**From:** Darren.Worsfold>
**Sent:** 09 April 2020 09:20
**To:**
**Subject:** COVID-19 - Warden Duties Update

Dear Parish and Neighbourhood Clerks,

We thank you for your continued support throughout the response to the threat of COVID-19 across our district.

Just to update you that the warden schemes as a whole have formed part of the ongoing plan to deliver a districtwide provision for the many elderly and vulnerable people in our community.

They have been part of the team contacting all the known vulnerable persons registered with HDC's Community Link team, which would include those across your parish. The purpose of these calls has been to risk assess the specific needs of each person regarding food and medical supplies whilst considering mental health problems that may arise from being isolated. It has been confirmed as of today that these lists are now completed, and we are asking the wardens that aren't directly involved in the running of their local hubs to start reverting back to normal business.

A number of the wardens have had to isolate for various reasons, or having family members showing symptoms of the virus, but they have continued to work from home supporting your parishes and the district. They have continued to be accessible to the local residents by phone and have monitored their warden Inboxes, being able to respond to any concerns raised. Wherever possible patrols have still taken place and the majority of warden responsibilities are still being met.

Several of the schemes have been integral in the setting up and running of the local hubs for residents to call in for support. This has been vital in ensuring that assistance is given to those people most in need. If they have not been involved in the day to day running of the hubs, the wardens have been directly supporting the hubs in their parishes either by phone or out delivering goods and medication.
The Horsham town centre wardens, together with myself, have provided a Red Response Team for those people in need of immediate support. They have collected and distributed vast number of food parcels and prescriptions to those in need across the town and wider areas.

I know that concerns have been raised around the patrolling of areas where youths are gathering and not engaging in social distancing. We will still try to patrol these areas as much as possible with the limited resources that we have. The wardens do not have any powers of enforcement to move these individuals on, and they still have to maintain their own personal safety. I would ask that you still report these to the wardens, but also 'cc' me in to any emails and I can also ensure that these areas are added to the list for police patrols.

These have been unprecedented times, but I just wanted to assure you that even though the wardens may not have been as visible a presence as we would normally like, they are still working hard in supporting your parishes. Moving forward, and with a governmental review of the lockdown due soon, it is hoped that full patrols can recommence where possible. In the meantime, those that are in isolation have each been asked to develop an action plan which brings in their personal objectives and gets the service ready to resume once the restrictions are lifted.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any concerns or need any more information.

Kind regards,

**Darren Worsfold**
Neighbourhood Warden Supervisor

Horsham District Council