

***Working together to make a real difference***

KR/002

25 March 2020

**KALISGARTH CARE CENTRE VISITING INFORMATION AS AT 25 MARCH 2020**

Orkney Islands Council have provided guidance on visiting Care Homes, Supported Accommodation and Homecare, which are available on the OIC website under the Coronovirus Section <https://www.orkney.gov.uk/Council/C/coronavirus.htm>. All visits to Care Homes are currently suspended (24/3/20).

However, Kalisgarth is a **Supported Accommodation Service** and OHAC advice for this type of accommodation is: ‘**OHAC is strongly advising relatives and friends not to visit tenants in supported accommodation because of the coronavirus risk and to keep in touch by other means’**

If we also look at the advice we are all currently being given by the Governmentunder the **‘Lock Down Arrangements’** we should only be leaving home for ***shopping for basic necessities as infrequently as possible; one form of exercise a day outside; any medical need or travel to/from work (if you are a keyworker).*** Advice may change, please keep checking for updates to local or government advice. It therefore follows that everyone who lives in the UK should not be going to visit family and friends at this time, and I am applying this rule to the Kalisgarth tenants for their/family/friends own safety and the safety of staff, and their families.

If, however, a tenant becomes ill, for any reason, we will at this stage contact families and they will be offered the chance to make their own decision regards visiting.

We encourage folk to keep in touch with us by phone, e-mail, letters, and are willing to explore contact by social media/skype (or alternatives). To use the phone/skype route, please contact Kalisgarth Office Mon-Fri, 9-1230 to arrange a slot. If you send a message via text, phone or letter/e-mail, we will ensure it is passed on to clients, and read out to them if they need this assistance. Keeping in touch emails can be sent to:-

kalisgarthcarestaff@orkney.gov.uk or kalisgarth@gmail.com – please phone to advise if you have sent an urgent email/attachment.

The Kalisgarth Team thank you all for your understanding at this difficult time.

Karen Rendall, Manager