**Covid-19 Update – Laois County Council**
In response to the Taoiseach’s announcement on Friday night,

Laois County Council would like to announce the following measures:
With immediate effect from Monday 30th March 2020, all County Council offices including Municipal District Offices are closed to members of the public until further notice, with the exception of some very limited public access, strictly by appointment for certain services.

* Laois Council Council’s switchboard at (057) 8664000 continues to operate as normal from 9 am to 5.00 pm Monday to Friday (except Public Holidays) for routine enquiries.
* Laois County Council will continue to operate a housing service dealing primarily with housing matters that are either emergency or urgent in nature until Tuesday April 14th. The Housing public counter service is closed but queries and requests can be submitted by email to housinglcc@laoiscoco.ie or by phone during normal office hours at 057 8664000.

Documents can also be sent by post to Laois County Council County Hall Portlaoise  or through email to aforementioned address. If you are submitting your contact by email please include your address and contact telephone number. All queries/requests will be logged and processed but priority will be given to emergency and urgent issues.

* Laois County Council is making every effort is being made to make certain that the planning system continues to operate effectively as possible,. In this regard the following is highlighted:
* The planning counter is closed, however, applicants can submit applications by post and make contact by email at planning@laoiscoco.ie.
* Planning applications will be validated following receipt, which will include uploading onto the publically accessible planning area on [www.laois.ie](http://www.laois.ie).
* Decisions on files lodged up to and including the 21/02/2020 will be issued where possible.
* Decisions on files received after the 21/02/2020, cannot be issued, having regard to the extended timelines provided for under S251A, to ensure that public participation in the planning process is maintained. Where further information responses are received, the Planning Authority may issue a Decision where possible, unless the response is deemed “significant”, as same cannot be processed having regard to the provisions of S251A.
* The Planning Authority will continue to facilitate pre-planning requests and deal with other necessary communications via email and phone.”
* Only critical  services will continue to be maintained as a priority (e.g. water supply and waste water services) as well as emergency response services
* Laois Fire Service will continue to operate as normal.

Council staff will ensure a continuity of essential and critical service across our key operations and the Council’s Management Team will continue to meet on an ongoing basis.
General information on Council services can be accessed on line and the Council is asking members of the public to avail of these services by post or by email.

**Library Services**:- **Portlaoise library ( 057)8622333 and (057) 8594982 (Dial full Number)**
**Or Email :**library@laoiscoco.ie **for more information.**

Corporate Affairs: corpaffairs@laoiscoco.ie

Human Resources: humanresources@laoiscoco.ie

Environment Department: environmentadmin@laoiscoco.ie

Fire Services : fireofficer@laoiscoco.ie
Roads Department: roadsadmin@laoiscoco.ie
Water Services Department: email wateradmin@laoiscoco.ie
Community Section: email dce@laoiscoco.ie

**Finance:**

Accounts Payable: accountspayable@laoiscoco.ie

Cash Office: cashoffice@laoiscoco.ie

Development Contributions: devconpay@laoiscoco.ie

Fire Charges: firecharges@laoiscoco.ie

Housing Loan Payments: housingloans@laoiscoco.ie

Motor Taxation: motortax@laoiscoco.ie

NPPR: nppr@laoiscoco.ie

Rates: rates@laoiscoco.ie

Rents: rentsonline@laoiscoco.ie

Local Enterprise Office, Business Support and Economic Development

localenterprise@laoiscoco.ie

businesssupport@laoiscoco.ie

**Tourism:** tourism@laoiscoco.ie

**Property Management:** pir-team@laoiscoco.ie

In the case of an emergency please dial 999 or 112.

Laois County Council’s response will continue to be informed by advice from the HSE and Public Health Authorities.

Please follow our website on Facebook on [https://www.facebook.com/Laois County Council/](https://www.facebook.com/Laois%20County%20Council/) or twitter on @LaoisCouncil for further updates