



<b>Date:</b>	30 October 2020
<b>Ref no:</b>	MBriefing-2020-039 – COVID Marshals

# Member Briefing

<b>Title:</b>	COVID-19 marshals deployed in East Northants to support pandemic response
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**Summary:**  
COVID-19 marshals will be deployed in East Northamptonshire from 31 October to support the local effort to curb the spread of the virus.

**Further information:**

The marshals are employed and funded by Northamptonshire County Council and have been deployed in many of the towns across the county to work alongside the local authorities.

The role of COVID-19 marshals is not to enforce COVID-19 regulations, nor do they have any enforcement powers; this remains the remit of the police and designated local authority compliance and enforcement officers.

COVID-19 marshals in East Northamptonshire are to:-

- work with local businesses on queue management in the public realm, for example, advising on one-way systems and social distancing in queues
- facilitate to help prevent mixing between groups in night-time economy areas
- encourage social distancing in busy night-life areas
- remind members of the public to wear a face covering where required in relation to business premises
- support councils' compliance and enforcement function through visiting businesses to check compliance with COVID-19 secure measures through observation, escalating to local authority compliance and enforcement officers as appropriate

We will be using our intelligence to focus on specific areas such as wards with high incidence of COVID-19 cases or shops/businesses/areas where we have received complaints.

This activity will support the work of our environmental health officers and increase public confidence in visiting high streets and using urban centres. The marshals will report back all of their findings to enable more targeted interventions for areas where issues were identified.

COVID-19 marshals will not:

- enforce social distancing regulations
- issue fixed penalty notices to those breaking COVID-19 regulations

- engage physically with members of the public or attempt to restrain anybody
- take decisions about allowing entry to a venue/ premises/ site

The marshals will be easily identifiable in their blue hi viz jackets that state they are Covid Marshals and are branded with the NCC logo. They also have Covid marshal badges provided by NCC.

<b>Originator:</b>	Mike Deacon, Head of Environmental Services
<b>Contact details:</b>	<a href="mailto:mdeacon@east-northamptonshire.gov.uk">mdeacon@east-northamptonshire.gov.uk</a>
<b>Approved by CMT</b>	Yes
<b>Approved by the Leader</b>	Yes