



New Covid-19 Initiatives

This is your chance to tell us about any new, innovative initiatives that you and members of your Group are doing to help local residents with the effects of the current pandemic and lockdown.

Speaking to Swindon

Cllr Tim Swinyard, who represents Lydiard and Freshbrook Ward on Swindon Council, has focused part of his work on increasing communication channels with residents to ensure no one is left in the dark about developments during the pandemic, and are able to access the right support.

At the start of the pandemic, I set up a group called Swindon Support to deliver shopping and other services for residents who cannot leave the house.

Alongside the shopping and errand running, the group is also there to support those who might be lonely or having problems with their mental

health during lockdown.

As part of the group, I have mental health professionals who can lend assistance and help those residents who need it.

The group has grown enormously, and now has nearly 4,000 members, including those needing support and those wanting to help in anyway

that they can.

The group has both a Facebook page and a website: swindonsupport.uk. We also have a phone number where people can get in touch, and let us know what we can do to help.

Due to the growth of the telephone line's popularity, I have had to bring

on additional volunteers to help run this.

We are working with Voluntary Action Swindon and other local groups to coordinate our efforts across the area.