

OUR MOST IMPORTANT COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

HOW WE CAN BEST STOP COVID-19 ON MULL

We all have an amazing Community on Mull. For weeks many people have been working together to prepare to protect the lives of our 3000 strong population and any friends, family or residential visitors.

Our Island established a Mull Covid-19 crisis preparation group.

We now have our own **Mull Crisis Management** group with flexible responsibilities as follows:-

Mull Community Council

Our elected voice of the Community. Making sure each area of Mull and Iona has Care Cover

Mull and Iona Community Trust

In charge of raising an Island War Chest to cover crisis expenses

Tobermory Harbour Association

Our community Harbour Authority responsible for protecting essential marine transport & medical emergencies. Also supplying information on business support

Argyll and Bute Council

The voice of our Regional Council

Covid-19 Crisis Preparation group

Set-up at the Island Emergency Covid-19 meeting

www.Mullhealth.com Web Site

A great way of communicating important information as it doesn't get overwhelmed like social media

However this is only a small fraction of the story. We have established or are in the process of establishing Island wide groups of volunteers. Over 200 to date. These cover services such as, food and essential supply deliveries, dog walking, Mull's own Chatty Person Line (you could probably name these volunteers now!), food distribution stores and much more. The contact details of these life-line voluntary community services and others are available on the website. Suggestions from other willing people are coming in every hour.

We also have in place a Mull Medical Home Guard ready to be activated for day to day medical issues (not Covid-19) in the remote chance that our front line services are not available or are overstretched. If there are any gaps in Community Care Cover please let your Community Councillor know.

The best advice on financial matters we can find is on the Financial Page of the website. Some really good ideas have been given so please look.

A "War Chest" is started. This is to cover the expenses of our amazing 200 plus volunteers, some of whom have just lost their jobs, or to purchase essential equipment. If you are in a fortunate position to have some additional money please donate our crowd funding page.

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/mull-and-iona-covid-19-crisis-fund>

These funds will be used for no other purpose than supporting activities during this crisis. If, by chance any funds are left, it will be put aside for the future or go towards something to remember this time in our lives.

We have done our very best to get ready but what can our Island do now

Family and friends returning to Mull. They are our community. Of course we want them home. However this hidden disease is everywhere. We ask that from now on any family or friends returning home self isolate for two weeks. Follow all the recommended advice when doing this.

Visitors coming to Mull

MSPs and tourist board chiefs have urged anyone planning to visit some of Scotland's most remote locations to stay away while they prioritise the health and well being of their residents.

In light of this The Mull Crisis Management Group make this statement

Please don't travel here and put our community at risk. We have limited medical staff and resources. For now treat our Island as closed to all but essential travel. When this is over you will receive a warm Island welcome.

Cancel all appointments with trades and services from out with our Island unless they are working remotely. If you need a job done use a local and try and minimise all contact.

From today please self isolate as much as is possible. Do one shop per week. Clean your hands according to recommended practice before entering the store and as soon as possible after. We have confirmed information that the virus can remain active on some surfaces for days.

If your business is non essential can you now close? Is it really worth the risk staying open?

If your profession is high risk and involves close contact with customers get the correct safety equipment. For example masks if you work within two meters of customers.

Every home must have a "contactless" drop-off point for deliveries

And now there's a last request. As you all know there are two tried and tested ways of slowing this outbreak.

Voluntary self isolation and people tracking to inform contacts that you need to isolate immediately for two weeks to protect others

On Mull we are probably the finest experts in knowing everything about everything. From now on could you try and keep a short record of who you make personal contact with every day. If by chance you get any symptoms this will give an immediate history to be traced. Your contacts can then be followed back and advised they need to isolate. The information you give could save a vulnerable persons life.

We can do this on Mull, when other can not. We are only 3000 people, working together we can beat this.

A message from the Mull Crisis Management group