

Coronavirus: Response to cases at Shrewsbury factory

Shropshire Council has been working closely with Public Health England (PHE) Midlands and Rea Valley Speciality Foods to manage COVID-19 cases at the company's factory in Shrewsbury

Rachel Robinson, Shropshire's Director of Public Health, said: "We have been made aware of 9 positive cases of COVID-19 at Rea Valley Speciality Foods. We are working closely with the business and Public Health England to help limit any further potential spread. All positive cases are self-isolating for at least 10 days, with contacts isolating for 14 days, as per national guidance.

"We are now at a critical point in our battle against COVID-19. We are on the brink of having further restrictions being placed upon us here in Shropshire. That's why we are urging everyone to follow the measures designed to keep everyone safe – particularly around observing the rule of six, limiting your social contacts, observing social distancing, frequent hand washing; and wearing face coverings in enclosed public areas, including public transport."

A spokesperson for Rea Valley Speciality Foods said:

"Following an increase in the number of COVID-19 cases in the Minsterley area we can confirm that several colleagues have tested positive for the virus and are now self-isolating. Those affected have taken part in contact tracing and appropriate action has been taken based on the results.

"We are liaising closely with PHE West Midlands and Shropshire Council who are fully supportive of the controls we have on site and we thank them for their assistance.

"As always, the health and well-being of our colleagues is our top priority. Rea Valley has wide range of measures in place including social distancing and stringent hygiene procedures. We continue to emphasise to colleagues the importance of following Guidelines both in the workplace and in the wider community."

Further information

Step Up and help us stop the spread of coronavirus:

- Work from home if you can
- Limit contact with other people
- Keep your distance from people not in your household bubble (2 metres apart where possible)
- Stick to a maximum group of 6 people when meeting socially – indoors or outdoors
- Wash your hands regularly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Do not leave home if you or anyone in your household has symptoms

- Wear a face covering in any enclosed public places and public transport, along with any indoor settings where social distancing may be difficult and where you will meet people you do not normally meet.
- Anyone who has any symptoms should book a test and not leave home until they have either a negative result, or they have isolated for at least 10 days, or until 48 hours clear from fever – whichever is the longest.
- People living in households with a positive case should self-isolate for 14 days.
- Any contacts of a positive case must self-isolate for 14 days – even if they are asked to get a test and the result is negative, they must complete the 14 days of isolation
- You can book a test by calling 119 or click [here](#)

Download 'Step Up Shropshire' posters [here](#).

For local advice and support during the pandemic (especially if you are self-isolating), call Shropshire Council's COVID-19 Helpline on **0345 678 9028** (lines open on the weekend on Saturday from 9am-4pm and Sunday 9am-12pm) or visit our website at www.shropshire.gov.uk/coronavirus.