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## Buckinghamshire libraries reopen for book borrowing in person

To magazine@hughendenresidents.org

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### Press Release from Buckinghamshire Council

02 September 2020

#### Buckinghamshire libraries reopen for book borrowing in person

Buckinghamshire Council is delighted to announce that all 29 libraries in Buckinghamshire are now open again for book borrowing in person. The first libraries reopened on 6 July, when government restrictions were lifted, and the very last one, Iver Heath Community Library, opened this week.

All the libraries have the recommended Covid-19 safety measures in place, so things will look a little different and at busy times people may be asked to queue. Opening times are also slightly shorter at the moment, but libraries will be increasing these as soon as they are able to do so.

Anyone who still has books out on loan since March, and there are still over 3,000 people who have, are asked to return them to their library before 30 September, as this is when the fines amnesty will come to an end.

Gareth Williams, Cabinet Member for Communities & Public Health, commented:

"Local libraries are a highly valued resource, not just for reading and relaxation but – now more than ever – they are a real lifeline connecting residents to services and sources of help and advice. This is why it's such welcome news that all of our libraries have now reopened."

Information about the opening times of your local library can be found at: [www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/libraries)

– Ends –

#### Notes to Editor



Photo: Protective screen at Chesham Library



Photo: Library staff member wearing PPE

#### **Further information about Buckinghamshire Libraries:**

When libraries were closed, local residents took advantage of many online library services, such as eBooks and online newspapers – with checkouts more than doubling. The libraries service also registered around 2,000 new online library members, and library staff were redeployed to help the council to support shielded residents.

**Contact us at [communications@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:communications@buckinghamshire.gov.uk) (monitored during office hours). For urgent Out Of Hours enquiries call 07825 430 978**

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