

Test and Trace Isolation Support Payment Scheme Launched

Financial help is now available through the Borough Council to help qualifying people on low incomes who have been told to self-isolate through NHS Test and Trace.

Since Monday 28 September, people in England have been required by law to self-isolate if they test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) or if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace service and advised to self isolate.

Now the Test and Trace isolation support scheme is available to people on low incomes who are unable to work from home and whose finances are reduced by isolation. The one-off payment of £500 can be claimed by qualifying people told to isolate from Monday 28 September to Sunday 31 January 2021 to support them during each period of isolation.

For all the details including eligibility criteria visit:

www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/testandtrace.

If a person does not meet the eligibility criteria for the main scheme, they may be able to claim as part of the Borough Council's discretionary scheme instead. Again all details are available on the council website.

Anybody wanting to make a claim has 14 days from the date their isolation ended to complete their application.

Leader of the Council, Cllr Stuart Bray said: "It's important that we can support people whose income is significantly affected by isolation. This scheme will help relieve them of some of that worry while they're doing the right thing by protecting our communities from spreading the virus further.

"I would encourage people in Hinckley and Bosworth to share this information with family and friends, so people are aware that there is financial support in place if they're told to isolate and are unable to pay essential bills. It is important that any person asked to isolate follows the guidance to help reduce the spread of infection to people around them and their communities."