

Herts COVID Information Champions

This pack tells you:

- What a COVID Information Champion is
- How the network works
- How to sign up
- What information you will receive



Why Herts COVID Information Champions?

- The Herts COVID Information Champions network empowers residents to be up to date on the latest advice about COVID, discuss it and share it with friends and family
- Community Help Hertfordshire will share the latest advice and guidance with you so that you can help your family, friends and community make sense of the facts
- By sharing clear information, you, your friends, family and community can make informed choices
- We will encourage you to share with us what you hear and to discuss any questions you might have

How does it work?

Community Help Hertfordshire receive the latest information from Herts County Council – for example information and advice about shielding, updates on vaccinations, where to get help and the latest guidance.

This information is shared with the Champions who can then share it in whatever way they choose within their own networks. With your feedback, we will make the information as accessible as possible.

Why do we need COVID Information Champions?

- Because there is a lot unreliable information distributed, especially on social media and it can be hard to know what is accurate
- Evidence shows that when information is shared by a trusted figure, individuals are more likely to have confidence in it

How Does It Work?

1. Get live updates on COVID-19

Receive the latest information and government guidelines on how to stay safe and healthy.

1.



2.



2. Spread the word

Share this information with your family, friends, work colleagues and the wider community.

3.



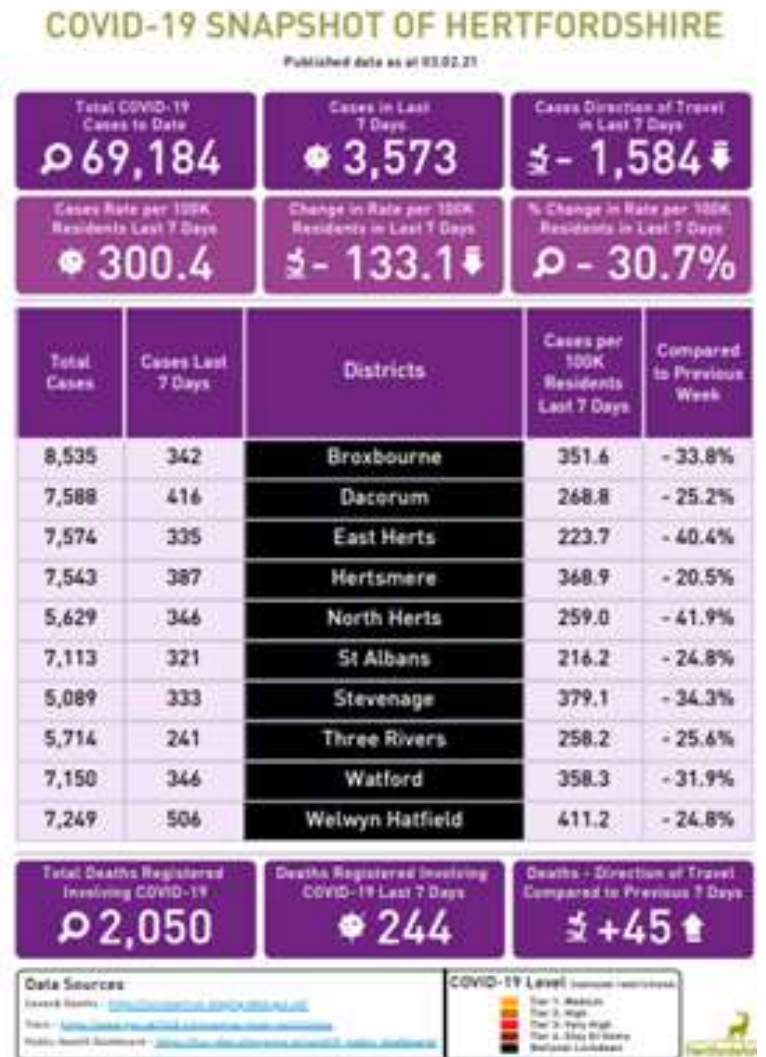
3. Feedback to us

Tell us about what is happening in your community.



What you will receive

- Information sent to you each week by email or WhatsApp
- Access to the Champions network of information and materials in different languages
- Access to the COVID Info Champions Facebook page and website



Meet some of our champions



"I was given the 1st dose of Pfizer Vaccine last month. I'm confident in the safety and efficacy of the Vaccine and that it will benefit me, older people and high risk minority communities."

Rafeena Sufee - HAWA Executive member

"I decided to become a COVID information champion because I have seen a lot of inaccurate information on social media about Covid19 and in particular the vaccine. This really worried me especially in terms of the impact it's having on the BAME community and young people. The community has responded really positively to my sharing information. I think it makes a massive difference to hear and see this information distributed from someone you know and trust."

Tina Bhartwas



"I am pleased to be a COVID community information champion and I became involved through my recent community support work.

I took over as Chair of Park Street Residents Association last January and when COVID began we established a food bank to support local families and older residents, We now help well over 60 people each week."

Joy Mendelsohn -

Park Street Residents Association Chair



"As a member of the BAME community myself, I have lost many family members and want to prevent others from experiencing this too. I am eager to promote the essential measures we must take to protect everyone from COVID-19."

Mujib Chowdhury

Examples Of How Champions Can Help

"I've printed it out and put it in my window"

"I've sent it to everyone on my school WhatsApp list"

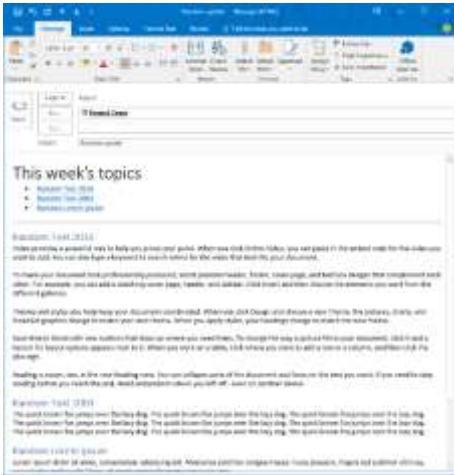
"I've set up a mailing list of about 50 people and asked everyone to pass the info on"

"I call my friends and talk to them about it"



Examples Of How Champions Can Help

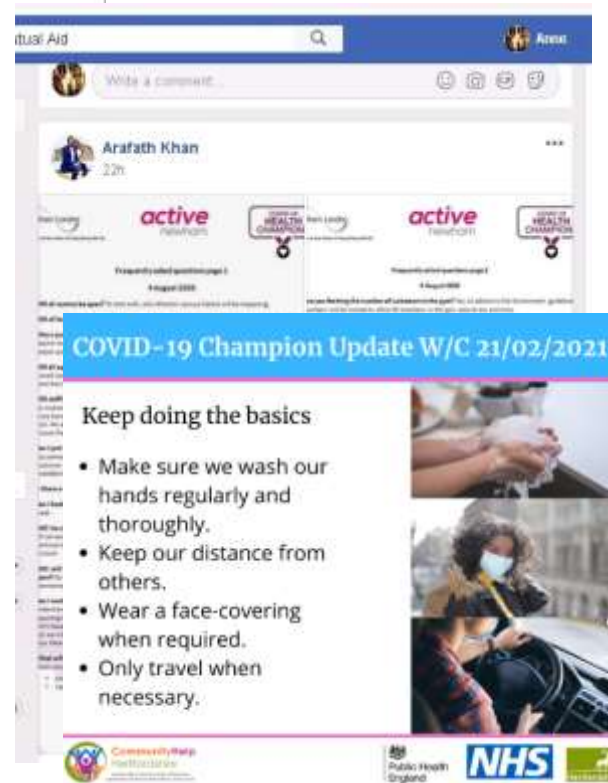
Email to friends, family and community members



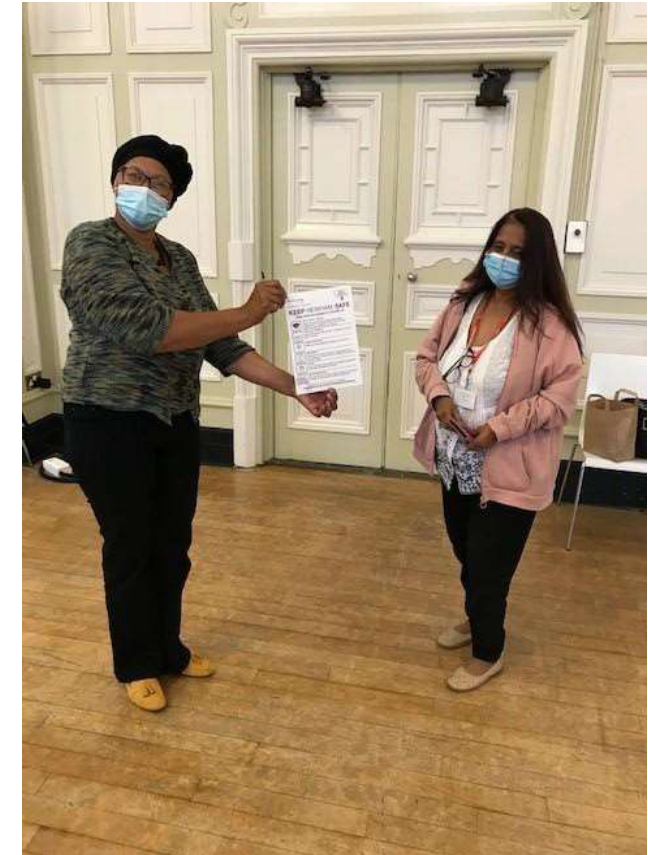
Share on Whatsapp



Post on social media



Share with family and friends



Code of conduct

1. Tell it straight - We need the simple messages that we provide to be reported without interpretation or “spin”
2. Resist the temptation to engage in argument about the information we give you – If the information you are given is questioned or challenged – please tell us
3. Tell us what is happening in your communities - We need to know what is happening in your communities so that we can adapt
4. Lead by example - Hands, Face, Space – Follow the government rules and get the vaccine when it is offered to you and encourage your contacts to do the same

Who To Contact

Organisation Name	Local Authority Areas Covered	Web Address/Email For Sign Up	Phone Number
Community Action Dacorum	Dacorum	www.communityactiondacorum.org.uk www.support4dacorum.org.uk	01442 253935
North Herts CVS	North Herts/Stevenage	samfranklin@nhcvs.org.uk	
CDA Herts (Rural Support Networks)	Rural areas across Herts	www.cdaherts.org.uk/covid-information-champions	
Welwyn Hatfield CVS	Welwyn/Hatfield	www.whcvs.org.uk	01707 274861
Communities 1 st	St. Albans/Hertsmere	www.communities1st.org.uk/covid-information-champions christine.halpin@communities1st.org.uk	020 8940 4869
Watford and Three Rivers Trust (W3RT)	Watford/Three Rivers	cvs@w3rt.org	
Volunteer Centre Broxbourne and East Herts	Broxbourne/East Herts	juli@vcbroxbourne.org.uk	
CV for Broxbourne and East Herts	Broxbourne/East Herts	communications@cvsbeh.org.uk www.cvsbeh.org.uk/covid-information-update	0300 123 1034