



## Update 16.03.2020 Closure of Public Buildings

**COVID-19:** Newry, Mourne and Down District Council has taken a decision to close all its public buildings, except where statutory services are to be delivered. Newry Town Hall, Downshire Civic Centre and Monaghan Row will be open to the public for submission of planning and building control applications, the registration of births, deaths and marriages, and the Household Recycling Centres will also remain open.

Access for the public to these buildings and sites will be managed in line with Public Health Agency (PHA) guidance. Statutory Council scheduled meetings will continue but will be under review with social distancing applied. Our waste collection services will continue.

This decision was taken at an Emergency Council meeting on **Monday 16 March** and will be revisited on **March 30, 2020**.

As our leisure and sports facilities will be closed, all 'paid in full' members will have their membership term extended to reflect the closure. All direct debit memberships will be suspended until further notice with collections scheduled for the 1 and 15 April stopped. Direct debits will not recommence until facilities reopen and members have received the appropriate extensions to their membership. All centre programmes and courses such as swimming lessons will resume when facilities reopen.

We ask anyone visiting our public buildings to be aware of the latest Public Health Agency advice. The current guidance is that if you have a high temperature and/or new continuous cough, everyone in your household must stay at home for **14 days**.

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