

# One dead after Legionella outbreak at hotel

13 September 2017 at 12:34pm



Photo: Google Maps

One person has died after an outbreak of Legionnaires' disease at a hotel.

The Feathers Hotel in Ludlow has closed temporarily after advice from health professionals from Public Health England (PHE) in the West Midlands and Shropshire Council.

Two guests of the hotel contracted the disease. The first case was diagnosed in April 2017 and has recovered but another individual, who stayed at the hotel in July, has died.

The closure follows tests that linked water samples from the hotel plumbing and the two confirmed cases.

Dr David Kirrage, consultant with PHE West Midlands Health Protection Team, said:

*Extensive work is now needed to overhaul and treat the plumbing in such an old building, so that guests can fully enjoy the facilities.*

*The hotel has decided that with such a complex building it is easier and minimises risks to the public to close the hotel temporarily to conduct remedial works.*

*Environmental Health Officers at Shropshire Council will continue to take water samples from the hotel during this time to test for the bacteria.*

– *Consultant, Dr David Kirrage*

Councillor Lee Chapman, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Health and Housing said:

*The teams has been working closely with the proprietor of the hotel and under the direction of Public health England to investigate the incident and ensure the right measures are in place to resolve this issue.*

– *Councillor Lee Chapman*

The hotel is writing to guests who stayed at the hotel in the last two weeks to advise them to make contact if they have experienced any symptoms of Legionnaires' disease.

Legionnaires' disease is a rare but potentially life threatening illness. Early

symptoms include a 'flu-like' illness with muscle aches, tiredness, headaches, dry cough and fever which can then lead to pneumonia.

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