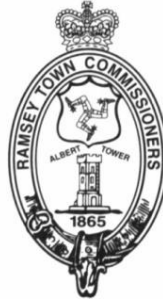


**Halley Baljagh,
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Please address all correspondence
to the Town Clerk.



**Town Hall,
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IM8 1RT**

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7th January 2021.

Dear Householder

A 3-week national circuit breaker lockdown has been announced, from 00:01 on Thursday 07 January 2021, you must stay at home unless you are an essential worker. Restrictions have been reintroduced on the Isle of Man to prevent the spread of COVID-19 – including the legal requirement for social distancing, working from home and the closure of all non-essential businesses. You must not mix with people from outside your household. If you are in a public place, you must keep a distance of at least 2 metres from those outside your household, that is people you don't currently live with. Face coverings are strongly recommended in all public settings and are mandatory on public transport. No indoor or outdoor gatherings are permitted (other than funerals, where up to 10 people may attend).

The announcement follows the news that a venue in Ramsey had been identified as a high-risk location after an individual, who was identified as a close contact of a confirmed case, tested positive for Covid-19.

This news of a high-risk location strikes at the heart of our community, and the implications are easily measured within the Commissioners own organisation, where 5 out of our total team of 65 persons were advised to be tested or to self-isolate. Although these steps will hopefully prove precautionary it shows how transmission of the virus could quickly affect the community. Everyone is therefore urged to follow Government advice, you should try to stay at home, only leaving for essential purposes, and to maintain good hygiene practices. More specific advice can be found at www.Covid19.gov.im

We are writing to each household as we did during the previous lockdown with an update on our services. Following the Island's first lockdown the Commission developed its own escalation plan outlining how it would react if the Island went into further restrictions. This plan is published on our website and enabled us to act immediately when the lockdown announcement was made. A link to the plan can be found on our Covid-19 Information page <https://www.ramsey.gov.im/news/covid-19-updates/>

Town Hall & Library - The Town Hall and Library are closed to the public. We are continuing to provide essential and emergency services whilst complying with social distancing requirements and our phones (810100) are manned during normal working hours. Where staff or contractors are required to visit, they will be using PPE and will follow procedures to protect their own and your health and safety.

Civil Registry - We will continue to undertake Civil Registrations of Births and Deaths, where registration is required to be made during the lockdown period, by appointment which can be made by calling 810100. Strict safety procedures will be applied.

Parks, Sports and Play Facilities - Although public parks will remain open, sports facilities such as play equipment, exercise equipment and tennis courts are closed during the lockdown period for safety reasons. Notices will be in place accordingly. Please note that that there has been no change to the Dog Byelaws, dogs are not allowed in the Mooragh Park or other restricted areas.

Community Safety - Please be aware of scam callers purporting to be calling as banks, police, or other parties. Please do not provide bank details or undertake money transfers to third parties on the basis of a telephone call, email or text, always check with your bank using a known number. Also be wary of cold callers - always ask for identification and check that they have a legitimate reason to call. Ramsey Town Commissioners staff and contractors all carry identification, and you can always check the validity of their visit by phoning the Town Hall.

In our first newsletter we provided a sign to display in your window to let those around you know if you need help or if everything is ok. These were well received and did draw attention to several instances where help had been sought. A new sign is attached if you wish to use it. If you see a red sign displayed please contact the Town Hall or, if not available, the Coronavirus Information Line using the number below. If you want another sign please ring the Town Hall on 810100 and we can arrange to deliver one.

Refuse Collection – Refuse collections will continue as normal. As previously you are asked to assist our bin crews to work safely by leaving your bins out by 6am on collection day with the lid firmly closed and handles facing outwards. If you can, please regularly sanitize the handles before and after collection to protect yourselves and our bin crews.

For households that have tested positive or are symptomatic and awaiting test results for COVID-19, personal waste (such as used tissues) and disposable cleaning cloths should be stored securely within disposable rubbish bags. These bags should be placed into another bag, tied securely, and kept separate from other waste. This should be put aside for at least 72 hours before being put in your usual external household waste.

In addition to the normal collection, recognising the additional pressures that the lockdown will cause for families, the Commission will be providing an additional refuse collection to all households in Ramsey during the week 25th January to 29th January. The collection will be in addition to the normal weekly collection and will take place on a different day. The following table details your normal collection day and the date on which the additional collection will take place.

Normal Collection Day	<u>Additional Collection Date</u>
Wednesday	Monday 25 th January
Thursday	Tuesday 26 th January
Friday	Wednesday 27 th January
Monday	Thursday 28 th January
Tuesday	Friday 29 th January

It is hoped this additional collection will assist those who are self-isolating or wishing to maintain social distancing and reduce future demand on the Northern Authorities Civic Amenity Site. Please only put your bin out if you have additional household waste to be taken which you cannot manage within your normal weekly refuse collection, and do not seek to dispose of items which are not burnable such as glass and tins.

Northern Authorities Civic Amenity Site – the site is presently closed. We are liaising with Government and other site authorities on arrangements to reopen safely as soon as practicable, and a further announcement will be made as soon as a decision is known.

The Department of Infrastructure has determined that the Bring Bank Sites for household waste recycling, including those at Station Road Car Park, will remain open during lockdown. When using the sites householders are requested to comply with Covid-19 infection control measures (social distancing, wearing of face masks, hand sanitisation) at all times. Please only use these sites whilst the bins have capacity and do not deposit material outside the bins. Persons found doing so will be subject to Fixed Penalties for littering.

We will extend our Christmas Tree Recycling scheme after the lockdown has finished so if you have a real tree to dispose of please store it until it is able to be recycled.

Public Toilets – toilets at Market Place, Mooragh Park and Station Road will remain open with enhanced cleaning regimes. Please only use these facilities if essential and always wash your hands after use.

Food, Grocery and Retail Delivery Services – several companies and organisations are again providing delivery and assistance during this time and appreciate the support being received from people who shop local. We will publish a list of those we are aware of on our website www.ramsey.gov.im, this information is updated regularly. If you do not have access to the internet and would like a list of these services sent to you, or you need to contact us, please call us on 810100.

Ramsey Rugby Club have relaunched their doorstep deliveries of bread and milk to the self-isolating and vulnerable within the community. The Club is offering help with shopping, collecting prescriptions and dog walking. The Club can be contacted via their Facebook page @ramseyrugbydoorstep telephone contact numbers are 07624 473087 or 07624 423991.

Our shops, restaurants, takeaways, and cafes have again rallied to ensure that foodstuffs and goods can continue to be provided in a safe manner. We would urge everyone to shop responsibly, the experience of the last lockdown shows that the Island has good local and off-island supply chains and that panic buying is not necessary.

We would ask that all residents continue to follow the Government advice in relation to Coronavirus which can be found by visiting <https://covid19.gov.im/>. Regular updates can also be heard by tuning into local radio stations.

You can visit www.ramsey.gov.im or follow our Facebook page @ramseytowncommissioners for regular updates on our services.

We know that our community will work together to ensure we can return to normal as soon as possible and thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully

Ramsey Town Commissioners

Useful Telephone numbers

Ramsey Town Commissioners	810100
Coronavirus Helpline - Medical queries	111*
Coronavirus Information Line - for non-medical queries	686262*
Income Tax	685400*
Social Security	685656*
Covid Business Support Line	686455*

*calls to these numbers are free of charge.

**Doing
Fine**

**HELP
NEEDED**