

## Friday 3 April 2020 – The latest news and updates from the Chalcots Estate

### An update about COVID-19 (coronavirus) – social distancing

- The Government has put ‘social distancing’ measures in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Social distancing limits social interaction between people, helping to reduce the chances of catching and spreading COVID-19.
- It is important that you follow these measures to help keep you and your neighbours safe and well:
  - **Only go outside for food shopping, medical appointments, exercise (once a day) and essential work**
  - **Stay 2 metres (6ft) away from other people**
  - **Wash your hands as soon as you get home.**

### Using the lifts

- If someone is already using the lift, wait for the next lift or take the stairs. Please remember you should only be going out for groceries, medical appointments, exercise (once a day) or essential work.

### Help keep staff safe too

- Please make sure you stand 2m away from everyone you don't live with, including Camden and Wates staff. Don't be offended if they step back from you, they are keeping 2m between you and them to help keep you both safe.

### Coronavirus help

- For more information about coronavirus including what it means for your council services, advice from Public Health England and to sign up for email updates, visit [camden.gov.uk/coronavirus](https://camden.gov.uk/coronavirus)
- If you live alone and are self-isolating or unwell and need help to go shopping, or are worried about someone else who might need help, call us on **020 7974 4444 (option 9)**.

### Coronavirus and the major works

- We are still negotiating the contract with Wates but because of COVID-19, we will not be carrying out any major works until further notice.
- We will continue to carry out regular checks of the sites to keep them safe and secure.

### Please do not use the playgrounds

- Following government guidance we have closed all playgrounds in Camden including at the Chalcots Estate. For your safety and the safety of others, please do not use the playgrounds or let your children use them.
- We know how important getting outside is for mental and physical wellbeing. You can leave your home once a day to exercise outdoors but you must make sure you keep 2m away from anyone you pass. You can also find ways to stay healthy at [oneyoucamden.org](https://oneyoucamden.org)

### Temporary changes to repairs

- We are continuing to carry out minor communal area works where it's possible and safe to do so, but we are now **only carrying out emergency repairs inside our council homes**.
- Emergency repairs include suspected gas or carbon monoxide leaks, a loss of gas, electricity or water and urgent repairs needed to make homes safe.
- See the full list at [camden.gov.uk/housing-repairs](https://camden.gov.uk/housing-repairs) or call **020 7974 4444** (option 3 then 1).

### Caretaking (Monday to Friday)

Camden frontline staff like your caretakers are working exceptionally hard in unprecedented circumstances. We currently have far fewer caretakers across the borough as they and their families are forced to self-isolate. The team continue to maintain essential services but we need to be realistic about the caretaking resources we have and safety, and protecting our most vulnerable residents must be our focus. Your caretakers are here to help you, and there are small things you can do to help them too:

- Make sure your recycling is clean and dry and tie rubbish bags up securely. Wash your hands before you put your bags out and always put them in the bins so caretakers don't have to touch them.
- Do your bit by not dropping litter and doing what you can to keep your area clean.
- If you or someone you live with is self-isolating, put personal waste (like used tissues) and disposable cleaning cloths in a separate rubbish bag, place inside another bag and keep for at least 72 hours before putting in the bins.
- Make sure you're recycling correctly. Check what can and can't be recycled at [camden.gov.uk/whatgoesinbins](https://camden.gov.uk/whatgoesinbins)
- Try to reduce the amount of rubbish, recycling and food waste you produce. Avoid doing big clear outs and don't put out bulky waste for now. This will really help us to keep a good service running for everyone.

## Smoking areas

We've been made aware that some residents have been smoking on the stairs and in communal areas and this is unacceptable. Please only smoke outside your building or inside your own home.

## Noise in the blocks

Because residents are self-isolating and staying at home where possible, levels of general household noise across the estate may have increased, so please consider this before reporting to your neighbourhood housing officer, on site security or noise patrol team.

## North Camden Zone: Chalcots community action is going live

- The community organisers of Chalcots community action are running a series of online events for Chalcots residents. They will be hosting events on the video platform Zoom. Simply sign up at [zoom.us/signup](https://zoom.us/signup) and follow the links below on the day and time of the event to join in.
- Join the Chalcots quiz night on **Friday 3 April** from **6.30pm** to **8pm** for a general knowledge quiz hosted by quiz masters Bridget and Nassima, with a special prize for the winner. Visit [bit.ly/chalcotsquiz](https://bit.ly/chalcotsquiz)
- Join the Chalcots parents meeting on **Wednesday 8 April** from **5pm** to **6pm** where parents can share their home-schooling experiences, what's worked well and what has been a challenge. Visit [bit.ly/chalcotsparents](https://bit.ly/chalcotsparents)
- Join the Easter bonnet crafting session on **Thursday 9 April** from **2pm** to **3pm** where you'll be making bonnets from household items. Visit [bit.ly/chalcotsbonnet](https://bit.ly/chalcotsbonnet)

## Temporary changes to the Chalcots newsletter

As we are not carrying out any major works activities for the time being, we will be reducing the frequency of the printed Chalcots newsletter. We will of course continue to communicate with you about the major works programme when we have updates to share and make sure you have up to date contact details, as well as updating the digital screens in each block and on the Chalcots webpage at [camden.gov.uk/chalcotsestate](https://camden.gov.uk/chalcotsestate)

If you would like to speak to us about the major works, contact the Chalcots project team on **020 7974 4444** (option 7) or at [chalcotsestate@camden.gov.uk](mailto:chalcotsestate@camden.gov.uk)

The Chalcots Works Group (CWG) invites resident elected TRA reps from each tower block, councillors and council officers. The CWG meet regularly to discuss works matters on the estate. This newsletter includes feedback from discussions held on **Wednesday 25 March**. The next meeting is expected to be held on **Wednesday 8 April** via conference call.

You can request a copy of this newsletter in large print, audio format or in another language by calling **020 7974 5717**. If you have questions about this newsletter please contact [chalcotsestate@camden.gov.uk](mailto:chalcotsestate@camden.gov.uk)