

BANGLA POST

ISSUE 28 – AUTUMN 2020

Quarterly newspaper for Bangla
Housing Association Residents

MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS	2
WE ARE HERE TO HELP	2
LOOKING AFTER THE ELDERLY	2
PAYING YOUR RENT	3
CLAIMING BENEFITS	3
RENT STATEMENTS	3
GAS SAFETY CHECKS	3
CHILDREN'S CORNER	4
USEFUL CONTACTS	4
CONTACT US	4

BANGLA HA WINS LOTTERY BID TO DELIVER A COVID-19 ADVICE PROJECT



Bangla has been successful in its bid for a grant from the National Lottery Community Fund for a COVID-19 Advice Project, where two Bangladeshi speaking Health Advice Project Workers will deliver COVID advice out to 10000 Bangladeshi households in Hackney and Tower Hamlets. See page 2 for further details

KEEPING IN TOUCH WHILE IN LOCKDOWN

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 text us or send WhatsApp messages on these numbers and we will ring you back as soon as possible and let you know how we are dealing with your query.

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.

COVID 19 UPDATE



We want to ensure any impact the COVID-19 has on our tenants; staff and our contractors is minimal, and their safety and the wider community is our number one priority.

For this reason, we are following the Government and the Public Health England's advice on how to stay safe and prevent the spread of coronavirus.

For the latest information on what you should do to protect yourselves and others please 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 from your local council please log on 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>

BANGLA AGM HELD ON 10 SEPTEMBER 2020

SEE PAGE 3 FOR FURTHER DETAILS

MAINTENANCE REPAIRS



To protect the health and safety of everyone concerned, our contractors and staff have been advised to follow the Covid safety rules when visiting tenants' homes. That is to wash their hands or use hand sanitiser, use a face mask and keep a distance of two meters from others when entering and leaving the property. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

BANGLA HA WINS LOTTERY BID TO DELIVER COVID-19 ADVICE PROJECT

Continued from front page

The Bangladeshi Community in London is recognised as one of the BAME communities most at risk of fatalities, given the statistics published by Public Health England in its report on the disproportionality of the impact of COVID 19 during the summer.

Bashir Uddin, Bangla Chief Executive said "This funding from the Coronavirus Community Support Fund distributed from the National Lottery Community Fund will help us reach those who are vulnerable and at-risk in the Bangladeshi community in East London and get them to realise how serious it is to protect yourself against COVID 19 and how serious the consequences are if you don't. Thanks to the

Government for making this possible"

Working closely with Spitalfields Housing Association, we will produce a COVID Advice video in Bengali, provide literature in Bengali, with the two workers employed networking with NHS provision and Hackney and Tower Hamlets local authority to target the Bangladeshi community beyond just Bangla HA and Spitalfields HA residents.



When booking an appointment and during our visit please let us know if:

- You or someone in your household have been tested for Coronavirus.
- Showing any symptoms of Coronavirus.
- If you or anyone in your household is ill or has recently been in contact with anyone with Coronavirus.
- Have been in self-isolation or currently self -isolating and if so, how long for.

The information you provide will help to assess the risks and the urgency. In such cases, all repairs except emergency repairs, will be suspended to your household until we have received confirmation that you have recovered. We will keep you updated via SMS, emails and phone calls where necessary as we are minimising face to face contact where we can.

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

PAYING YOUR RENT



To avoid accruing rent arrears we urge you to continue to pay your rent. If you are facing financial difficulties, please contact

Fatima Begum on: **07519 715 039**
Email: **fatima@banglaha.org.uk**

You can pay your rent in the following ways.

- 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 ring **07519 715 039**
- By bank Standing Order – See our Bank details given below
- Internet Banking: Paid directly into our Barclays Bank Account: -

Bangla Housing Association Ltd
A/C No. 60899089
Sort Code: 20.46.57
Give first line of your address as reference

BANGLA AGM HELD ON 10 SEPTEMBER

Bangla AGM was held virtually due to Covid 19, on 10 September 2020. At this meeting, the Chair of the Association, MA Nazim Rahman presented the Annual Report and Treasurer, Margaret Aboraa presented the audited accounts for the year 2019/20 which were approved by the members.

You can read our Annual Report for year 2019/20 on our **website**: www.banglaha.org.uk The Annual Report captures our work and the highlights of Bangla's achievements and performance results over the past year.

Please contact Bashir Uddin,
Email: bashir@banglaha.org.uk
If you have any comments or if you would like to have a copy of the Annual Report.

CLAIMING BENEFITS?

If you are claiming housing benefits or universal credit (UC), then it is your responsibility to ensure that you provide them with your up to date information and to chase them if there is a delay in processing your claims.

If you apply for UC, you should mention your rent under housing costs. Please be aware that all face to face assessments have now been temporarily suspended by Department for Work and Pensions (DWP).

If you experience any financial hardship due to COVID-19 i.e., you are required to stay at home or your job or income has been affected, kindly follow DWP guidelines for new claims or Statutory Sick Pay* and inform Bangla also.

*This is only payable if you are staying at home on Government advice, not just if you are infected by the Coronavirus and only applied for seven days. Please refer to the Government Guidelines.

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

Shah Uddin on
07983 467 036 or
email: shah@banglaha.org.uk

Please note: If you smell gas contact **Transco** immediately on
0800 111 999

RENT STATEMENTS

We normally send you your quarterly rent statements in the post along with this quarterly newsletter. 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.

In the meantime if you would like to have your rent statement or if you have any problem with paying your rent then please contact:

Fatima Begum on 07519715 039 or
email: fatima@banglaha.org.uk

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Useful contact numbers

Save the Children **CORONAVIRUS EXPLAINED** 

Coronavirus is an illness that is a bit like the flu. It's making a lot of people sick. They might:

- have a cough 
- have a fever (feel hot for no reason) 
- find it a little hard to breathe 

People who are older, or who have other illnesses, could get much more sick if they get the virus.

That is why we are being really careful and staying away from each other. 

— LOOKING AFTER YOURSELF —

It's okay if you feel a little worried or angry or sad. Talk to a grown-up about how you're feeling.

Bored at home? You can play games, read, learn, exercise (try star jumps!), chat with family, write letters. Help to clean at home and eat healthy! 



— WHAT YOU CAN DO —

You can do these really important things to help.  List all the times you should wash your hands! 

WASH YOUR HANDS! A LOT!
(Super important)

Wash for 20 seconds with soap and water. 

Sing to make this fun!

COVER YOUR MOUTH AND NOSE

When you cough and sneeze. Use a tissue, or else your elbow. 

TRY NOT TO TOUCH YOUR FACE

Try not to pick your nose, touch your mouth, or rub your eyes. 

TELL A GROWN UP

If you feel sick - like if have a cough, or feel really hot and tired for no reason. 

— AND REMEMBER... —

Loads of clever people are working hard to get things back to normal. Be careful, be good, be kind and... 

WASH YOUR HANDS!

	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

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