



Latest updates for businesses affected by COVID-19



Following the Prime Minister's announcement regarding the delay in the move to step 4 in the UK Government COVID-19 roadmap, here is a round-up of the latest official updates which include the wedding and civil partnership ceremonies, receptions and celebrations guidance, the funerals and commemorative events guidance, and the limits for out-of-school residential stays being increased to groups of up to 30 children from 21 June. In addition, extensions to temporary insolvency measures and eviction protection have been announced.

Updated guidance for wedding and civil partnership ceremonies, receptions and celebrations:

From 21 June the rules for [wedding and civil partnership ceremonies; and wedding receptions and civil partnership celebrations](#) will change. There will no longer be a maximum number cap for attendees set out in law. This will be based on the [COVID-19 risk assessment](#) of the venue or outdoor space, and the measures put in place to limit the spread of COVID-19.

Funeral and commemorative event guidance updated:

From 21st June, [the rules on funerals and commemorative events](#), such as stone-setting ceremonies, the scattering of ashes or a wake, will change. There will no longer be a maximum number of attendees set out in law for funerals or commemorative events.

Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) guidance updates:

The [guidance for businesses](#) to check if they are eligible for the ARG grant has been updated to clarify which sectors are eligible to receive it. Whilst local councils have the freedom to determine the eligibility criteria for these grants, the Government has set out an expectation that the funding should help businesses that are severely impacted by the restrictions. Local councils are encouraged to support:

The spending allocation deadline for the ARG has been extended to 30 July 2021 and the [guidance for Local Authorities](#) has also been updated.

Eviction protection extended for businesses:

[Businesses that have had to remain closed](#) during the pandemic and are unable to pay rent on their commercial property will continue to be protected from eviction. Legislation will be introduced in this session to ring-fence outstanding unpaid rent that has built up when a business has had to remain closed during the pandemic.

Landlords are expected to make allowances for the ring-fenced rent arrears from these specific periods of closure due to the pandemic, and share the financial impact with their tenants. The legislation will help tenants and landlords work together to come to an agreement on how to handle the money owed – this could be done by waiving some of the total amount or agreeing a longer-term repayment plan.

Temporary insolvency measures extended:

The [Insolvency Service](#) has announced that regulations are set to be laid that will mean restrictions on statutory demands and winding up petitions will remain for a further three months until 30 September 2021 with a view to protecting companies from creditor enforcement action where their debts relate to the pandemic.

See all COVID-19 updates and guidance for businesses



SEVENOAKS DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

On Friday 25th June Vintage Financial Planning will be launching the first of a series of 15min Q&A financial podcast.

The first one is centred mainly on the much-maligned subject of **Pensions**? The aim is to help you understand better and to blow away some often-cited pension myths.

Typical questions we get asked:

- Do I have enough to afford retirement?
- I have lots of pension's pots and not sure if I should combine them or keep them separate?
- What tax breaks are there with pensions?
- Can I have property in my pension?
- Who gets my pension if I die?

Do you have a burning question that you have always wanted to ask on pensions? If so then why not reply to this email or comment on the LinkedIn or Facebook post and we can answer it in the podcast which is being recorded this Friday.

Remember this will not just help you but it will help others in the Chamber as well. We look forward to your replies and please do listen to our answers on the [Chamber Chats](#)

ADD YOUR QUESTION HERE



HOW TO JOIN

Read the benefits of membership and join now online, or call us on **01732 455 188** for more information

JOIN NOW



CONSTRUCTION CONNECTIONS

WEDNESDAY 23RD JUNE

10.30 - 12.00

Join us as we launch our first Construction Connections event to help Chamber members and other businesses working in or offering services associated with the Construction industry. We will be offering a series of events aimed at offering dynamic and relevant networking opportunities that will directly impact the Construction industry.

We are delighted to have Ed Treliving from [Sheffords](#) as our Guest speaker. Ed is a local Chartered Surveyor and one of the Directors of Sheffords, a long-established local business and chamber member. Ed will provide us with a brief insight into general practice surveying in West Kent, his experiences of the West Kent residential property market during the pandemic and what might be to come, as well as some thoughts on the world of commercial property in Sevenoaks, Tonbridge, and Tunbridge Wells as well as highlighting some challenges the local construction sector is facing as a result of global issues.

Our thanks go to [Thackray Williams Solicitors](#) for sponsoring this event and supporting the launch of this sector specific networking. During the presentation we will hear from Vikki Herbert, who is a Partner and Head of Residential Property & Leasehold at Thackray Williams.

More places now available due to the push back of restrictions as this event will now be held online via Zoom.

BOOK HERE

Thackray Williams



- **A new business?**
- **Fed up with commuting?**
- **Working from home not working for you?**
- **Looking for flexibility in your business accommodation needs?**
- **Wanting to work in a supportive business atmosphere and to meet like-minded people?**
- **Easy parking!**



**sevenoaks
business
hub**

Some of the reasons why the Sevenoaks Business Hub will meet your requirements.

The Hub is newly established, finished and furnished to a high standard, offering a choice of office permutations with no fixed term. Accommodation options range from open plan hot desking, through reserved hot desking to private single desk office pods. Hires are available full day or half days 7am - 1.00pm and 1.15pm - 9pm.

Features and Facilities include:

- Access 7am – 9pm, Monday to Saturday
- Meeting room for 8 people
- Great up to the minute connectivity
- Cycle parking and shower rooms
- Free on-site parking
- Electric vehicle charging points
- Kitchen with café area and break-out lounge
- Decked outdoor area with seating
- Easy access, with Sevenoaks Rail Station 0.9 miles, Bat & Ball Rail Station 0.4 miles, Service 8 bus service to the door and Go2 on-demand transport.

Business related functions can be hosted on a private or communal basis. The advantageous pricing includes rent, business rates, Wi-Fi, utilities, cleaning & maintenance.

The Business Hub is situated in Bradbourne Vale Road, TN13 3QG, home to Sevenoaks Town Council Offices. Sevenoaks & District Chamber of Commerce is based at the Hub and manages the booking system and other arrangements. The Council and Chamber are both keen to foster enterprise in the town and hence the motivation to provide a high-class facility offering total flexibility at very reasonable rates.



Sevenoaks
TOWN council



**For more information visit
www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk**

KENT WILDLIFE TRUST



Come and Meet the Kent Wildlife Trust at the Wednesday Market on 23rd June



Information, awareness, and membership for your local wildlife trust. Kent Wildlife Trust manages over 65 species-rich nature reserves around the county, as well as local wildlife sites and roadside nature reserves. We also work with communities and other organisations to assist in the management of other wild sites in Kent.

The Wednesday Market takes place at the Buckhurst 1 Car Park, Buckhurst Lane from 8am - 2pm



Bedfordshire
Cambridgeshire
Northamptonshire



LIVE BREXIT WEBINAR



Importing Food & Drink from the EU

JUNE

24

1PM - 2PM



LIVE Q&A Event:

Importing Food and Drink from the EU:

Thursday 24th June from 1pm to 2pm:

Join Principal Trading Standards Officer **Nathan Martin** (Business Advice), **Anthony Baldock** (Head of Port Health), **Graham Card** (Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce), **Michaela Tharby** (DEFRA), **Tudor Price** (Kent & Medway Growth Hub) as they discuss the new legal requirements.

New rules will be introduced on:

1st October 2021 - importing products of animal origin and plants

1st January 2022 - importing all other goods.

This event will focus on importing food and drink from the EU.

Goods that fail to comply will be refused entry to the UK. Non-delivery of goods may lead to a breach of contract, loss of trading and both financial and reputational damage.

Sign up below and submit your question. A link to the free Zoom event will be sent to you by email.

If you can't make the date, sign up anyway and submit your question. A recording will be made of the event and a link to the replay will be sent to you once available.

PLEASE NOTE

By inputting your email address and clicking the SUBSCRIBE button you are agreeing to our Privacy Notice which explains what personal data we hold about you, how we collect it, use it, share it and delete it. Please read our [Privacy Notice](#) before signing up.

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

We are welcoming Sew Shweet and Shhh Boutique, as new traders at Bligh's Market!

Bligh's Market takes place every Saturday in
Bligh's Meadow Car Park, from 9am - 4pm

SEW SHWEET



Handmade teddy bears and other soft toys; fabric; picnic blankets; bags; handknitted baby cot blankets; baby onesies and bibs.
All handmade in South Africa by underprivileged communities. Some items are made from recycled rPET bottles that have been made into fabric and bags.



SHHH BOUTIQUE

Shhh Boutique sells Ladies clothing and accessories



For more information please contact osl@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

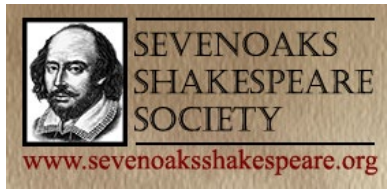
West Kent Mind's Skiffle Express at the Bandstand!

It was smiles all round last Saturday, 19th June at the bandstand in Vine Gardens.

West Kent Mind's Skiffle Express group were there, cheering everyone up with an afternoon of music and song! We even had a little socially distanced dancing and it was magical! It felt so good to be out in the fresh air in picturesque surroundings with a café next door for delicious refreshments.



They are going to be there again this Saturday, 26th June from 1pm so join us; it will be so good to see you!



We are delighted to announce that we are back performing in the open air at The White Rock Inn at Underriver (TN15 0SB) this summer, with

THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED)

A hilarious comedy by Adam Long, Daniel Singer and Jess Winfield

Our director Jessica-Ann Jenner writes: "Last year we weren't able to share a Shakespeare play with you, so this year we thought we'd do them all! That's right, all 37 plays performed by three very talented and possibly quite insane actors, in less than two hours. We might even throw in a few of the sonnets for good measure! With guaranteed comedy, romance, tragedy and an inflatable dinosaur, this is the Bard as you've never seen him before.

The dates are:

July 8th, 9th and 10th at 7.45pm, July 11th at 3.30pm

July 15th, 16th and 17th at 7.45pm, July 18th at 3.30pm

Ticket prices £13.50 in advance, £15 on the door. Children 16 and under, full-time students £5.

Book online here (no booking fee) or by telephone 0333 6663366 (NB booking fee £1.80)

It's an open air show and the evenings can be chilly, so please bring warm clothing, and rugs or low-backed folding chairs to sit on.

Pre-show drinks and meals at the White Rock Inn can be booked on 01732 833112 or www.thewhiterockinn.co.uk.

Please note that only food and drink purchased on the premises may be consumed in the pub garden.



SEVENOAKS ART CLUB
founded 1901

Original Paintings Sale

SATURDAY 26 June 2021

at

VINE RAILINGS (near Sevenoaks Vine Cricket Club)

Kick In The Head proudly presents The Cat's Grin Theatre Company in



**Alice's
adventures**

**in
Wonderland**

**Written by
Lewis Carroll**

**An original
adaptation
by Don Brown**

**Questions are answered and answers are questioned in this deceptively
simple, yet highly original re-telling of the Lewis Carroll classic.**

24th Tuesday August- 2pm - The Vine Gardens

25th Wednesday August- 2pm - Pontoise Play Area

26th Thursday August- 2pm - Greatness Recreation Ground

WWW.KICKINTHEHEAD.CO.UK