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Dear Licensee

SWALE – MEDIUM RISK – TIER 1

STOPPING THE SPREAD – CHECKING COMPLIANCE

Following the government announcement of the three levels of restriction across England I want to thank you for the actions you are taking to apply the Covid-19 control measures in the government guidance for your sector.

This is helping to keep us in the Medium risk level and reduce the spread of Covid-19 in Swale.

Most businesses are working hard in these difficult times to comply with their legal duties and this is helping keep people safe and giving them the confidence to support local businesses without putting themselves, or their loved ones, at risk from the virus.

Unfortunately, we have had reports that not all businesses are following the rules.

This is not only illegal, but it puts all the hard work being done by businesses who are complying with the rules at risk.

If cases continue to rise, there is the real threat of further restrictions being imposed, which will be more harmful to the local economy.

To prevent this happening, we will be extending the spot checks officers are currently carrying out to make sure all businesses are complying with the rules set by the government.

When officers visit premises they will expect them to have everything in place. They will be able to offer advice and guidance on Covid Safe measures if businesses haven't understood what they must do.

We will, however, take appropriate legal action if necessary against those who are putting people at risk. This can include fines of up to £10,000.

The checks will also be a chance for you to let us know what you may be finding difficult so we can try to help or raise the issue at a higher level.

As I'm sure you're aware, the latest advice and guidance for businesses is available at www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19, and I urge you to try to regularly check the site for updates, as guidance and regulations can change.

Finally, I would like to once again thank you for all your hard work at this difficult time.

Yours sincerely,

Emma Wiggins
Director of Regeneration