

From: Regeneration <Regeneration@breckland.gov.uk>
Sent: 26 June 2020 17:13
To: Regeneration
Subject: Important Information regarding Opening of Cafes, Restaurants & Pubs - Covid 19

Dear Business Owner,

As you may have seen, the Government has recently published several key changes to enable cafes, restaurants and pubs to serve more customers, whilst still observing key safety requirements for Covid-19, and become fully open from the 4th July.

Ensuring Breckland has a thriving hospitality sector is a key priority for the Council, and we wanted to get in touch as quickly as possible to make sure you know what steps you may need to take and the support which is available and planned:

Fast-track 'Pavement Licencing' for serving customers on-street

The Government has just published proposed legislation to enable businesses, whether or not they already hold a tables and chairs/ pavement licence, to "fast track" applications to enable them to serve more customers by using the street outside their premises if it is safe to do so.

We anticipate this will be enacted into law from 29th June onwards, and will be using the full powers available to us to enable businesses to operate under the new regime as quickly as possible. We will not be able to process these applications before the new legislation comes into force, but are happy to give guidance now, and will fast-track applications as soon we are able. Please get in touch at licensing.team@breckland.gov.uk if this applies to your business.

Support with navigating Covid-19 regulations for hospitality businesses and staff

We have developed several layers of support for you to access:

- You can find links to the latest guidelines and information on our website at <https://www.breckland.gov.uk/businesssupport>
- We can provide a free online training courses in "Covid-19 Secure for Hospitality" for businesses and staff to gain more confidence in running a Covid-safe hospitality business. You can access a course by emailing ehc@breckland-sholland.gov.uk
- We will happily provide advice on any issues you cannot resolve via the guidance, if you would like to email foodandsafety@breckland.gov.uk

Free access to additional tables, chairs and picnic benches to expand your capacity outside

We may be able to provide, free of charge, loan of:

- Two-person tables and chairs (portable, and suitable for outside and inside use)
- Picnic benches (6-seaters for outside use)

These will be available for collection from the 1st of July. If additional tables, chairs or picnic benches would benefit your business could we please ask that you provide your details and requested items to regeneration@breckland.gov.uk

Please note we will loan these to businesses in need free of charge, however, you will need to agree responsibility for their upkeep, cleaning and safety.

Free access to signage to help manage social distancing in your business

Which you can access via our website at <https://www.breckland.gov.uk/businesssupport>

Additional capacity for seating in Market Towns

As part of our campaign to reopen our Market Towns successfully, we are making more seating available to enable businesses to serve more customers, and to enable more consumers to grab a sandwich or a coffee and enjoy the local surrounds.

'Confidence' campaigns to help encourage customers back to Breckland businesses

As you may have seen, we have worked jointly with Broadland and South Norfolk Council on promoting confidence in local businesses supported by Norfolk County Council and Town Councils. We will continue to promote this message, particularly around the hospitality sector, and we would encourage you to join in via <https://www.breckland.gov.uk/businesssupport>

Additional support including grants and funding

You should already have received communication from us on grants and rate relief and eligibility. However, if not, please visit to see what financial support maybe available <https://www.breckland.gov.uk/bs-covid-19-financial-support>

We are continuing to look for additional ways to support businesses, so if you have challenges which have not been address by the above – or if you have found yourself ineligible for earlier financial support – please let us know at regeneration@breckland.gov.uk. Whilst we cannot promise to solve all your challenges, we will promise to try and work with you.

We have launched an online survey (<https://www.breckland.gov.uk/covid19-survey>), which we hope you will complete so that we have a clear understanding of the effect that COVID 19 has had on local businesses, ensure we know the full picture of issues and/or successes within them and that we have the right plans in place to support recovery.

Yours Sincerely,

Cllr Sam Chapman-Allen
Leader Breckland Council

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