

BANGLA POST

ISSUE 30 – SPRING 2021

Quarterly newspaper for Bangla
Housing Association Residents

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Bangla
Housing Association

COVID-19: Easing of Lockdown & Vaccine rollout

For the latest information and update please follow your local council, the Government, and the Public Health England's advice on how to stay safe and prevent the spread of coronavirus as well as about the progress with the vaccine rollout. Log on to the Public Health England Websites:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

For latest on coronavirus and the vaccine information from your local council please log on to the following council websites.

<https://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/service-categories/covid-19>

<https://hackney.gov.uk/coronavirus-support>

<https://www.islington.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/coronavirus-covid-19>

We are open!

Due to Covid-19, our staff are currently working from home. During normal office hours, you can contact us on any of the two following mobile numbers.

07983 467 036 or 07519 715 039
You may also email us:

Shah Uddin, email: shah@banglaha.org.uk (for repairs) Fatima Begum, email: fatima@banglaha.org.uk (for rent) Leena Khan, email leena@banglaha.org.uk (for any other tenancy matters)

During out of office hours, for emergency repairs only please ring or text Darv Ltd on

07516 976 995 or 07388 016 706

When reporting please say you are a Bangla Housing tenant then say your address.



Bangla Covid-19 Advice Project (BCAP)

Helping the community through the Pandemic

Bangla Housing working in partnership with Spitalfields HA and supported by the BME London Landlords group, secured a grant from the National Lottery Community Fund to run the Bangla Covid19 advice project for the Bangladeshi community in Hackney and Tower Hamlets. Please log onto our below website page for more information: <https://www.banglaha.org.uk/covid-9-advice-1>

Easter Holiday Closure

Our office will be closed on Friday 2 April and Monday 5 April 2021. During this two day for **emergency repairs only** please contact Darv Ltd on **07516 976 995 or 07388 016 706** For all non-emergency repairs please report them to us when our staff are back at work on the 6 April 2021 on Mobile: **07983 467 036 or 07519 715 039**



Bangla
Housing Association

BANGLA CELEBRATES 30TH ANNIVERSARY.

See page 4 for more details.

Editor's comment

The country and the world are currently going through a challenging time due to the pandemic outbreak of the coronavirus. Please listen to the news regularly and heed the advice of the government on this matter. Please stay safe and look after your family and the neighbourhood.

You can also read this and past newsletters on our website. www.banglaha.org.uk

We hope you will find this newsletter informative and interesting. As always, we welcome your comments. Please drop me an email: bashir@banglaha.org.uk or ring us on 020 8985 1124 to let us know what you think about this newsletter.

Rent Statements

We are not going to send you your quarterly rent statements in the post along with this quarterly newsletter. But we are shortly going to send you details of how you can access your rent account through Bangla website using your unique log in ID and Password. Please watch out for this information as we will contact you about this via your mobile phone or email. Please let us have your email if you have not given it to us already.

In the meantime, if you would like to have your rent statement sent to you or if you have any problem with paying your rent then please contact Fatima Begum on 07519 715 039 or email: fatima@banglaha.org.uk

Paying your Rent

You can pay your rent in the following ways.

- 1) Using a rent card – you can pay your rent at any post office or any shops displaying Pay Point signs. If you need a rent card, please contact Fatima Begum on 07519 715 039
- 2) By bank Standing Order – contact Fatima Begum on 07519 715 039 for a form.
- 3) By Cheques or postal orders made payable to 'Bangla Housing Association' and sent to our office
- 4) Paid Directly into our Barclays Bank Account: -
A/C No. 60899089 Sort Code: 20.46.57
Do not forget to mention your address with the payment.

If you claim Housing Benefit or Universal Credit and have received rent and service charge notices, then you must immediately inform the local Housing Benefit department of the new rent. If you pay by standing order, remember to advise your bank of the new rent level. If you delay, then your claim may not be backdated and for any changes you will be liable for paying any amount not covered by HB or UC. If you have any query about your claims, then please contact Fatima Begum on 07519 715 039

UC claimants must complete the "confirm your housing costs" to-do that will appear on their to-do list in April, which will allow claimants to report their rent and service charges for 2021.

Fire Safety

As a landlord or managing agent, it is Bangla's responsibility to ensure all landlords gas or electrical appliances at your home are regularly tested to make sure they are safe. This includes any smoke or fire alarms fitted in the communal parts.

However, as a tenant you must.

- Provide access for Bangla contractors when they come to test or service these equipments.
- Not dump household items/rubbish in the communal parts
- Make sure the smoke alarms that are provided by your landlords or which you may have installed yourself, are working, by testing them at least once per month. If not, do let Bangla know as soon as possible. You must not remove the batteries unless you are changing them.

Be extra careful with electrics.

- Avoid overloading sockets. Keep to one plug per socket.
- Use a proper adaptor when using a non-UK electrical appliance.
- Never put two prong plugs into three prong sockets.
- Don't use heaters for drying clothes and keep them a safe distance away to avoid them catching fire.
- Inform Bangla immediately if you are concerned about the electrics in your property. If you notice burn marks around plugs or cables for example.
- Don't fix faulty electrics yourself. Inform Bangla or call a qualified electrician.
- An extension lead, or adaptor will have a limit to how many amps it can take, so be careful not to overload them to reduce the risk of fire. Appliances use different amounts of power – a television may use a 3 amp plug and vacuum cleaner a 5 amp plug for example.

Stay safe with candles and cigarettes.

- Make sure cigarettes are put out properly after you have finished with them.
- Be extra careful if you have been drinking alcohol or taking medication which may make you drowsy.
- Be careful with candles and tea lights. Avoid placing them on or near materials that could burn or catch fire – like curtains.

Plan an escape route.

- Plan an escape route and make sure everyone knows how to escape.
- Establish where the fire exits, and alarms are if you live in block of flats.
- Count how many doors you might need to go through to escape. It can be hard to see in smoke and you might become confused about where you are.
- Keep all exits clear even communal areas and balconies.
- Keep fire doors closed. They help to slow down the spread of fire and will give you extra time to get out.
- Keep door and window keys where everyone can find them.

If you are still worried about fire safety at your home contact our Maintenance Office, Shah Uddin at Bangla on Tel 0208 985 1124. You can also contact the Environmental Health Officer at your local council for advice.

Bulky Waste Collections

Councils usually provide this service for a small charge. For Hackney residents on HB the council will provide this service free of charge. For bulky items, such as fridges, cookers and furniture please contact your Council on the following numbers: Hackney: 020 8356 6688, Islington: 020 7527 2000, Waltham Forest: 020 8496 3000.

Gas Safety Checks

Landlords are required to carry out gas safety checks annually. When we contact you to give access for these inspections, please keep the appointment and help us to keep your home safe. If you have any query about gas safety inspections at your home, please contact us on **07983 467 036 or 07519 715 039**. **Please note:** If you smell gas contact Transco immediately on

0800 111 999.

BANGLA CELEBRATES 30TH ANNIVERSARY.

Bangla Housing Association was established in April 1991 to support the housing and other needs of the Bangladeshi Community in Hackney. Today, we feel proud to be serving and supporting the housing and other needs of the wider communities in Hackney, Islington, and Waltham Forest. We will keep you informed how we are going to celebrate this special landmark in our journey with our residents, supporters, and stakeholders.

Looking after our elderly and the vulnerable tenants

Our staff are making regular contact with our elderly and vulnerable residents to ensure they are safe and well. At the same time, we are providing advice and signposting to relevant services and offering additional support where necessary. If you wish to be contacted also, please let us know on the following numbers. **07983 467 036 or 07519 715 039**

Or email: leena@banglaha.org.uk

Useful contact numbers

	Hackney	Islington	Waltham Forest
Service Centre	020 8356 3000	020 7527 1900	020 8496 3000
Housing and Council Tax Benefit	020 8356 3399	020 7527 4990	As above
Council Tax Queries	020 8356 3154	020 7527 2633	As above
Domestic Violence Unit	0800 056 0905	0808 2000 247	0208 558 6228
Noise reporting	020 8356 4455	020 7527 3258	0208 496 3000
Racial Harassment Unit	0800 056 0905	0207 230 2229	0208 496 3000
Victim Support	0800 056 0905 0208 356 4457	020 7272 0784	0208 503 6226
Rubbish Collection/Recycling	020 8356 6688	020 7527 2000	0208 496 3000
Bulky Waste/Street Cleaning	020 8356 6688 up to 5 items	020 7527 4900	0208 496 3000
Parking Enquiries	0208 357 8877	020 7527 2000	0208 496 3000
Police	020 7739 1212	020 7704 1212	020 8520 3211
Gas Leaks	(TRANSCO) 0800 111 999	(TRANSCO) 0800 111 999	(TRANSCO) 0800 111 999
Sewage	(Thames Water) 0845 920 0800	(Thames Water) 0845 920 0800	(Thames Water) 0845 920 0800

Contact us

Bangla Housing Association
100 Morning Lane,
London E9 6LH
Mobile: 07983 467 036
Mobile: 07519 715 039
Web: www.banglaha.org.uk
Email: info@banglaha.org.uk

Please contact us on above numbers during office opening hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm

Outside of the office opening hours and for emergency repairs only please contact Darv Ltd on 07516 976 995 or 07388 016 706

For all non-emergency repairs please report them to us during normal office opening hours on the numbers given above.

Do not dump rubbish around your estate.

Dumping large items of rubbish at your estate is illegal and is a health and safety risk. Tenants must take responsibility for arranging their own collection. If you see someone dumping a large item, please call us on **07983 467 036 or 07519 715 039** so that we can take action. If we arrange a collection, then we will recharge the costs to the perpetrator if we know who they are.