



## Stay safe this Halloween



Make the most of the spookiest night of the year this Sunday by ensuring you have fun but still stay safe.

Covid-19 hasn't gone away, and cases are currently on the rise in West Sussex. It's still being transmitted in our communities, and the risks are still with us.

So help #KeepWestSussexSafe this

Halloween by meeting outdoors and keep as safe as possible by remembering the hands, face and space guidance. If you do meet indoors, let fresh air in and also consider wearing a face covering if you are indoors with a lot of people you don't usually spend time with.

If you are taking part in Trick or Treat:

Home owners -

- Leave small individual bags of sweets rather than a 'free for all tub'
- Use only individually wrapped sweets, leave them out (at a distance) rather than presenting it at the door each time
- Clean the bell/door knocker regularly
- Do not participate if the household is self-isolating.

Trick or treaters -

- Leave distance between yourselves and other groups
- Carry hand sanitiser and use regularly

- Avoid wearing gloves (they can't be cleaned as easily or regularly as hands)
- Keep groups small and ensure all members are symptom free
- Step back from door once knocked on
- Do not accept/eat treats not individually wrapped.

Our West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service is also urging people to take extra care around candles and other naked flames.

Always check the labels on any fancy-dress outfits you buy and see what fire resistance they offer, and stay well away from fire at all times. In the event of clothing catching fire, always remember to STOP, DROP and ROLL!

Replace those tealights or candles with battery powered lights instead – it's far safer all round for everyone involved.

**Stay safe this Halloween**

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## Keep testing!

[Testing regularly](#) helps determine if you are infected with coronavirus, whether you have symptoms or not.

When testing, please remember to also register your results and if you test positive, get a follow up PCR and self-isolate.

Regular testing for coronavirus helps stop the spread and protects those around us.

Make testing part of your routine to give you peace of mind when you're out and about.

There are lots of ways to have a test: order Lateral Flow Tests [online](#) to be delivered to your home; pick up test kits at [selected pharmacies and libraries](#); have a supervised test at a local pharmacy. [Find a pharmacy.](#)

If you test positive or have any symptoms you must take a PCR test. Book [online](#) or call 119.

- [Please click here](#) to find the local Covid-19 cases summary data.

**More local Covid-19 advice and information**

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## Latest local vaccination update

## Covid-19 autumn boosters - are you due yours?

This autumn, everyone aged 50 and over and people aged 16 and over with a health condition that puts them at high risk of Covid-19, are being offered a booster jab.

If you are in these groups, you will be eligible when you reach six months or 182 days from the date of your second vaccine.

Clinics and walk in sessions are already underway and thousands of people have already received this vital protection ahead of winter.



If you are eligible, there are four ways to get your booster vaccine:

1. You will be invited by the National Booking System (NBS) to use the national website or phone 119 to book after six months (by letter, email or text).
2. You will be contacted by your local team to book an appointment directly or to invite you to use the NBS (by letter, email or text).
3. Come to a walk-in session when you reach six months (182 days).
4. You can try the NBS after 190 days (six months and a week) from your second vaccine without an invitation.

Please do not call your GP practice. In many cases they are working with joint teams to run local services and are not directly responsible.

Click the button below for more information, or if you prefer to speak to someone, you can call the Vaccine Enquiry Line for Sussex on 0800 433 4545 (open 9am – 4pm, Monday to Friday).

**Your questions answered on the Autumn Booster jab**

## Vaccinations for 12-17 year olds

To get their Covid-19 vaccines 16 and 17 year-olds can use the [National Booking System](#) or call 119 to book an appointment this half term. They can also go to any walk-in service. They are still currently only eligible for one vaccine.

Vaccination appointments for 12 to 15 year-olds can also now be booked through the [National Booking System](#) or call 119. This is in addition to the school visits, and specific follow up sessions being arranged by the schools immunisation team over the half term for schools they have already visited.

**More info about jabs for 12 - 17 year-olds**

# COP26 is starting soon!



[COP26](#) is about to begin. It's the 26th UN Conference of Parties, from 31 October to 12 November in Glasgow.

It brings together world leaders in an event many believe to be the world's last best chance to get runaway climate change under control.

## What are we doing in West Sussex?

The county council is aiming to reach net-zero by 2030.

In the past decade, the council has more than halved its carbon emissions through measures including switching to LED lighting in our buildings. We have also invested in renewable energy, building two solar farms and installing solar panels on a range of our corporate buildings, including libraries and administration hubs.

## Get involved with #WestSussexClimateAction

Throughout COP26, we'll be posting regular updates on social media and letting you know how our plans align with each of the daily #COP26 topics. So, follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to view our updates.

You can view our [Climate Change Strategy Annual Report here](#).

[Read about West Sussex renewable energy projects here](#)

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## Chance to ask questions at online Forum

Here's your chance to virtually meet your local county councillors and ask any questions you have related to council issues in your community.

County Local Forums will be run online for an hour via MS Teams during November and December.

If you are unsure which Forum you should attend, you can find the [information for your local district or borough](#) on our website.

If you would like to attend your local session virtually or ask a question, email [talkwithus@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:talkwithus@westsussex.gov.uk). Anyone who would like to ask a question is requested to email at least two days before the planned session as having the questions in advance will help ensure questions can be answered fully in the meeting.

If you aren't able to attend the sessions but would still like to ask a question you can email and officers will ensure a response is sent back to you.

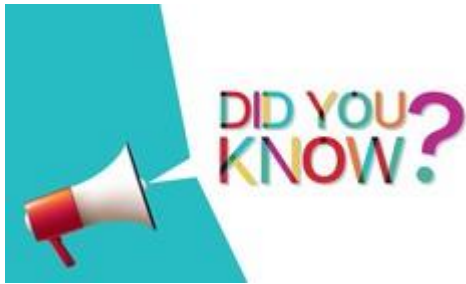


[Click here to see the full list of dates and times](#)

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## More news...

- Our Trading Standards team have warned shopkeepers they will take [urgent action against them if they are found to be selling alcohol and tobacco to underage customers](#). The warning follows a series of test purchases by Trading Standards in which two 17-year-olds and a 15-year-old attempted to buy cigarettes and alcohol from shops in Bognor Regis, Crawley, Haywards Heath, Littlehampton and Worthing.
- Our West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service is [urging people to take extra care when carrying out DIY projects](#). Last year firefighters attended more than 70 incidents in the county related to DIY – including fires started by faulty electrical wiring, battery chargers, and welding.



The West Sussex Care Guide can help you make informed choices about finding the right type of care and support for yourself or a loved one.

View '[Living well in your community: your West Sussex Care Guide 2021/22](#)' online.

Alternatively, request a printed copy by emailing [socialcare@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:socialcare@westsussex.gov.uk) or calling 01243 642121.

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## Know someone who would like to receive this eNewsletter?

If you know anyone who would like to sign up for this bulletin, please forward this eNewsletter to them and they can [sign up here](#). Thank you for your support.

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**CORONAVIRUS**

**SYMPTOM FREE COVID-19  
TESTING IS NOW AVAILABLE.  
KEEP EACH OTHER SAFE,  
TEST TWICE A WEEK.**

[westsussex.gov.uk/communitytesting](https://westsussex.gov.uk/communitytesting)

