

1st October 2020: COVID-19 ALERT FOR CUMBRIA

The following alert has appeared on the Cumbria County Council website:

“Following a doubling of the new COVID-19 cases within Cumbria over the last week, new public health advice for the county has now been introduced.

By law in England people must not meet indoors or outdoors in groups of more than six people. In addition, from 1 October 2020 people living in Cumbria are being strongly advised that groups of six should include people from no more than TWO households. The new advice was agreed by local political leaders through the county's Area Outbreak Board, following recommendations from the multi-agency Health Protection Board. It will be reviewed on a weekly basis by the Health Protection Board.

The new advice is not law and the exemptions that apply to the national 'Rule of Six' still apply.”

The following statements have been reported by ITV news:

We know that limiting contact between households can reduce transmission. The ‘two-households’ advice we’re issuing today doesn’t have the force of law behind it, but we’re calling on everyone living in Cumbria to take it seriously and act accordingly. This is about local people taking responsible, proportionate, action to protect themselves, their families and their communities from this disease.

Colin Cox, Cumbria County Council

Without action we can expect the number of cases, disruption to schools and businesses, hospitalisations and ultimately deaths to continue to rise. Following the ‘two-households’ advice, alongside hand washing, face coverings and social distancing, can make a difference, but we need everyone to take heed and act.

Colin Cox, Cumbria County Council.