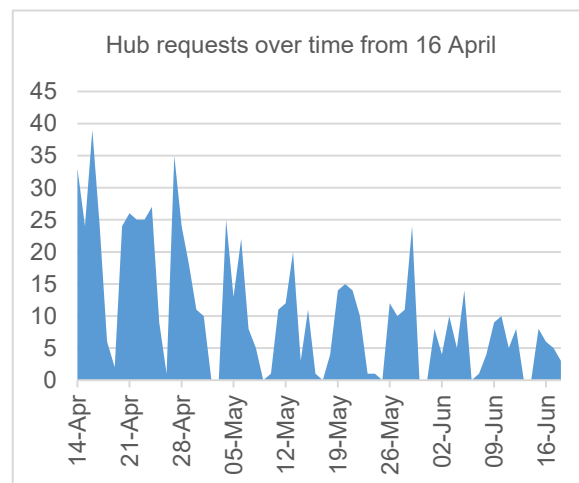




## Weekly News Bulletin for Community and Voluntary Groups, Town and Parish Councils, Partners and Hub Update Subscribers

### Facts and figures

- **2,816** shielded\* residents of West Berkshire are registered on the government's website this week, out of a total of **4,454** identified by the NHS
- **79%** of shielded residents registered have now indicated they do **NOT** require support
- Nevertheless, **2,650 residents** have been contacted by council officers to check they have everything they need and **15 police welfare visits** have been carried out where our calls or emails were not answered
- **68%** of all requests for assistance to the Hub this week were from shielded residents



*\*shielded people are those who have received a letter from the NHS telling them they must stay at home for 12 weeks because their health condition makes them extremely vulnerable to Covid-19. The shielded list is under constant review by GPs and hospital clinicians, and they are responsible for informing people that they have been removed from the list.*

### Government changes to the way shielded and vulnerable people are supported

The total number of NHS shielded in West Berkshire has increased again this week and continues to fluctuate, as individuals are added or removed by their GP or hospital clinician.

The number of shielded residents in West Berkshire who have registered on the Government's website as needing support has reduced to **595**. Of these, **476** were scheduled to receive Government food parcels this week. Everyone on the shielded list is now eligible for a priority supermarket delivery slot without having to sign up for a food parcel. We expect the number of people receiving Government food parcels to reduce further, leaving a smaller number of people who either cannot access the supermarkets' online food ordering systems or cannot afford to buy food for themselves. We now expect a Government announcement on the shielding policy to be made some time next week.



### Community United CIC



We are delighted to introduce the rebranded Community United CIC (previously known as 'Community Connections'). This Community Interest Company is dedicated to working with BAMER (Black Asian Minority Ethnic and Refugees) and other marginalised groups within our communities.

Why not check out their brand new [WEBSITE](#) to meet the new team and find out about their projects in the areas of mental and physical health, education, vocational training and cross-cultural mobility services!

## Training for volunteers

### Physical Activity: Supporting people to be active during the Coronavirus outbreak and beyond



#### Interactive Online Webinar Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June, 11am-12pm

Get Berkshire Active are offering a **free** 1-hour interactive webinar to help volunteers support their friends, family, colleagues and the people they connect with each day to stay active throughout this period and beyond – as well as themselves! In this session they'll discuss the importance and benefits of physical activity, national guidelines and practical tips, signposting resources, and having positive conversations about staying active. Participants will receive a resource pack following the session.

You'll need access to a laptop/computer with speakers and a microphone. You'll receive a link to join the webinar and joining instructions the day before the event. Please note, spaces are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. **To book a place please go to the website [HERE](#)**

### Food Parcel Suppliers

This week, Chris Boulton of the Greenham Trust and Lynne Doherty, Leader of the Council, met with the Hub team and suppliers of food and hot meals to the vulnerable and those in financial hardship. The meeting was well attended, and information was shared to help us all understand the need for this kind of support across West Berkshire, and how it links to social isolation and homelessness. We hope to make contact with other food supply operations in the district, including schools and other local operations, in the near future, so that we can understand the wider picture and ensure we are well placed to work together to meet what is likely to be a growing need. The group agreed to meet again next month to work up an action plan.

### Keeeeeep dancing!

A group of twelve key worker children who attend Speenhamland School in Newbury, heard about somebody who was raising money for charity by dancing for three hours. This inspired them to create their own challenge to help raise money for the NHS because, *"The NHS has helped us through this hard time and now it is our turn to help them."*

They'll be spending an entire school day on Wednesday 24th June completing their very own danceathon, dancing from 8:30am until 3:30pm.

[You can support their fundraising here.](#)



### Good news stories – please keep them coming in!

During the transition period to the new Hub arrangements, we have not had as much time as we would like to keep up with your good news stories. However, in the weeks to come, we will be featuring more of these on our social media and [Hub Facebook](#) page and you can find more stories, photos and videos about the wonderful work of West Berkshire's volunteers on our [Local Heroes](#) website.

With our grateful thanks and best wishes

*The Hub Team*

*Please ensure that all queries about individual cases are directed to the Hub via the general email [westberksbct@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:westberksbct@westberks.gov.uk) or by calling 01635 503579. This is to ensure they are dealt with promptly, effectively and in line with guidelines on dealing with vulnerable adults.*