Groundswell
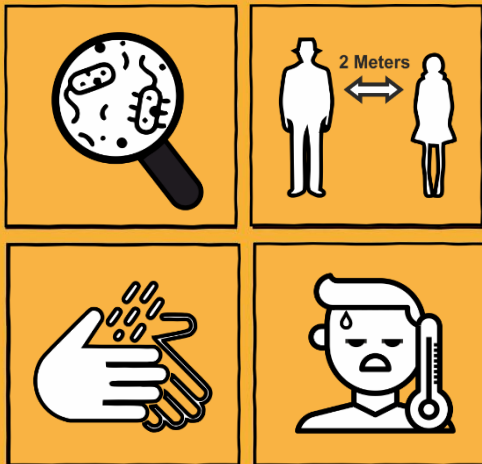## Out of homelessness

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

Single room projects

(in partnership with Housing Justice)

What is coronavirus?

Coronavirus or COVID-19 is an illness that can **affect your lungs and airways**.

Symptoms include:

- **a high temperature – you feel hot to touch on your chest or back**
- **a new, continuous cough – this means you've started coughing repeatedly**
- **loss or change to your sense of smell or taste**

You will be asked regularly if you have any of these symptoms and staff will ask to check your temperature frequently. If you have any health conditions which could make you more vulnerable to COVID-19, please tell the Coordinator so they can make sure being in the shelter is the safest option for you.

Housing Justice

What should I do if I think I have COVID-19 symptoms?

If you have COVID-19 symptoms (see first page) it is a **legal requirement to self-isolate**. Let staff in your project know if you are feeling unwell and try to avoid engaging with other people. Staff will arrange appropriate medical support and help you to self-isolate.

Housing Justice

This box is to be personalised by the specific project

- Project coordinator details:

- Address:

- Phone number:

This guidance has been created by Groundswell and Housing Justice.

@ItsGroundswell / www.groundswell.org.uk

@Housing_Justice / www.housingjustice.org.uk

Moving in

- Projects will be operating differently this year due to COVID-19 and limiting the spread of the virus.
- You should have **had a health assessment and shared your contact details before entering the project**. If this has not happened, please let the project coordinator know.

What happens to my personal information?

- Before you enter the project, you would have shared your contact details. **We may have to share this information with the Local Authority and the NHS for contact tracing purposes and to support the COVID-19 response.**
- Details may only be shared under circumstances of legal or safeguarding activities.

What about the restrictions on mixing households?

- Within the project, **you will be grouped into households** to limit the spread of the virus. Please check with the project coordinator who is included in your household.
- Due to the high risk of transmission and vulnerability of others, **please do not gather in groups in the project** and contact should be minimised as much as possible
- Do not have visitors in your room unless they are in your household.

In deciding what constitutes a household, the key factor is whether residents share living spaces, in particular: bathrooms, toilets, kitchens and sleeping space. Residents who share any of these should be considered as a 'household' and should be considered as a close contact if an individual who shares a household displays COVID-19 symptoms and/or tests positive for COVID-19

Mealtimes

- There will be specific guidance about mealtimes in the project.

How can I protect myself and others from COVID-19 whilst staying?

You should follow these steps:

- **Wash your hands with soap and water** often for at least 20 seconds (or the time it takes to sing Happy Birthday twice).
  If there is no soap, talk to a member of staff immediately.
- Always wash your hands when you go in or out of the project.
- **Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve** (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze.
- Put **used tissues in the bin** immediately and wash your hands
- Do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth unless your hands are clean
- Don't share cigarettes, pipes or drink from the same bottles and cans
- **Face masks must be worn in communal areas.**
- Please make sure you are **following the social distancing rule** throughout the building. Especially at entrances in communal and shared areas such as toilets, dining areas and smoking areas.
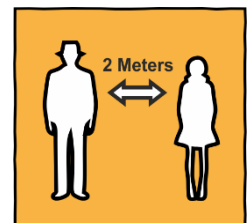
Other information

- You may be limited to using the same bathroom and kitchen within the project to reduce the spread of the virus.
- The project will let you know about the arrangements for washing facilities.
- We would appreciate if you could clean after yourself and wipe things down when you can.
- You may be asked to enter and leave project at certain times to reduce social contact.