

29th May 2020



Chief Executive

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Good afternoon

The week commencing 1st June is Volunteers' Week and we want to use this opportunity to write to volunteers across the district to thank them for all they do to help their communities.

Although the current situation has made this clearer than ever, our district has always had one of the strongest volunteer communities in the country and we are proud to see that so many local people are motivated to offer their spare time to help others.

In the past few weeks, around 90 community groups, comprising over 3000 volunteers, have been helping vulnerable people in their towns and villages by delivering food, medicine and other support. This is an impressive number and we have been touched to see just how many residents and businesses have responded, unprompted, to the emergency facing us all. Without their help, we wouldn't be able to make sure that those in need and unable to leave their homes would have access to these supplies.

As a council, we work closely with volunteers all year round. Whether they are carers, day centre staff, library volunteers, school governors, first responders or coordinators of local groups such as Volunteer Centre West Berkshire, we know just how important their support is to those who rely on them. We cannot emphasise enough how grateful we are for the vital role they play in our community and how much we value their commitment.

Although much about the future is uncertain, we are confident that local people will continue to offer help to those in need. This will be key to our local recovery and we look forward to working with our volunteers to bring our community through this difficult time.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Lynne Doherty
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