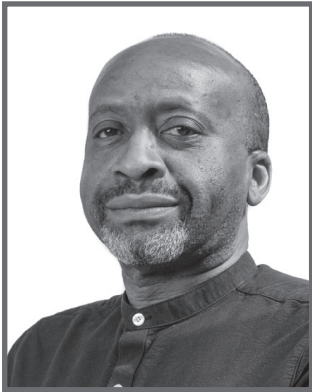


## A letter from Cllr Joseph Ejiofor, Leader of Haringey Council



Dear resident,

I am writing to you today to ask for your support to protect our fantastic community in Haringey – people like you, your neighbours and your families.

I know there is a lot of concern and uncertainty surrounding the outbreak of the coronavirus

(COVID-19) and many of you will have questions around how that affects you, and the services that your council provides.

You will have seen the recent address from the Prime Minister Boris Johnson, announcing that we must all stay at home to reduce the spread of coronavirus.

As you read this letter, I know that most of you have already been practicing social distancing and are staying at home and keeping each other safe as the outbreak continues.

If you do go out, I urge you all to practice safe social distancing of at least two-metres. We are only allowed to leave our homes for the following purposes:

- shopping for necessities, as infrequently as possible
- one form of exercise a day - for example a run, walk, or cycle - alone or with members of your household;
- any medical need, to provide care or to help a vulnerable person; and
- travelling to and from work, but only where this is absolutely necessary and cannot be done from home.

The strength of our community never fails to amaze me, and now, during this time of uncertainty, I want to remind you that Haringey's greatest strength is, and will continue to be, its people.

I applaud the tremendous efforts of our community in reinforcing these measures. I know it isn't easy, but every effort we all make to stay inside our homes and practice social distancing will save lives and protect people.

In particular, the efforts we all make to stay indoors and flatten the curve will help us to protect our most vulnerable people, including our elderly residents, and support our hardworking NHS. Please, keep this up, and remind your neighbours and family members to do this too.

I'm so proud of the amazing solidarity of our people. As I write, I know that more than 130 people in our community have volunteered to help their fellow residents in some way through our Connected Communities programme, ensuring people can access support, advice and assistance.

There's information in this letter on how you can volunteer your support or get help, if you need it, through Connected Communities. If you need support, the number is 020 8489 4431. This line is open Monday to Friday 8.30am to 6.30pm.

Many of you already know our schools in Haringey have closed, except for vulnerable pupils or children of key workers. As many of our children are now being home-schooled, I want to send out my thanks and appreciation to efforts of our schools and parents during this necessary adjustment, I hope the transition is as smooth as possible. As a parent myself, I also want to wish you luck!

I want to reassure you that we are working extremely hard to provide essential services to our residents – although you may notice that some services become limited as we prioritise the safety and wellbeing of our community.

I know this is a worrying time for us all, but I urge you all to remain as calm and as positive as possible. Our community is already working so well to support each other, please continue to show each other kindness throughout each day.

The council is here to support you all as much as possible and we will be regularly updating the website with the latest information, so please do check in when you can.

Please take care and stay safe.

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long vertical stroke.

**Cllr Joseph Ejiofor**  
**Leader of Haringey Council**

# Further information

## Advice on staying safe

For more information on staying at home and staying safe please read Public Health England's latest guidelines on their website: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england)

If you think you or someone you know may be showing symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), visit the NHS website for advice and guidance: [www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19)

## Update on services

You can find the latest information, support and updates from the council at [www.haringey.gov.uk](http://www.haringey.gov.uk)

At the very top of the page, you'll see a link to our latest news and updates and to the Haringey Together hub, full of information and guidance.

## Changes to Council services

Whilst we are making sure that we continue to provide essential services to the public, Haringey is prioritising our efforts to support the health and wellbeing of our community in light of the impact of coronavirus (COVID-19). Please visit the webpage for the latest information on changes to specific services: [www.haringey.gov.uk/covid-19/council-services](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/covid-19/council-services)

## School closures

All schools and nurseries across England were closed from Friday 20 March until further notice. Some schools are open for vulnerable children and the children of key workers. Measures are also being taken to provide for children who are in receipt of free school meals. Visit the webpage for more information:

[www.haringey.gov.uk/covid-19/schools](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/covid-19/schools)

## Connected Communities

If you need support – or want to volunteer – please visit our Connected Communities page at: [www.haringey.gov.uk/covid-19/i-want-help](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/covid-19/i-want-help)

The scheme is offering help and advice to anyone who may need support, whether you're worried about childcare, benefits, housing, or just feeling isolated.

Visit the free 'Haringey Connected' mobile app, which is available for free in app stores, or call Connected Communities at 020 8489 4431. This line is open Monday to Friday 8.30am to 6.30pm.

## Concerns about paying bills

If you are worried about money that you owe the council, essential items or the support you need, please do visit our Connected Communities webpage for more information:

[www.haringey.gov.uk/community/connected-communities](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/community/connected-communities)

## Support for businesses

We have published the latest information about the government's financial support measures available to businesses on the Haringey Together Hub, which you can access from the homepage at:

[www.haringey.gov.uk/covid-19/business](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/covid-19/business)