

# Do you need help from our volunteers?

We know that there will be people in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent who are extremely vulnerable to coronavirus (Covid-19). If you are included in this group, you should have received a letter from the NHS asking you to stay at home and avoid face-to-face contact for at least 12 weeks. This may mean that you will need extra support during this time.

This might be for things such as travelling to appointments or collecting prescriptions and medicines. Alternatively, you might need help with shopping, or even a friendly voice to talk to.



We know there are other people who will not have received a letter but are vulnerable too, for example people who are staying at home because they have symptoms of coronavirus, are over 70, have a pre-existing health condition or are pregnant and do not have a friend, relative or neighbour who can help.

## Here is a list of useful contacts, should you need our help:

### Residents living in Stoke-on-Trent

Stoke-on-Trent City Council and voluntary sector organisation, VAST, have launched the **#StokeonTrentTogether** scheme. This will help with things such as prescription collection, food parcels, gas or electricity meter top-up, conversations and dog walking.



**If you need help, please call 0800 561 5610 or complete this [online form](#).**

Please note, this service will operate seven days a week from 9am until 5pm.

### Residents living in Staffordshire

If you have received a letter from the NHS confirming that you are extremely vulnerable to coronavirus and you need support, please contact the **NHS Volunteer Responders helpline** on **0800 028 8327**.

If you do not fall into this group but are self-isolating and need our help, please call the **Staffordshire County Council emergency helpline** on **0300 111 8050**. We can arrange to supply you with emergency food and care.



There are lots of different organisations, including your local council, within communities that are supporting people all across Staffordshire. You can find out information about the support groups available via **Staffordshire Connects**. Many of these groups meet virtually and can offer support. In addition to this, you can take a look at our **Coronavirus Kindness campaign** to find out how you can get help, or how you can do your bit.



# NHS Volunteer Responders

You will have seen in the news that the government recently called for 250,000 volunteers from local communities to sign up to become NHS Volunteer Responders. The response to this has been staggering. If you are vulnerable and would like to access this service, you should:

- **Call the national emergency helpline on 0800 028 8327**
- **Or, complete this [online form](#).**

## Diseases and conditions considered to be very high risk

-  **1. People who have received a solid organ transplant**
-  **2. People with specific cancers:**
  - who are undergoing active chemotherapy or radical radiotherapy for lung cancer
  - who are at any stage of treatment for cancers of the blood or bone marrow such as leukaemia, lymphoma or myeloma
  - who are having immunotherapy or other continuing antibody treatments for cancer
  - who are having other targeted cancer treatments which can affect the immune system, such as protein kinase inhibitors or PARP inhibitors
  - who have had bone marrow or stem cell transplants in the last six months, or who are still taking immunosuppression drugs.
-  **3. People with severe respiratory conditions including all cystic fibrosis, severe asthma and severe COPD**
-  **4. People with rare diseases and inborn errors of metabolism that significantly increase the risk of infections (such as SCID, homozygous sickle cell)**
-  **5. People on immunosuppression therapies sufficient to significantly increase risk of infection**
-  **6. People who are pregnant with significant heart disease – congenital or acquired.**