Community help hub launched to support residents

Gloucestershire's councils and partners have created a community help hub to connect local people who need help, with others who can provide the support they need.

As further measures are put in place to delay the spread of Covid-19, local people have already started to pull together to arrange help in their area for those who need it, but not everyone has existing connections.

In response, the council's across the county have come together with the police and health partners to create the hub to connect local people who need help, with individuals, groups and businesses who can provide the support they need.

The hub includes four forms:

- 'I can offer help' is for those who are able to support neighbours with tasks such as picking up prescriptions, shopping, dog walking and more
- 'I need help' can be used by individuals to ask for support
- 'My neighbour needs help' may be used by people to request help on behalf of a neighbour, relative or friend who cannot access the internet themselves
- 'My business can help' will allow local businesses who may have skills and resources others could benefit from, to offer their help

The information collected will be shared with the relevant local council who will connect people who can help each other, or if appropriate refer individuals to an existing service.



Residents are encouraged to share details of the community help hub on social media using the hashtag #GlosCommunity

The <u>hub</u> includes an image for social media and a poster you could use to share details.

The hub will be accessible from every district council website, and from the county council's website at https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/helphub

Mark Hawthorne, leader of Gloucestershire County Council, said: "At times like these our communities really come together to help others and it's clear that there are many people who are keen to offer help where they can. Working together with our partners, we want to ensure that everyone is able to access the support they need and I'm confident that the community help hub will make this possible."

Please help us to share details of the community help hub locally

FODDC are sharing information about this on social media as well as on our website here: https://www.fdean.gov.uk/coronavirus Comms are also monitoring

larger social media groups in order to hopefully pick up issues and guide people as the need arises.

Chelsea Hopkins Communications Specialist

For general FODDC Press enquries please use media@fdean.gov.uk Forest of Dean District Council (01594) 812622 / 07951 864 387 chelsea.hopkins@publicagroup.uk

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