

## Community Response Unit launched to help those in need

Our Community Response Unit is now ready to take requests for assistance from members of the community who don't have friends or family able to help them.

Help is available for people across the county if they are:

- Self-isolating because either themselves or a member of the household is at risk
- Struggling to meet basic needs because of financial, social or health restrictions
- Pregnant
- Have underlying health conditions
- Aged 70 or over.

Volunteers from over 200 different organisations will be able to help with shopping, fetching prescriptions or offering a befriending service.

Volunteers could be asked to help with food shopping and delivery, checking up on people who are isolated with a phone call or online help to prevent loneliness and check whether there is anything they need, or collecting and delivering prescriptions.

## How to get help

Residents needing help should <u>visit the Community Response Unit information on our website</u> or phone 01629 535091 At this stage the phone line will only be available Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm and Saturdays 9am to 1pm.

## How to give help

Organisations are still looking to recruit more volunteers. Anyone who wants to help and is aged 18 to 70 and fit and well should also <u>visit the Community Response Unit information on our website to register their interest.</u>

Some organisations are looking for volunteers to offer a befriending telephone service, so anyone who wants to help but can't leave their house could offer this kind of assistance