

Council leader Kim Forward weekly vlog 31.07.20

Hi, it's Kim here, with this week's update. I hope you are safe and well.

We're lucky to live in our beautiful coastal town with its miles of beaches. This week it's National Marine Week and it is a reminder to us that we need to look after our seaside and stay safe by the water.

Many of us will take to the beaches during August and we can all help to look after the environment by taking our litter with us when we leave. Our rubbish can have a really damaging effect on marine wildlife with many creatures killed by litter left on beaches that ends up in the sea.

The RNLI lifeguards at St Leonards once again rescued some swimmers who were in danger this week and our thanks go to them and the whole team for keeping us safe. The beaches at Pelham and Marina are the ones with lifeguards and they are the safest places to swim. They have both received the Seaside Award and Marina has retained its Blue Flag status.

We really appreciate businesses across Hastings and St Leonards working so hard to make sure their premises are COVID secure as per the government guidelines. This helps to keep their customers and employees safe.

Our businesses help make this town what it is, and they need us now more than ever. We can all play our part in helping them thrive again so let's shop and eat locally wherever we can.

The government's Eat Out to Help Out scheme starts on August 3rd, and many Hastings businesses have signed up. This scheme offers 50% off meals at certain restaurants on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and the government's website has more information and shows who is taking part.

Just a reminder about the community hub-it is still here if you need it: call 01424 451019 if you need urgent help and please go to our website to find out more

We are getting used to seeing people wearing face coverings but there are some groups of people who are exempt from wearing them so we must remember that before we think of challenging others. If you use disposable face coverings, please put them in a bin or take them home when you are done with them.

As we head into another week living with the impact and threat of the virus social distancing, washing our hands regularly, and wearing a face covering when necessary continue to be our way of looking out for and looking after each other. Please stay safe and see you next week.