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South Ayrshire Council Live 3



### A message from our Chief Executive

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I hope you are continuing to stay safe and well.

Thanks to the continuous hard work of our employees over the last five months, our recovery plans are now well underway, and we're all getting used to a 'new normal' way of life.

Our teams really made a difference to communities during lockdown - from delivering food boxes and medication, to giving advice to over 27,000 people who called our dedicated COVID-19 helpline. While these services are now stood down, we have, of course, put contingency plans in place to resume some of these supports if they are ever needed, for example, if at any point in the future the Scottish Government decide any local measures are required in South Ayrshire.

I'd like to say a special thank you to employees, individuals and local groups who were involved in the delivery of free school meal boxes for eligible children across South Ayrshire. A fantastic total of 52,668 boxes were delivered to families during the lockdown period, and you can find out more on page 12.

Our Employability and Skills team have continued to provide support to participants of the Supported Employment programme during the lockdown period. Two young people have shared their experiences of working from home with us, which you can read on page 10.

I'm sure many of you were delighted to hear that the Citadel Leisure Centre in Ayr reopened to the public on Monday 7 September. The team has put all necessary measures in place to ensure our leisure facilities are safe for customers to return. and you can find out more on page 20.

If you're looking for something to do in your spare time, why not visit our website where you can embark on a virtual tour of our art treasures and selected exhibitions. You can read more about upcoming exhibitions from our Museums and Galleries team on page 16.

Halloween is fast approaching, and while ghoulish fancy dress costumes play a huge part in the festivities, it's important to be aware of counterfeit and unsafe products. On page 13, our Trading Standards and Environmental Health team have put together some top tips to make sure you know the dangers to look out for.

We want you to be the first to know about any changes to our services, and to help us spread the word about these! You can do this by following us on social media Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and checking our website regularly for updates.

You can also call our Customer Services team on 0300 123 0900 on Monday -Thursday between 8:45am - 4:45pm and Friday between 8:45am – 4:00pm. I wish you well for the month ahead.

Eileen



Museums and Galleries - Page 16

- facebook.com/SouthAyrshireCouncil
- @southayrshire
- @sac live
  - youtube.com/user/southayrshirecouncil



# WE'RE SUPPORTING NHS SCOTLAND'S TEST & PROTECT

To stop the spread of coronavirus, we'll need to record your:

• name • contact telephone number • date of your visit • time of arrival and departure





#### PROVIDE YOUR DETAILS

We'll ask you to provide your name, contact details and the date and time of your arrival. 2



#### LET US KNOW WHEN YOU LEAVE

When you're ready to leave, please let us know so we can take a note of what time you left the premises. 3



#### NHS CONTACTS PREMISES

In the unlikely event there is a cluster of coronavirus cases linked to the premises, NHS Scotland may ask the premises for details of those individuals who were present.

4



#### NHS GETS IN TOUCH

If you were in close proximity to someone at the premises who tests positive for coronavirus, NHS Scotland will get in touch. 5



#### FOLLOW ADVICE

Follow the instructions from NHS Scotland. Thank you for your support

#### Privacy Notice

These premises have a lawful basis to process your information. Contacting people who might have been exposed to coronavirus is an important step in stopping the spread. Your information will be held securely, controlled by the organisation whose premises you are in and will be destroyed after 21 days. Your information will only be used if requested by NHS Scotland or statutory partners. You have the right to have your data erased or corrected. For the full Collection of Personal Data - Privacy Notice, visit gov.scot/contact-tracing-privacy-notice



## **How to Dispose of Household Waste Safely When Self-isolating**

Are you concerned about how to get rid of your waste if you are either self-isolating, or confirmed as having coronavirus (COVID-19)?



If you are asked to self-isolate, either as a precaution, or because you are confirmed as having coronavirus, please follow this advice to get rid of your household waste safely:



Place all personal waste such as, used tissues and disposable cleaning cloths, securely in a plastic bag or bin liner;





Place this plastic bag into another plastic bag and tie securely;

These bags must then be stored separately to other waste for at least

before being placed in the general waste (green bin), or sack if you are on a sack collection;



The bagged waste must be contained in your wheeled bin (or sack) and presented at your normal collection point. If possible, please make arrangements for someone who is not self-isolating to take your wheeled bin or sack to your collection point.





After 72 hours, the double bagged waste can be put into the general rubbish collection as normal. You only need to follow this process for waste that is heavily contaminated such as, used tissues that have been used to cough into, and cleaning cloths that have been heavily contaminated. Regular household recycling and waste should be treated as normal. You should always follow the NHS handwashing guidance after handling any household waste.

# Health and Wellbeing Team News

## **Care Experienced Sessions**

Our Health & Wellbeing team worked really hard during the school summer holidays to ensure care experienced pupils had the opportunity to engage in sport and physical activity.

A series of fun sports sessions allowed young people to gain new skills and try their hand at a variety of activities, including badminton; football; athletics; tennis; and sailing.

Weekly sessions are now held in Ayr, with further plans to introduce sessions for pupils from the Maybole and Girvan area!

To find out more, visit our Active Schools website.



## **Duke of Edinburgh Award**

The Duke of Edinburgh programme gives pupils from schools across Scotland the opportunity to learn valuable new skills.

Prior to lockdown, young people from South Ayrshire took part in a wide range of activities, including baking, playing musical instruments; attending sports clubs; walking; cycling and sailing; and supporting their local community by volunteering as sports coaches in primary schools and local youth clubs.

Over the last few months, young people creatively chose alternative activities which could be completed at home, such as supporting younger siblings with school work; running and cycling; and expeditions of their local area.

Our young people completed a total of 12,346 hours developing a skill; 12,346 hours of physical activity and 13,510 hours of volunteering in their local community!

A huge well done to everyone who took part!

Find out more about the Duke of Edinburgh Award here.

Follow our Active Schools team on social media:



Facebook



**Twitter** 

You can find out more on our website.



SOUTH AYRSHIRE GOLF FESTIVAL 2020

# GIRV GOLF CLASSIC

FRIDAY 25 - SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

# 3 ROUNDS £35.00pp

Girvan Golf Classic is three rounds of strokeplay over Girvan Golf Course. Open to all amateur gentlemen golfers who are members of a recognised golf club

### FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER

1st Round Strokeplay - Girvan Golf Course

### SATURDAY 26 SEPTEMBER

2nd Round Strokeplay - Girvan Golf Course

### SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

3rd Round Strokeplay - Girvan Golf Course



# **Employability and Skills Supported Employment**



Our Supported Employment programme is a targeted programme for people between 16 –and 30, who have additional support needs.

Our dedicated Supported Employment team work with participants on a one to one basis, developing tailored programmes to meet individual needs. The programme helps participants to gain confidence, resilience and determination to move into employment or further education.

Officers from our Employability and Skills team continued to provide support during lockdown, and two participants have shared their experiences with us.

## **Gavin Drysdale**

Gavin was previously part of our Supported Employment programme. He progressed into a part-time, tailored position as a Project Assistant within our Health and Wellbeing team in February 2020. Gavin told us:

"I've been working from home in my role of Project Assistant with the Health and Wellbeing team throughout lockdown.

"When I first started my role, I split my time working between the office and home, which definitely made the transition a lot easier for me. Of course, I miss seeing my work colleagues face-to-face, but it's great that we can have online meetings to keep in touch.

"Like everyone else, we've had to adapt and make the most of the situation we find ourselves in. This means coming up with creative ideas, and new ways to organise events. As well as being part of the Tokyo 2020 project, I was involved in organising this year's annual Sports Awards. Once it became clear we were not going to be able to hold the awards at Troon Concert Hall, we decided to host the ceremony virtually for the first time! This was exciting and a big learning process for me. I really enjoyed the experience of working in a team to deliver a successful event.



"It's been really important to me to have the support of the Employability and Skills team, especially during this period. I have regular check-ins with my allocated officer, and it's been reassuring to know they are always on hand to help with any problems I may have. They have been very understanding of my situation, and will assist in transitioning me back into the office when the time comes."

## Laura Logan

Laura is an employee of the Supported Employment, Tailored Jobs Programme. Laura is usually based at the Citadel Leisure Centre in Ayr and Prestwick Swimming Pool, however, is currently working from home. Laura told us:



"Before lockdown, I worked three days a week in the Citadel Leisure Centre and Prestwick swimming pool. Working from home has allowed me to develop my digital skills. I've spent a lot of time completing online training courses to help me better understand my role; improve my knowledge and understanding; and update my professional qualifications.

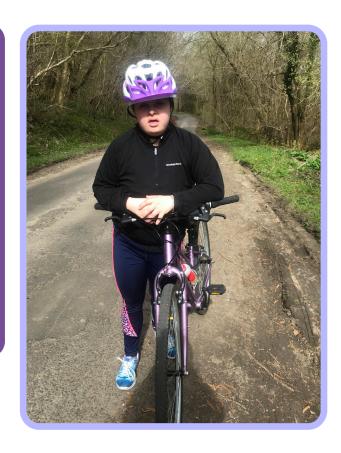
"Initially the idea of working from home was slightly alien to me, as I'm used to having lots of social interaction with the public. This is what I have missed most during lockdown, but I have been able to keep in touch with my clients and work colleagues online, and via telephone calls.

"I've also been in regular contact with my Supported Employment Officer, who has been helping me to work through any issues or problems I've had during the lockdown period. It's nice to know that there are so many people making sure that I'm happy and comfortable within my role. I've also had the opportunity to participate in a variety of online groups run by the team, which has allowed me to keep in touch with other members of the programme.

"Out with my tailored job, I've been really busy training with the Down Syndrome GB swimming team. As I've not been able to compete or train within the pool, I have been taking part in weekly online training sessions with my team mates."

You can find out more about our Supported **Employment programme here.** 

Follow our Employability and Skills team on Facebook.



# **Celebrating Food Box Delivery Success**

Last month, we delivered the final free school meal boxes to eligible children across South Ayrshire, following pupils' full time return to school on Monday 17 August.

We want to say a special thank you to everyone who made these deliveries possible during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Production hubs were quickly established at seven schools in South Ayrshire, where employee volunteers packed and coordinated the delivery of free school meal boxes to families every week. The boxes contained a variety of items, including bread; milk; cereal; fresh fruit and vegetables to make a week's worth of breakfasts and lunches for children.

Employees from a range of Council services united to go the extra mile, working tirelessly over 20 weeks to make sure everything ran smoothly. The service was extended through the Easter and summer holiday periods, and in total, 52,668 boxes were delivered to children in South Ayrshire - an average of over 3000 per week!

The Scottish Government praised our approach, and we have been inundated with support from families and the community as a whole, with local groups assisting with delivery. The contents of the boxes really made a difference to local families, and staff were regularly met with notes and cards to say thank you for their efforts.

One employee volunteer told us: "It was a privilege being part of the team. The effort and commitment was second to none, and everyone played their part in getting the job done. This team truly made a difference every day going above and beyond their normal duties.







# **Trading Standards & Environmental Health News**

### **Doorstep scams**

As we emerge from lockdown and periods of isolation during COVID-19, doorstep scammers remain a serious problem across the whole of Scotland.

There have been numerous reports of cold callers at peoples' homes throughout South Ayrshire. The most common types of work that doorstep scammers are currently carrying out are roofing, driveways and gardening.

Buying goods or services from a cold caller can be risky, as they can overcharge for work that is either unnecessary, and/ or substandard. You also may not be able to contact them if something goes wrong.

Please remain vigilant and always take time to check who you are dealing with:

- Don't let cold callers put you under pressure, or pay for services before the work is carried out:
- If you feel uncomfortable or suspicious, call Police Scotland on 101. If you feel threatened or unsafe at any time, call 999;

If you have a concern about traders selling goods or services door to door, please email cabac@south-ayrshire.gov.uk, or call 0300 123 0900.

You can also find more information on doorstep scammers here.

If you are looking for a business to carry out work at your property, you can check out our Trusted Trader scheme for local businesses, vetted by Trading Standards and Environmental Health.



# Health and Social Care – What Matters To You?

South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership (SAHSCP), has launched a new survey for you to have your say on how health, social care and social work services are delivered across South Ayrshire.

You can take part in the survey by visiting our <u>website</u>. All responses are anonymous

The survey will close on Friday 30 October.



## **Spaces for People Consultation**

We're working with Sustrans Scotland to make temporary changes to our streets, which will make it safer for you to walk and cycle.

The temporary measures will help protect public health, and support physical distancing as we transition out of lockdown.

Temporary changes could include removing parking to create extra footway space; pavement widening; and larger waiting areas outside of pharmacies, health centres, schools or shops.

We're looking for your feedback to identify places in your neighbourhood that could be improved, and suggestions on what else we can do to help you. To learn more and have your say go to www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/consultations

The consultation is now open, and will close on Friday 30 October 2020.



## **Financial Help**

We know that for some of you, the impact of coronavirus (COVID-19) may be financial. Our Information and Advice Hub team can help you:

- To check you are claiming all the benefits you are entitled to;
- Get advice on managing your money and help you reduce your outgoings, particularly if you are worried about how you will make future payments to creditors, such as credit cards or loan repayments;
- Access advice regarding your Council Tax, rent or mortgage payments.

To access any of these services, call 0300 123 0900 and ask for the Information and Advice Hub, or email the team direct at information and advice hub@south-ayrshire.gov.uk.

### **Crisis Grants**

Crisis Grants provide help for people who need money quickly due to an emergency or disaster.

If you are in financial crisis, you may be able to access a Crisis Grant. To do this, you can apply online at www.south-ayrshire. gov.uk or call Customer Services on 0300 123 0900.



## **Difficulty Paying Your Council Rent**

If you are a council tenant and you are experiencing difficulties paying your rent, please contact your Housing Officer on 0300 123 0900 (select options 2, option 1, ask for housing, then option 2) who will be able to discuss your rent account and offer advice.

## I can't pay my Council Tax

If you are unable to pay your Council Tax, it is important that you keep in touch with us and let us know if you are going to miss a payment, or not pay the full amount. If you have any questions, please email us at council.tax@south-ayrshire.gov.uk or call 0300 123 0900 to speak to a Customer Services Advisor.



### **Food Banks**

If you would like information on how to access foodbanks please call 0300 123 0900 and speak to one of our Customer Services Advisors.



## **Museums and Galleries**



If you're looking for something a little bit different to do, we have some exciting new exhibitions lined up!

'The Wonderful World of the Ladybird Book Artists - Illustrating Childhood'

Saturday 5th December 2020 - Sunday 18th April 2021

For the first time in Scotland, step into the magical and vibrant world of Ladybird art, where every picture tells a story and unlocks a thousand childhood memories.

Ladybird books have been a familiar fixture on children's bookshelves since the 1950s, but few people are aware that they date back to the early days of the Second World War. Told through an unparalleled collection of books, original artwork and artefacts, this exhibition shows how the many talented Ladybird illustrators played such an enormous role in the company's success during the 20th century. How many will you remember?

Please book tickets prior to visits - phone ahead or look at our website.



#### The McKechnie Institute, Girvan

Find out about the history of Girvan through a permanent display of artefacts. Its prominence in Geology is expressed through fossils, and the history of Ailsa Craig and its granite. Maritime history is represented through taxidermy specimens and model ships. There's also Fine Art from the Girvan Burgh collections, as well as amazing Bronze Age Cinerary Urns dating 2100-1500 BC!



This is a permanent exhibition and entry to The McKechnie Institute is free.

For opening hours and guidance for visitors, please visit our website before coming along to our museums and galleries.

#### **Museums at Home**

Follow the link for 'Museums at Home' on the Museum and Galleries section of our website to discover exhibitions and stories that you can enjoy from home!

## Libraries

We've all been spending a lot more time at home recently, and as a result, many of you have become engrossed in your favourite books. If you're looking for a new story to get stuck into, why not check out some of our fantastic collections?

We are operating a 'Connect and Collect' service, as our libraries are currently closed to the public. To access the 'Connect and Collect' service, please contact your local library by phone to have a chat about your requirements, and to make arrangements to collect the books available for vou.

- Staff will take your requests for up to 5 titles, either by author or genre.
- You will be allocated a time slot to collect your books. Please bring your own bag to put your books in.

Returning books - Books can be returned to libraries within the reduced operational hours.

We hope to be able to welcome you back to our buildings really soon. You can find more information on our website.

You can also follow South Ayrshire Libraries on Facebook.

## **Tarbolton Primary Say it Out Loud**

Tarbolton Primary recently completed South Ayrshire Youth Forum's 'Say it Out Loud' Mental **Health Charter Mark!** 

Pupils were selected as Mental Health Ambassadors, and worked together to try to reduce some

of the barriers felt by young people in relation to mental health. By identifying key areas for improvement, they supported the development of new policies; safe chill out areas; and positive wellbeing events and activities.

Jessica Hartshorn, Chair of South Ayrshire Youth Forum, said:

"It's amazing to have our first school complete the Charter Mark, as mental health and wellbeing awareness is essential in every school. By allowing primary school children to take part in the Charter Mark, we can start to reduce the stigma and barriers attached to talking about feelings. Tarbolton Primary School's young people and the 'Say it Out Loud' group are a credit to themselves, their school, and community. They've set a high standard and we're so proud of their efforts. Hopefully they are the first of many to achieve the charter!"

You can find out more about South Ayrshire Youth Forum by following them on social media.









# **National Honey Month**

Did you know September is National Honey Month?! Our South Ayrshire Ranger Service has some top tips on how you can help to promote a comfortable and friendly environment in your garden for Mother Nature's super pollinator – the bee!

#### **Gardening for Bees**

Bees are incredibly important insects, responsible for pollinating around one third of the fruits and vegetables that we take for granted, and of course, for producing honey. Unfortunately, as a result of pesticides, parasites and habitat loss, bees and many other pollinating insects are declining at an alarming rate.

However, there is a simple solution: gardening! By gardening, we can all play a part to help keep the bees buzzing. Whether you have a window box, allotment or garden, you can play your part in helping bees thrive.



Bees love pollen and nectar, so it's a good idea to have plants which are rich in these. It's important to remember that some plants have no nectar or pollen, so if you're not sure what plants are best, choose varieties that have 'bee friendly' labels.



Have flowers on display throughout the year. Bees are active from March-October, with some queen bumblebees emerging from hibernation in February. Flowers that bees are attracted to include:

Spring: Crocus, winter aconite, hellebores, winter heather;

Summer: Lavender, open dahlias, foxglove, viper's bugloss;

Autumn: Mahonia, verbena, cosmos, honeysuckle.



Create a herb garden. Ideal for small spaces and window boxes, you can try majoram, thyme, chives and sage.



Step away from the pesticides. Instead, why not try companion planting to reduce unwanted pests. Garlic and chives planted alongside carrots deter carrot root fly, whilst planting nasturtiums alongside runner beans lure small insects away from the beans. Other good companion plants include lavender, borage, fennel, sage and thyme.

If you'd like to create your own bee haven, the South Ayrshire Ranger Service is giving away small packets of wildflower annual seed mix (from 14-20 September). These will be available at Belleisle Park Conservatory, open weekdays 1-4pm and weekends 11am-4pm.

You can find out more about our Belleisle Rangers by visiting their Facebook page.





# **Applying to the EU Settlement Scheme**



On 31 January 2020, the UK left the European Union (EU).

Leaving the EU will mean a number of changes that will affect the lives of people living and working in the UK, including South Ayrshire.

If you are an EU, European Economic Area (EEA) national or Swiss citizen living in the UK by 31 December 2020, you and your family members must apply to the <u>EU Settlement Scheme</u> to continue living in the UK after 30 June 2021.

There will be no change to the rights and status of EU, EEA or Swiss citizens currently living in the UK who apply to the EU Settlement Scheme.

In applying to remain in the UK; EU, EEA and Swiss citizens only need to prove their identity, show that they live in the UK, and declare any criminal convictions.

The Home Office has 1500 staff working on the Scheme, including a team of people running a dedicated, seven-days a week phone service – The EU Settlement Resolution Centre.

To find out more on what happens after the UK leaves Europe, go to The UK transition pages.

<u>Translated materials</u> in 26 languages are available at the UK Government website.

You can also visit our website for other useful links to Brexit information.



# MORE THAN 3.8 MILLION APPLICATIONS TO THE EU SETTLEMENT SCHEME



Find out more and apply at:

gov.uk/eusettlementscheme

# **Sport and Leisure**

## **Reopening & Memberships**

We were delighted to welcome back gym and fitness class members to the Citadel on Monday 7 September, as part of the phased reopening of all Sport and Leisure facilities.

Here are some key dates for your diary:

#### **Monday 14 September**

- Reopening of the Citadel swimming pool for lane swimming;
- Gymnastics will safely restart at Mossblown and Whitletts Activity Centres.

#### **Monday 21 September**

- Reopening of Maybole, Prestwick and Troon swimming pools;
- Learn 2 Swim and Learn 2 Dive programmes will restart.

**Please note**: All parents will be contacted directly via email with specific information regarding their child's return dates, times and venues for Swim, Dive and Gymnastics lessons.

Changes have been made throughout all of our venues to ensure the facilities are safe for the return of customers and staff. You can watch our video for more information.

Sport and Leisure membership packages have been reviewed to provide more flexibility and value for money. For more information on Gym, Swim and Fitness Class memberships visit the Membership Packages page on our website.

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### Gym, Swim and Fitness Class Bookings

All gym, swim and fitness class sessions for the Citadel are now available to book online. All sessions must be booked before you can enter the facility, and bookings can be made 7 days in advance.

If you experience any difficulties with your booking or payment options, please contact us at <a href="mailto:leisure.bookings@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">leisure.bookings@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>

#### Learn 2

All Learn 2 Swim, Dive and Gymnastics members should have received an email advising when classes will start. If your child is enrolled in these programmes and you haven't received an email, please contact sportsdevelopment@south-ayrshire.gov.uk You can follow Sport and Leisure on Facebook



# **Merchant Navy Day**



Thursday 3 September was Merchant Navy Day, where we honour the brave men and women who kept the UK afloat during both World Wars, and celebrate our dependence on modern day merchant seafarers.

South Ayrshire Council Leader Councillor Peter Henderson, and South Ayrshire Provost Helen Moonie raised the Red Ensign in Place de St-Germain-en-Laye to remember the sacrifices, salute the courage and support the future of our Merchant Navy.

## **Ayrshire Cancer Support** Golfathon

Calling all golfers! Get your friends, family and neighbours to sponsor you to raise money for a great local cause, while playing the sport you love.

Would you like to take on the 'Golfathon' for Ayrshire's leading cancer charity and be local heroes for the day?

Why not play 2, 3, or 4 rounds of golf in one of the beautiful courses Ayrshire has to offer to raise money for Ayrshire Cancer Support.



You can play on any available day that suits you, when it's safe to do so, and in line with Scottish Government guidance.

#### How to be a Golfathon Hero

**Team**: Gather your team for a brilliant day of golf on your favourite course.

Date: Choose any available date, or you can play your rounds over multiple days.

Place: Your chosen golf club. Why not get the club involved in becoming your team base? Fundraising: The more you raise, the more people in Ayrshire with cancer will benefit.

For more information, please visit Ayrshire Cancer Support's website, or follow them on Facebook.





# **Coronavirus**Wash your hands more often



Coronavirus is a serious illness that can make you very ill.



The best way to not catch it is to wash your hands more often for 20 seconds.



Use soap and water or a hand sanitiser when you:

Get home or into work



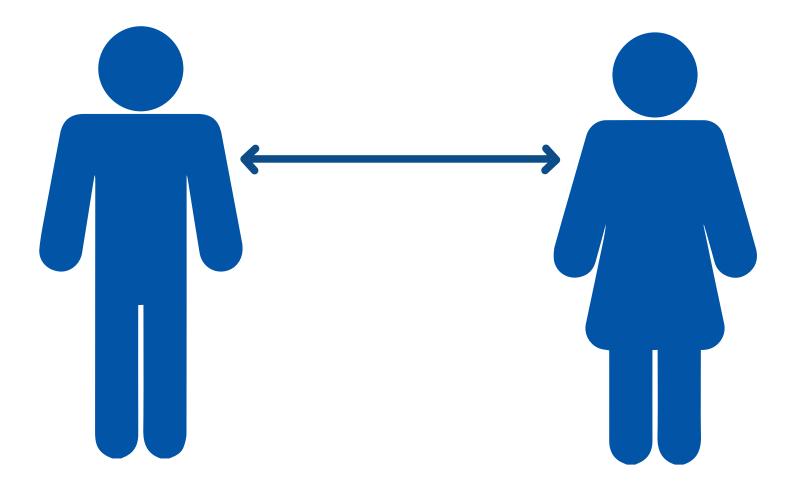
Blow your nose, sneeze or cough



Find out more at nhs.uk/coronavirus







# PLEASE KEEP YOUR SOCIAL DISTANCE

south-ayrshire.gov.uk



Please remember we are here to help you. If you'd like information on any of our services, please visit our website or call **0300 123 0900**.

You can also stay informed by following us on social media



facebook.com/SouthAyrshireCouncil



@southayrshire



youtube.com/user/southayrshire

