

Response to Capacity to Respond Questions

We are now coming into the recovery phase and this is being led by the County Council with input from leaders at district level. Other agencies are involved too. I know that Phil has been very good at sharing updates and from the district level we've reported on everything so far. Having been told of what is likely to be in store going forward the recovery plan does cover much more than an economic response including a lot around social distancing in areas where people may congregate or shop. I've covered some of that in my latest report.

From a district level we don't know individuals who are involved in track or trace but anyone can now request a test via : <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/ask-for-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

I'm not aware of any difficulties in regard to local PPE.

On the third point we've done a lot to cover the effects on mental health of the lockdown and will continue to do so through messaging and working with local groups to keep in contact with people who the most vulnerable. Again this will feature as part of the response.

As you'll know services continued pretty well throughout from a district level and all department are now operating and if needed officers are able to travel. We are not yet back in the offices or having non-virtual meetings but I'm aware we'll be discussing what we've learnt through the period and I know many councillors have already expressed an interest in maintaining some virtual meetings to cut down on travel in the future. We are getting to a point of understanding how much we've lost as a council, are working to subsidise some of that from central government support and plans will be in place to move forward but we don't expect a loss or slimming down of any services at this point.

Happy to continue to update on these points over the coming months from a local level.

Thanks,

Daniel.

(MHDC Councillor Daniel Walton)