

September 2020

Dear Resident,

Sunderland City Council - supporting you throughout the Covid-19 pandemic

The City Council is getting in touch with all residents and particularly those who were previously shielded, identified as vulnerable, or are advised to self-isolate in light of the new restrictions now in force across our region.

As you are aware Sunderland residents have been advised by Public Health to stay at home as much as possible to protect yourself against the Covid-19 virus, during the coming weeks. If you do go outside please try to keep your overall social interactions low, keep 2 metres away from others wherever possible, take extra precautions such as a face covering and continue to wash your hands carefully and more frequently than usual. If you were previously shielding, remember that both you and any household contacts are eligible for a free NHS flu vaccine at your GP practice or pharmacy.

At Sunderland City Council we appreciate that the ever-changing information and guidance can raise some questions and concerns, so we are writing to you to offer some reassurance that we are here to help, as we have been throughout this pandemic.

If you have previously shielded or been identified as vulnerable or have been asked to self-isolate at home by either NHS Test and Trace or Health Protection Team and need support with shopping, medication or other essential supplies, please call Sunderland City Council on our freephone number: 0800 234 6084, Monday to Sunday 8.30am to 5.00pm. We are here to help, and volunteers and staff will continue to offer support to those who need it.

You can also obtain useful information from our website at www.sunderland.gov.uk which includes 'quick read' guidance on how to arrange online shopping with your local supermarket.

We remain here to help – please stay safe and look after yourself and family

Yours sincerely

Patrick Melia, Chief Executive of Sunderland City Council and Councillor Graeme Miller, Leader of Sunderland City Council

Remember, you can also follow us on social media to keep up to date with the latest news and events happening across the city:

Twitter: @SunderlandUK

Facebook: SunderlandUKOfficial

You can register to volunteer at www.sunderland.gov.uk/volunteering or by ringing the freephone telephone number 0800 234 6084.

You can sign up for our residents' e-newsletter at www.sunderland.gov.uk