



New Findhorn Association

## Covid 19 hub updates - 01/04/20

### RECORD OF LAST FRIDAY'S COVID ACTION GROUP MEETING

#### 3rd Meeting of the Covid Action Group

27 March 12:30 - 14:15

**Participants:** David, Lorraine, Andrew (NFA - New Findhorn Association), Laura, Judith, Sue (CCC Caring Community Circle), Lori (THA - Titleholders Association), Marc (FF - Findhorn Foundation), Melissa (CYC - Children and Youth in Community), Gail, Marilyn (Findhorn College), Ariane (point 2 only)

**Location:** Zoom

#### 1/ Wider context

- David and Lorraine fed back from Zoom meeting with Jo Smithson (tsi Moray Forres Community Development Officer for the Forres area)
- A pan-Grampian initiative is being developed, with a particular focus at the moment of supporting vulnerable individuals identified by NHS (Developed together with Red Cross using the pre-existing Red Cross emergency relief model).
- Once initiated, it will supply food parcels, and other support.
- Lorraine noted that CCC should not duplicate the Grampian initiative, but rather ensure that CCC beneficiaries are linked to the national programme.
- Sue, Laura and Ariane briefed on developments as regards volunteer support in Findhorn village (40 volunteers), Forres (street-by-street approach) and Kinloss.
- Laura reported on discussions with Will Russell regarding possible Covid-19 related fatalities in our Community.

- Procedures are changing, in response to the current circumstances. Legislation is being drawn up, so that deaths can now be registered by telephone (rather than taking the death certificate from the GP in person as has previously been the case).
- There may be a need for postmortems for all, otherwise unexpected, deaths. Numbers attending funerals are strictly limited. There is a shortage of body bags.

### **3. Feedback from Tuesday's Covid Task Group (Melissa/Lori)**

- A 'Task Group' had been called last week, in response to concerns about some community members not appropriately self-isolating, or maintaining social distancing. However, policy developments at the national level have given clear guidance, and it was felt that this group is no longer needed.

Appreciation for the work of the group and agreement that the model of setting up short-term action groups such as this, to respond to issues as they arise, is a useful one.

### **4. Feedback from Tracking sub-group (Marilyn)**

- Sub-group (Marilyn Hamilton and Mark Anderson, with support from Graham Meltzer and Tallis) developing a form for data collection from individuals in the community concerning information relating to covid.
- This could inform the work of the CCC in dealing with the short-term effects of covid; illness, social isolation etc.
- Need to be clear about data protection issues (reason for gathering data has to be clearly stated, data have to be stored safely and destroyed when no longer needed, need for data controller), and about the usefulness of contact tracing in the absence of testing.

### **5. Feedback from Volunteer Action Group (Laura)**

- Neighbourhood representatives are putting themselves forward to work with the volunteer action group

They will increase awareness of the existing spreadsheets to record needs of the vulnerable in the community. However reps are not to be considered "personal shoppers".

No system in place yet for bulk buying.

**Next Meeting:** Friday April 3rd - 12:30-2pm by Zoom

## **Neighbourhood Contact people**

This is part of a community wide response to Covid-19.

The role of the neighbourhood contact person will most likely change and evolve over the next few weeks or months, depending on how needs evolve, but so far they are here to: Communicate with you, check in, notice if anyone is suddenly not responding, or if anyone has put up communication notices in their windows.

Hold an awareness of those with limited or no internet access.

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**LATEST FINDHORN FOUNDATION GUIDANCE FOR THOSE RETURNING FROM AREAS WITH HIGH NUMBERS OF COVID-19 CASES:**

This updated (30.03.2020) returning traveler information is in response to the increasing numbers of COVID-19 cases within and without the UK. I believe we are entering a critical period now in preventing and minimising the spread of this virus in Scotland.

As a temporary precautionary measure, all Coworkers and guests of the Findhorn Foundation returning from international travel or travel to areas within the UK with high numbers of COVID-19 cases will be asked to stay at home and practice [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): Guidance for households with possible](#)

coronavirus infection for 14 days. Please note that these measures go further than the current UK wide social distancing guidance for those in households with no symptoms.

Please refer to the NHS inform website link above for stay at home guidance and other information for Scotland. Thank you for your patience and consideration.

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**A REMINDER OF SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS:**

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-staying-at-home-and-away-from-others-social-distancing/>

*That is why we have introduced three new measures:*

- *requiring people to stay at home, except for very limited purposes*
- *closing certain business and venues*
- *stopping all gatherings of more than two people in public*

*Every person in Scotland must comply with these new measures, which came into effect on 23 March 2020.*

*The relevant authorities, including the police, have been given the powers to enforce them – including through fines and dispersing gatherings.*

*These measures are in force for 6 months in the first instance, unless all, or parts are revoked.*

*They will initially last for the 3 weeks from 27 March 2020, at which point we will review and relax them if the evidence shows this is possible.*

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