

Need Project Central Bedfordshire Coronavirus Guidelines – 10th March 2020

We are mindful that while the number of cases in the UK is fairly small at present we are in the early stages of an epidemic which is likely to cause widespread illness in weeks to come. We want to make sure that as the number of people with Coronavirus in the community increase, we as an organization help minimise the risk of it spreading.

The following advice is based on the Government and NHS Guidance. These protocols are likely to be updated in future weeks.

If you develop cold or flu symptoms, to not come to Need Project activities or undertake deliveries **until you have contacted the 111 NHS Helpline for advice.**

In accordance with government advice we request that people wash their hands, with soap and warm water, for at least 20 seconds several times a day and in particular after coughing or sneezing or doing a delivery run.

Please cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze, and put used tissues in the bin straight away and wash your hands afterwards.

Those who have travelled back from a high-risk area (as defined by the UK Government at that time) should self-isolate. We urge members of the NP team who self-isolate to let us know this, so that we can find ways of offering appropriate pastoral care during this time.

We recommend that we restrict physical contact until the outbreak has passed. In particular, do not shake hands or offer hugs.

When making deliveries to our clients, please remain 2 metres away from them.

In addition to our normal cleaning and hygiene procedures, we will wipe all door handles and light switches at the NP Centre with disinfectant daily.

How can we respond to this outbreak in a Christ-like way? We should bear in mind that taking sensible precautions is not principally an act of self-protection, but primarily an action designed to protect others who are at risk in our community. And we should continue to be open-hearted and attentive to the lonely, the vulnerable and the anxious. Above all, we will face the future (which is always uncertain) with courage and faith in God.