

Tuition firm open as normal

Kip McGrath, a company that provides English and maths tuition, is in the process of fully reopening after operating online for the past five months.

In September 2020, the company announced it would not be reopening its two centres to new students due to a 'dispute' with the government.

It had to await clarification on its business structure but now the government has dropped its objections to the way the island's Kip McGrath operation was structured.

The company has been permitted to operate in the same way that most large Kip McGrath centre in the UK do.

Tutors4Mann, the partnership of island-based tutors that operates the Manx branch of the Kip McGrath franchise, was 'within days' of closing its Castletown Kip McGrath centre and was 'reviewing its options' for Onchan after laying off all but two employees and standing down the majority of its tutor partners, according to a statement from Kip McGrath.

by Gemma Nettle

Andy Finch, manager of the branches here, said: 'Having survived three successive Covid lockdowns, to then be subjected to a governmental review that lasted six months has undoubtedly made 2021 our hardest year.'

'Having now received a clean bill of health from the government, Tutors4Mann's efforts will be focused on fully reopening the Kip McGrath tuition centres in both Castletown and Onchan and once again offering a modern education with traditional values for an international island.'

The first Kip McGrath centre in the island opened in Onchan in 2017 followed by the one in Castletown which provide services for more than 300 students.

Kip McGrath Isle of Man is just one branch of the international company, which has over 560 centres open globally and has been operating for over 40 years.

Seven homes near airport

Hartford Homes is applying for planning permission (21/01567/B) for a demolition and the building of seven houses near the airport.

The developer is applying as a potential buyer of Netherby House, which has been on the market for £1.5 million along with its 2.5-acre plot.

Under the plans this five-bedroom house would be demolished and replaced with seven new dwellings.

These would be two-storey, five-bedroom houses, each of a different layout and including garages.

Seventeen trees would be removed, but then replaced with 57 native trees.

Hartford Homes said the houses will be built in 'traditional materials' and will be 'highly energy efficient, incorporating air source heat pumps and solar panels with battery storage'.

Talking about the need

by Paul Hardman

for the housing, the company stated: 'There has been no new zoning of land in Castletown for new housing for over 10 years and there remains an acute shortage of housing, as identified by the report produced by Black Grace Cowley.'

'The urgent need for more zoning was expressed by the inspector for the Area Plan for the South, 10 years ago in 2011.'

Access will be onto the Douglas Road, roughly opposite to the Aviation and Military Museum.

Similar plans were approved by the planning minister in 2014, and while this approval has since expired, Hartford Homes notes that as 'there has been limited change to the planning policy since the previous application', these new plans should still be acceptable.

We'll clear breast backlog

There is still a backlog for routine breast screening appointments, according to Manx Care.

It has said that this is aimed to be cleared by the summer.

A spokesperson from Manx Care said: 'Manx Care's routine breast screening services are still catching up after the suspension of the service due to Covid in 2020.'

'The backlog is scheduled to be cleared by summer 2022 with every effort is being made by radiology team.'

'Every woman over the age of 50 is rou-

by Gemma Nettle

tinously offered a mammogram before their 51st birthday which is within the current guidelines.'

The breast screening unit has been experiencing problems since the pandemic began in March 2020 as it had to shut down for four months during the first lockdown.

In August 2021, more than 3,000 appointments for routine breast screening had to be rescheduled due to the effects

of Covid. There was a three-month waiting list for women already attending for screening every year from the age of 50.

At that time, it was said that woman may have to wait up to 10 months to be seen.

Extra staff were then recruited to help deal with the backlog, including a trainee and a qualified mammographer.

On average, 34 breast cancers are detected through mammogram screening.

•Have you been affected by health delays? Email newsdesk@iomtoday.co.im to talk to a reporter.



SAVE 15%

ENJOY VEGANUARY WITH DELICIOUS FROZEN PLANT-BASED FOOD...



£2
£1.70

FROZEN

Plant Pioneers
Mini No Sausage Rolls 494g



£2
£1.70

FROZEN

Plant Pioneers
8 No Beef Burgers 454g



£2
£1.70

FROZEN

Plant Pioneers
No Beef Meatballs 380g

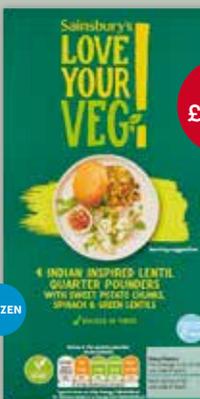
Lots more in-store!



£1.95
£1.65

FROZEN

Sainsbury's
Love Your Veg!
4 Vegetable
Quarter
Pounders 454g



£1.95
£1.65

FROZEN

Sainsbury's
Love Your Veg!
4 Indian
Inspired
Lentil Quarter
Pounders 454g



£1.95
£1.65

FROZEN

Sainsbury's
Love Your Veg!
4 Quinoa,
Sweet Potato
& Lentil
Burgers 350g

Sainsbury's

VEGANUARY

shoprite

PRICES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS. SOME LINES MAY ONLY BE AVAILABLE IN LARGER STORES. ALL PRODUCTS OFFERED SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. PHOTOGRAPHS FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY. E&OE.