

Dear Tenant(s),

I hope that you are staying safe and healthy during this difficult time. I know that the measures our city is taking to slow the spread of COVID-19 have impacted on everyone in so many different aspects of life. As your landlord, I wanted to reach out and share some important advice from Coventry City Council to continue to help you keep safe at home and reassure you that I am here to provide support if needed.

### **Communal Areas and Shared Facilities**

It is important you continue to keep your communal areas and shared facilities clean - if not this can be a route of coronavirus spread between tenants. You should clean these areas more often and use anti-viral cleaning products. Adhere to the following advice wherever you can:

#### ➤ **Shared kitchens**

- ✓ Tableware and kitchen utensils should not be shared without being thoroughly cleaned first.
- ✓ Set up a rota system for using the kitchen to prevent crowding.
- ✓ Where possible keep food in your rooms.

#### ➤ **Sharing a bathroom and toilet**

- ✓ Use your own towels.
- ✓ Use liquid soap rather than sharing a bar.
- ✓ Clean areas you have touched in the bathroom after use e.g. sink, taps, flushes, light switches.
- ✓ Set up a rota system for thorough cleaning.
- ✓ If someone you are living with has tested positive for COVID-19, they should use the bathroom last for washing, before cleaning.

#### ➤ **Rooms and lounges**

- ✓ Limit close contact with other tenants and keep a safe distance (2m+) when moving around the house.
- ✓ Do not allow visitors where this is not allowed in line with Government guidelines.
- ✓ Limit congregating in the hallways, front of building, lounges, or kitchens.

#### ➤ **Ventilate indoor areas.**

Keep indoor areas well-ventilated with fresh air, especially shared living areas. To increase the flow of air you can:

- ✓ open windows, doors, and vents (e.g. trickle vents in windows).

### **Positive cases of COVID-19 and self-isolation**

COVID-19 spreads from person to person through small droplets, aerosols, and direct contact. Surfaces and belongings can be contaminated when people with the infection cough, sneeze or touch them.

People who have COVID-19 can infect others from around 2 days before symptoms start, and for up to 14 days after. They can pass the infection to others, even if they have mild symptoms or no symptoms at all, which is why they must stay at home.

#### **If you test positive for COVID-19:**

**Stay at home and self-isolate for 10 full days. Do not go to work, school, college, university, or public areas and do not use public transport or taxis.**

- ✓ Notify your landlord / letting agency. We can then take necessary actions e.g. alerting other tenants and cancelling any maintenance visits and house viewings etc.
- ✓ Spend as little time as possible in shared spaces such as kitchens, bathrooms and sitting areas.
- ✓ Ask the people you live with to help by bringing your meals to your door, helping with cleaning, and giving you space.
- ✓ Use a separate bathroom from the rest of the household where possible. If not, try and use the facilities for washing last. Then use an anti-viral product (e.g. spray or wipes) to clean the bathroom, particularly areas you have touched.
- ✓ Use a face covering when spending time in shared areas.
- ✓ Getting rid of waste whilst you are self-isolating: put it in a bin bag and tie when full, then place in a second bin bag and tie. Keep in a safe place for 72 hours. After this it can be disposed with your normal rubbish.

#### **If someone else in the house tests positive for COVID-19:**

**Stay at home and self-isolate for 10 full days. Do not go to work, school, college, university, or public areas and do not use public transport or taxis.**

- ✓ Your isolation period includes the day the first person in your households' symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms) and the next 10 full days.
- ✓ You may wish to access a PCR test as a household contact if you do not have symptoms.
- ✓ If for any reason you have a negative test result during your 10-day isolation period, you must continue to self-isolate.
- ✓ If you develop symptoms while you are isolating, you should arrange to have a PCR test. If your test result is positive, start a further full 10-day isolation period. This begins when

your symptoms started, regardless of where you are in your original 10-day isolation period (your total isolation period will be longer than 10 days).

- ✓ If other household members develop symptoms during this period, you do not need to isolate for longer than 10 days.

➤ **If you are a student or staff of the Coventry University**

You should report your symptoms or your positive test through the COVID-19 Reporting Portal, please see the link: <https://livecoventryac.sharepoint.com/sites/coronavirus-reporting>

Contact email address– [IRM@coventry.ac.uk](mailto:IRM@coventry.ac.uk)

Telephone number – 02477 650 600 (Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm only)

*\*The above link will only work for students or staff of the Coventry University Group.*

➤ **If you are a student or staff of the Warwick University**

You should report your symptoms or your positive test through this email address :

[testandtrace@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:testandtrace@warwick.ac.uk)

### **Leaving or Returning to the UK from abroad**

- ✓ follow the rules for COVID-19 testing and self-isolation at the time of travelling. Keep up to date with the rules before you travel as these can regularly change -

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus>

- ✓ check the travel advice and restrictions for the country you are planning to travel to or are returning from. Follow the step-by-step guide which includes advice on isolation and booking tests on return, on the following link -

<https://www.gov.uk/travel-abroad>

- ✓ you should not travel to amber or red list countries

More information from the Government is available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/how-to-stop-the-spread-of-coronavirus-covid-19/how-to-stop-the-spread-of-coronavirus-covid-19>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

It is my hope that all tenants are staying safe and healthy!

Thank you for being a valued tenant and I look forward to getting through these tough times together. As always, do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.