

Introducing News Feeds (RSS/Atom)

News feeds are an easy way to keep up with websites without having to constantly visit them. When a website is updated, that site's news feed can notify you and give you a link to the new content.

All you need is a feed reader (also known as an "aggregator"). Most current web browsers have feed readers built in. You can also use web-based readers or dedicated software.

How do I start using News Feeds?

To get started you need a feed reader. The four most common types are:

- Web browsers
- Email software (eg MS Outlook)
- Websites
- Feed reader software

Web browsers

If you are using a current browser like Internet Explorer 7+, Firefox 2+, Opera 9+ or Safari 2+, your browser already has a feed reader built in. All you need to do is click the link to the news feed which is at the *bottom* of the **BoK Notices** home page and your browser will display the feed or prompt you to add it.

Email software - MS Outlook

To add a feed in Outlook, right-click the 'RSS Feeds' folder in the 'Mailbox' list (above 'Sent Items' folder). A new menu will appear. Choose 'Add a New RSS Feed...' (third choice from top) then in the next box, copy and paste the following:

<http://boknotices.blogspot.com/feeds/posts/default>

and click 'Add'. 'Bo Kirklees Notices' will appear as a sub folder in the RSS Feeds folder. Individual posts from Bo Kirklees Notices sub-site will appear as email messages in the sub folder.

If you use a different email programme – consult your programme's 'Help' file.

Websites

Aggregator websites collect feeds from multiple sources into one single website. It's an easy and convenient way to use feeds, particularly if you use more than one computer. Popular aggregator websites include:

- Bloglines
- NewsGator
- Google reader
- Netvibes
- MyYahoo

Feed reader software

Feed readers run on your computer like any other program. Some examples:

PC/Windows

Newz Crawler
Feed Demon

Mac/OSXs

NetNewsWire
Newsfire

For more options, see Wikipedia's RSS Reader entry which links to lists of feed readers.

Reading feeds on the move

Feed readers are also available for common mobile platforms eg iPhone, Blackberry, Android so you can be notified of new posts at any time. Consult your mobile phone/store/market place help.

How do I find feeds and subscribe to them?

News feeds on websites are often identified by the industry-standard orange icon: .