



Two things around COVID. Please share as widely as you can.

The infection rate across the borough remains at a high level and we all need to do our bit to try and get this down. The full details of Tier 3 restrictions can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/local-covid-alert-level-very-high-greater-manchester> but here is a summary of the key points:

- You must not meet socially with friends and family indoors in any setting unless they are part of your household or support bubble. This includes private homes, private gardens and any hospitality venue (indoors or outdoors).
- You must not socialise in a group of more than 6 in an outdoor public space such as a park or beach, the countryside, a public garden or sports venue.
- Pubs and bars must close; they can only remain open where they operate as if they were a restaurant, which means serving substantial meals, like a main lunchtime or evening meal, and they may only serve alcohol as part of such a meal.
- Certain businesses selling food or drink on their premises are required to close between 10pm and 5am. Businesses and venues selling food for consumption off the premises can continue to do so after 10pm as long as this is through delivery service, click-and-collect or drive-through.
- Retail and places of worship remain open, but household mixing is not permitted.
- You are advised not to travel into or out of an area if it has been categorised as a very high alert level area.

And a reminder if you are a hospitality venue that is able to remain open by law, you must ensure people do not meet on your premises with people from outside of their household or support bubble. Failure to comply with these restrictions may lead to fines of up to £10,000, prosecution, or in some cases closure.

Secondly – around **business support**.

We are still waiting for confirmation from Government around the business support package that will be available. Our understanding at the moment is that there are 3 types of funding:

- Tier 2 – backdated payments to when Greater Manchester entered stricter lockdown measures. We are awaiting confirmation around which sectors/types of business this will apply to.
- Tier 3 – fortnightly payments to businesses who have had to close by law. We are awaiting final details of the payment scheme, and the paperwork that will be required. We will be unable to make any payments until a business has been closed for a full 2 weeks.
- Enhanced business support – this is the £60m you will have seen in the media for Greater Manchester. We are waiting final details about the amount we will receive in Rochdale, the period the money has to cover, and any eligibility criteria that may have to be applied.

Realistically – it is likely to be early next week before we are able to provide any more information, with first payments not being made until week commencing 9th November.

THIS INFORMATION IS CURRENT AS OF 3PM ON WEDNESDAY 28TH OCTOBER 2020 AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

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Regards

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