



Wiltshire Council

SWINDON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Dear employer,

Firstly, we wanted to write to thank you for your continued support of the nationwide effort to help stop the spread of Coronavirus.

We are acutely aware that the last 12 months have been incredibly difficult for all and that many businesses have had to adapt or make significant changes to the way they operate.

Although the Government has now set out a clear roadmap to lead the country out of lockdown, it is vital that we all continue to play our part and adhere to the current restrictions which are in place to stop the spread of the virus, protect the NHS, and save lives.

Unfortunately, in recent weeks, we have seen a rise in the number of gatherings and house parties taking place in our county which have been in breach of the current lockdown restrictions.

When police officers have engaged with these individuals, most have stated that they work together and some have said that lateral flow tests take place regularly at their place of work, therefore they feel meeting up outside of work to socialise is low risk.

We would like to ask for your support in communicating internally with your staff that, even if employees work together or are tested regularly at work, unless one of the specific exemptions apply they **must not currently gather outside of work** as per the current Government guidance and supporting legislation.

You can find the latest restrictions by visiting www.gov.uk/coronavirus and we would ask that you share this information regularly with your employees.

We understand that we have diverse workforces in the county and so we would ask that you share this information in whichever languages your employees speak – you can find various translations on the Government website here <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home#easy-read-large-print-and-translated-versions>. It is important that this messaging is getting through to everyone within our communities to ensure we all continue to play our part.

We thank you in advance for your support with this important request.

Chief Constable Kier Pritchard
Wiltshire Police

Councillor Philip Whitehead
Wiltshire Council

Councillor David Renard
Swindon Borough Council