

**Response to Covid / Pandemic**

Working with local Council in supporting those sleeping rough or in temporary accommodation

* Co-ordinating collection and distribution of food
* Weekly food parcels
* Provision of essential equipment – i.e. kettles, microwaves, etc
* Provision of clothing

Working with local Council in supporting those who are isolated

* Befriending
* Shopping
* Walking dogs
* Picking up prescriptions
* Making telephone calls to those who are at risk
* Putting out the bins, etc

Co-ordination of community conversation with statutory bodies and voluntary agencies

* Bring together 50 agencies to bring together a strategic plan post-lockdown, focused on supporting the mental health needs of young people in our community, as well as their families

Establishment of Community Support Groups and Local Care Groups

Children and YP

* Weekly on-line sessions for toddlers
* Daily and weekly activities and sessions for primary aged children
* Weekly teen groups via Zoom

Support for those isolated or alone (social distant contact – visits; phone calls)

Community activities

* Regular quiz nights
* Sunflower Growing Project (deliver seeds and instructions – create community)
* Arrange ‘at home’ camp for Brigades who should have been camping

NHS and Caring homes support

* Sewing of personal protection items (i.e. face masks, scrubs, scrub wash bags, etc)
* Vaccination Centres

Pastoral and practical support

* Help with those struggling with technology
* Shopping
* Regular contact via phone calls or WhatsApp groups
* Delivery of cards and messages of support
* Regular sharing of musical items (live outside, on-line, closed groups, etc)
* Support for those with special needs
* Support through social media for those struggling with mental health
* New Beginnings – relief project for new vulnerable mums
* Listening project – for those that want to talk
* Provision of hot cooked meals to the isolated and vulnerable
* Particular focus on the fearful, those with ill health and the vulnerable
* Support of some other local charities

Support of local Foodbanks

* Collection of food and money
* Help with distribution

Provision of support for those who have lost loved ones

* Contact and listening ear
* Funeral service (include live links)
* Regular services to help people say ‘goodbye’ and to mourn
* Good Grief Café
* ‘A time to say goodbye’ gathering

Services and sermons and Bible studies

* Weekly live or pre-recorded services on social media platforms
* Zoom gatherings
* Deliver to those without access to internet recorded messages
* Thought for the Day

Prayer times

* Daily and weekly sessions

The Baptist churches have worked well across the denominations too to provide a co-ordinated Christian response.