

Coronavirus and HAMA

Dear colleagues,

In light of the current situation Huntingdon Area Money Advice (HAMA) have had to take some drastic actions.

We are a Christian charity and we are run entirely by volunteers many of whom are retired, elderly and some with health problems.

In light of the current situation we are having to reduce face to face contact with clients to an absolute minimum. This is heart-breaking for us as we recognise many of our clients will be put in an even more difficult situation and others will be pushed into debt due to closure of public facilities etc.

Our advisers will continue to monitor clients they are already seeing and these clients will be contacted mainly by phone, post or e-mail. New clients will be reviewed and advice given if necessary and when possible but with half of our advisers not able to see new clients I doubt if we will be able to see new clients face to face in the foreseeable future.

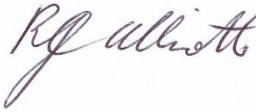
Please refer new clients for whom you wish ask for advice with a completed client information template (attached) via our e-mail and I will ask one of our advisers to look at it to see if they can advise on any measures which you and the client can do. Leaflets on debt management produced by our parent organisation CMA are also attached.

In the meantime, clients can use Step Change which is a telephone/postal system which is free though clients may need help to manage it. Also there is the national Debt Line which is an on-line service but again clients may need help to use it.

Information for clients needing or using Universal Credit can be obtained from: -
<https://www.understandinguniversalcredit.gov.uk/coronavirus/>

I am so sorry to write like this but we have to respond to government advice and act responsibly.

God bless,



Rob Alliott Centre Manager