



CARA Bulletin

8 April 2021

Local issues

- **Cleveland Bridge renovation project.** Bath & North East Somerset Council (B&NES) has disclosed plans to undertake refurbishment works to Cleveland Bridge.

These works will take place from mid-April to October and will involve – as tabulated below - traffic restrictions including, at times, total road closure.

Estimated project schedule		
Date	Project Stage	Traffic restriction
mid-April 2021	Project start	Traffic signal control
mid-May to mid-August 2021	Main structural repair	Closed to all traffic
August 2021 to October 2021	Repainting, finishing	Traffic signal control
End October 2021	Project completion	All restrictions removed

As such, the works will certainly have an impact on motorists. Consequently, the Council is committed to monitoring any transport displacement issues in order to attempt to mitigate the effect on any potential traffic congestion 'hotspots' which arise as a result of this substantial work program.

We draw members' attention to the 'B&NES – Cleveland Bridge Refurbishment Webinar' which can be accessed via YouTube and provides some general background information on the work taking place along with a brief public Q&A session.

For further information about the renovation project, how the works will be managed and further information for motorists, please visit: <https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/cleveland-bridge-renovation-project/scheme-overview>

- **Coronavirus (COVID-19) - latest information.** Government restrictions ease on Monday 12th April. B&NES Council has, in its weekly 'e-connect' newsletter, provided an update as detailed overleaf. To view the new restrictions in more detail, please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

CARA Committee 2020/21		Our email addresses are on our website www.carabath.com	
Malcolm Baldwin	Chairman/FoBRA	Sally Rothwell	Licensing/Public Realm
Richard Brown	Vice Chairman/Traffic	Stephen Taylor	Planning
Sabrina Earnshaw	Environmental Services	Ron Temperton	City Centre Action Group
George Feiger	Traffic	Rosie Tunstall	Social Secretary
Mike Richardson	Treasurer		

A message from Richard Samuel, acting leader of Bath & North East Somerset Council

Hello,

From Monday April 12 some of the [rules on what you can and cannot do will change](#) as lockdown eases and businesses re-open.

This means non-essential retail, hairdressers, indoor leisure and sports facilities, libraries and public buildings, among others, can reopen. Outdoor hospitality venues including pubs and cafes can also reopen, with table service only.

It's more important than ever to support the businesses that are local to us and the council is working with retail and hospitality to safely welcome people back into Bath, Keynsham and Midsomer Norton. So far 44 café, pubs, bars and restaurants premises have pavement licences, for outdoor tables and chairs, approved under streamlined Covid-19 regulations.

And as part of a safe re-opening officers in our Public Protection team will be carrying out visits and checks in coming weeks to make sure people are complying with the Step 2 guidance.

This means, for example, all members of a group of six visiting a pub or restaurant for a drink or meal should make sure that they all check-in to the outdoor section of the venue using the QR code. This is a change to the previous tier system where only the person making the booking had to give their contact details.

Opening hours for retail premises are being extended until 10pm Monday to Saturday to enable people to shop at quieter less crowded times and everyone is reminded they do still need to wear face coverings inside shops and venues, and on public transport, and continue to follow the 2m social distancing guidance.

You can read the '[COVID-19 Response - Spring 2021](#)' (the roadmap out of lockdown) for more information on how Covid-19 restrictions are being eased in England. You can also [read the law that underpins these changes](#) and the ongoing restrictions.

From tomorrow (April 9) everyone in England, including those without symptoms, will be able to take a free rapid Covid test twice a week and will be able to order home test kits for delivery to your home.

Around one in three people who have Covid-19 show no symptoms. Regular rapid testing helps quickly spot positive cases, prevents any outbreaks and stops the spread of coronavirus. Lateral Flow Devices are easy to use and can give results in 30 minutes, so those who test positive can self-isolate immediately and avoid passing the virus on to others.

If you don't have symptoms, then get into the habit of testing yourself twice a week at one of our test sites in Bath & North East Somerset to take a test in person, or you can drop in to one of the sites to collect tests and take them away to do at home. No booking is needed. Many pharmacies are now also providing free kits you can collect and use at home. [Find out where you can get a free rapid test from here.](#)

If you have any of the symptoms of coronavirus (loss or change to your sense of smell or taste, a high temperature, a new continuous cough) then you need to take a different kind of test which is called a PCR test. [Book a free PCR test here.](#)

Our case rates in Bath & North East Somerset are among the lowest in the South West which is very reassuring as we take the next step to greater freedoms. Let's stay on track and continue to follow all the guidance to keep each other safe.