**Covid-19 and Islands**

***Shetland, Scotland***

1. What actions are being taken to protect the island community from Covid 19? In particular, how are travel restrictions being put in place and enforced?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Katrina Christie Loynd  A Day In The Year  [kchristie@adayintheyear.co.uk](mailto:kchristie@adayintheyear.co.uk) | 3 May 2020 | * "All Inter Island Ferries need to be booked. You should only be using them for reasons of medical, shopping or helping a vulnerable person. They are also only running if they have been booked, no one booked, they don't sail * The boat to mainland Scotland has cut their sailings drastically as well. They have also refused boarding of passengers who are not using it for essential needs. The planes are similar too.” |

1. What actions will be taken should people on the island have Covid 19?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Katrina Christie Loynd  A Day In The Year  [kchristie@adayintheyear.co.uk](mailto:kchristie@adayintheyear.co.uk) | 3 May 2020 | * People are following the Guidelines given by Scottish and UK parliament. They are also using track and trace. |

1. What actions are being taken to ensure that essential goods and services are provided to the island community?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Katrina Christie Loynd  A Day In The Year  [kchristie@adayintheyear.co.uk](mailto:kchristie@adayintheyear.co.uk) | 3 May 2020 | * Boats are still sailing but on a far lesser scale. So far we have good local produce but as with rest of UK supermarkets have shortages things like flour and yeast. Not sure if things will start to get worse in the short term or not. |

1. What actions are being taken to ensure that people working on the islands, not only in the tourism sector, are sustained financially in the short term and in the long term?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Katrina Christie Loynd  A Day In The Year  [kchristie@adayintheyear.co.uk](mailto:kchristie@adayintheyear.co.uk) | 3 May 2020 | * Quite a few are able to get Grant's given by UK government. Essential shops are trying to work as contactless as possible. Most workers are on 80% pay as per UK guidelines. |

1. What actions are being taken to ensure the mental well-being of people on the islands?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Katrina Christie Loynd  A Day In The Year  [kchristie@adayintheyear.co.uk](mailto:kchristie@adayintheyear.co.uk) | 3 May 2020 | * There is a facebook group. People have been helping NHS Shetland and carers by making scrubs for them from old sheets and duvet covers which is keeping morale up as they are able to help instead of feeling helpless. |

1. If you consider it appropriate, feel free to share any data about people who have Covid 19 on your island and of people who, sadly, have passed away because of Covid 19.

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Katrina Christie Loynd  A Day In The Year  [kchristie@adayintheyear.co.uk](mailto:kchristie@adayintheyear.co.uk) | 3 May 2020 | * We were a hot spot for COVID-19 but things seemed to have stabled a bit now. |

1. If applicable, how are the lockdown measures being relaxed?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
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1. Is there anything else you want to share?

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| Katrina Christie Loynd  A Day In The Year  [kchristie@adayintheyear.co.uk](mailto:kchristie@adayintheyear.co.uk) | 3 May 2020 | * The cumulative number of positive Covid-19 tests reported in Shetland has remained unchanged at 54. The RAF has so far airlifted two Covid-19 related patients from Shetland, now Loganair has converted a second plane into air ambulance for island Covid-19 patients, if needed. Events continue to be cancelled, the newest casualty is the Cunningsburgh Show which takes place in August. The effects of the virus are going to last well into this year and beyond. The Shetland Islands Council chief executive has gone on record to say that, ‘there needs to be “world class” connectivity in place to “rebuild our economy to be more resilient to shocks like Covid-19” in the future and support delivery of public services. She said a new emphasis on working from home during the coronavirus crisis “reinforces the need for our governments’ to deliver on their commitments to support full fibre and 5G infrastructure as a priority”.’ There will be increased pressure from Shetland to ensure that the islands get the connectivity they deserve. The MSP Beatrice Wishart Wishart, commenting on Professor Hugh Pennington’s assertion that the next stages on the coronovirus containment could be develop earlier in the isles, said: “As we consider how to move away from lockdown, the policy needs to be guided by the best evidence available, and Professor Pennington’s comments add to that mix. She said the Scottish Government “need to be open about how they are engaging with these suggestions, so that the people at the other end of them can have confidence in what they are being told to do.” She added: “As Professor Pennington has said, if the islands would benefit from a different approach this will need to be backed up by a reliable testing and tracing regime. There are reasonable questions to be asked about whether more localised approaches would lead to better outcomes but next steps need to be taken safely.” There is now an ongoing debate within Shetland as to whether the islands ought to used as a testing ground. |

1. Resources

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| Resource | Date | Link |
| “Coronavirus: Call for islands to test, trace, isolate”  BBC News | 27 April 2020 | * Read [here](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-north-east-orkney-shetland-52441255) |
| “A cluster of islands: How Shetland locked down early and stopped the virus in its tracks”  BBC News | 1 June 2020 | * Read [here](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/stories-52823510) |

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*This information has been collated by the Strathclyde Centre for Environmental Law and Governance in collaboration with Island Innovation and can be found at* [*https://www.strath.ac.uk/research/strathclydecentreenvironmentallawgovernance/ourwork/research/labsincubators/eilean/islandsandcovid-19/*](https://www.strath.ac.uk/research/strathclydecentreenvironmentallawgovernance/ourwork/research/labsincubators/eilean/islandsandcovid-19/)*.*