

PEMBROKESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL: LEADER'S CORONAVIRUS UPDATE, MONDAY, 6th APRIL

Pembrokeshire County Council Leader, Councillor David Simpson, has provided a further coronavirus update for Monday, 6th April, as follows:

'I want to take this opportunity to re-emphasise a point made by both UK and Welsh governments. We are about two-thirds into the initial three-week period of the extraordinary measures introduced to protect us from coronavirus and to save lives.

'However, now is not the time to slacken our resolve to do the things which are making a difference, namely:

- staying at home
- avoiding all unnecessary contacts
- keeping a safe distance from one another.

'On this point I am aware that there remain some concerns about visitors coming to Pembrokeshire, despite the message to avoid essential travel.

'We normally warmly welcome visitors – but now is not the time: we will do so again when this is all over.

'The police continue to operate high visibility patrols and there has been a huge drop in traffic-flow on our roads including over the weekend.

'I am pleased to report that monitoring - including across car parks - appears to confirm that, in general, there has been good compliance with the message to stay at home.

'I reiterate, now is not the time for complacency and we must all heed the call to adhere to Government advice including to stay at home and wash our hands regularly and thoroughly.

'Following the issuing of revised guidance by Welsh Government on Friday evening (3rd April), all 11 of Pembrokeshire County Council-owned cemeteries were re-opened to members of the public from Sunday (5th April).

'The grounds of Parc Gwyn Crematorium in Narberth will now also be accessible at their normal hours (10 am to 5 pm) although the Chapel of Remembrance will remain closed until further notice.

'The Welsh Government is in the process of making amendments to the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions Wales) Regulations 2020 which will further clarify the arrangements for funerals and crematoria.

'The regulations will have new guidance regarding the two metre rule in general and further updates will be provided as required, once further information is available.

'We have received some feedback that, while communication is broadly seen as effective in terms of providing information in a timely manner, there is concern that there is an assumption that everyone has access to the internet.

'This presents a barrier to older/vulnerable people resulting in messages sometimes not getting across. Consideration is therefore being given to widening communications even further, using appropriate media as much as possible for getting out key local messages.

'Press releases issued since my last update on Friday are:

- Cemeteries Re-Open to Public Access:
<https://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/newsroom/cemeteries-to-re-open-to-public-access>

- Childcare for Children of Critical Workers:
<https://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/newsroom/childcare-for-children-aged-0-4-of-critical-workers>

‘Also, please keep an eye on our newsroom at:
<https://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/newsroom>

‘Stay Safe. Thank you.’