potential scams

When considering online purchases or responding to requests for your personal data:

Stop: Take a moment to stop and think before parting with your money or information, it could keep you safe.

Challenge: Could it be fake? It's ok to reject, refuse, or ignore any requests for personal information. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.

Protect: Contact your bank immediately if you think you've fallen for a scam and report it to [Action Fraud](#).

Upcoming Events

The Saturday Coffee Shop every Saturday from 10.30am – 12noon in the Good Shepherd Church

"6 x Soup Saturdays" will be available from 12noon to 1.30pm in Christchurch Hall each Saturday from Saturday March 5th until Saturday April 9th. Note these soup lunches will replace the normal Village Kitchen events on the second Saturday of each month during this period. Monies raised by these lunches will be donated to "Walton Open Group" Charities

Afternoon Tea with Live Entertainment from the Community Choir Saturday March 26th from 3pm at The Riddell Hall, Walton tickets £5 booking essential revleahbates@outlook.com

Family GameShow Night in the Good Shepherd Hall organised by the Church Social Committee from **6.30pm on Saturday March 26th**. Tickets at £5 per adult £3 per child from 01737 362610

Easter Egg Trail in Jubilee Woodland on Saturday April 6th from 11am to 3pm participation £5 in aid of the Friends of the Children's Trust. see link to poster by my signature

Good Shepherd Parish Lunch Sunday April 3rd – note you must pre-book on the list in the Church

April 4th – April 13th Easter Eggstravaganza at Tattenham library with free holiday workshops for children aged 2 – 7 years old see link to poster by my signature below for details of daily activities.

OPEN GARDEN and Hot x Buns in aid of The Friends of The Childrens' Trust on **WEDNESDAY 13th APRIL at The Firs, The Hoppety, Tadworth KT20 5RQ 10.30am - 1pm** Refreshments, Raffle and Plants for Sale. Entry £5 No Parking in The Hoppety except for those with walking difficulties.

For more details contact suehortsoc@btinternet.com

Walton Open Group will be resuming its normal meetings **7.30pm on Tuesday 19th April.**

Open Garden in aid of TWOAT at 41 Shelveys Way from **2pm on Sunday April 24th Teas available**

Good Shepherd Parish Lunch Sunday May 1st – note you must pre-book on the list in the Church

Open Garden in aid of TWOAT at Meon House, Meon Close from **2pm on Monday May 2nd Teas available**

Walton May Pageant & Fayre Saturday May 21st

Please let me know if you have an event taking place in the next 2 months.

Keep well

Mike Fox

For Neighbourhood Watch & Community Support

01737 350452