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30 June 2020

## **Letter to Food Industry**

Dear Owner/Manager,

### **Urgent Covid-19 Update**

In Staffordshire, the County Council is working with the NHS and environmental health colleagues from our district and borough councils to prevent and manage any local outbreaks of Covid-19 in our communities, including local businesses.

Food processing businesses appear to be at high risk of Covid-19 outbreaks, although the reasons for this are unclear. It is hugely important that you and your employees continue to follow all the latest Covid-19 guidance both at home and at work.

This means continuing to follow the latest Government [guidance for food businesses on COVID-19 \(Opens in a new window\)](#) at work. With lockdown lifting further from Saturday, it is also important that staff follow the advice when away from work.

The key advice is to:

- Wash your hands regularly
- Keep your distance. That's 2 metres where possible, and if you can't 1 metre plus and follow extra safety measures in public places when they reopen from 4 July
- If you have symptoms, self-isolate for 7 days **and** book a test
- If you are contacted by the NHS Test and Trace Service because you have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive, you must self-isolate for 14 days whether you have symptoms or not





Food businesses have played a key role throughout this pandemic and employees have continued to work in very challenging circumstances and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued efforts in working during this crisis.

The County Council is here to support you and your business, therefore please do remind staff of the guidance and do report any cases quickly at [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/outbreakreport](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/outbreakreport) so we can do everything we can to help you contain the virus and protect your business.

Yours sincerely

**Dr Richard Harling**  
**Director of Health & Care**

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