

## Local context

### Advice for clinically extremely vulnerable residents

Hampshire County Council is [issuing](#) advice to residents who are most at risk from Covid-19, as the county currently remains at local Covid alert level medium. Anyone living in a Medium alert level area must follow the national government guidance which includes – not meeting in groups of more than six people, maintaining social distance from anyone not in your household of two metres, wearing face coverings in certain situations, and frequent hand washing.

Hampshire residents in the clinically extremely vulnerable group – as well as those who have a long-term health condition or are aged over 60 - are being encouraged to follow the below steps to help further reduce their risk:

- Where possible **limit social contact**, meet outdoors and avoid crowded places
- If you need to **shop or pick up medications**, go at a quieter time or ask friends and family to collect for you - alternatively use on-line delivery or click and collect services
- Continue to **access social care, medical services and urgent care** when you need to
- **Limit unnecessary journeys** on public transport
- **Work from home where possible** (children can still attend school)

The Hampshire Coronavirus Support and Helpline is currently open 9am-5pm Monday – Thursday, and 9am-4.30pm on Fridays. The number is 0333 370 4000 (calls are charged at a local rate).

### Active Place Summit

The County Council welcomed 130 delegates to an online summit earlier this week to help shape the county's green and healthy recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic. The summit followed a county-wide survey of the public's opinions on active travel, to which nearly 3,000 people responded. Evidence and feedback from the summit and the survey will be used to inform the County Council's Local Transport Plan which will guide future investment and decision making within the County Council in relation to transport.

For more information, please see the [press release](#) and [watch](#) a summary video of the survey results.

### Half term activities in Hampshire

Residents are [reminded](#) that the County Council's outdoor attractions are ready to welcome visitors this half-term with a range of socially distanced activities for people of all ages.

In a [press release](#), the Executive Member for Recreation and Heritage, Councillor Seán Woodward, is quoted: "Residents and visitors looking to spend a day out in Hampshire have five stunning country parks and one of the largest outdoor adventure centres in Britain to choose from... We know that time spent outdoors is great for people's wellbeing as well as their physical health, and our staff are continuing to work hard across all our sites to provide Covid-secure recreational activities that are strictly in line with the latest Government guidance."

Further information about things to do in Hampshire this half-term is available on the [County Council's website](#).

### Keep Hampshire Safe communications

The County Council continues to promote and proactively target key public health messages to Hampshire residents. A breakdown of Covid-19 communications, campaigns and community and stakeholder engagement over the last seven days can be viewed online [here](#).

## Social media campaigns

### Themes covered

- When to get tested
- Social distancing
- Follow guidance when attending events
- Coronavirus and social distancing advice for carers and people with disabilities

**16**

Social media posts

**211,164**

People reached

**52,263**

Video views

### Most successful non-promoted post



More local testing sites  
across Hampshire

**20,000**

People reached across Twitter  
and Facebook

### When to get tested Facebook post

**55,005**

People reached

**32,898**

Views

**100**

Positive interactions –  
likes, shares



## National context

Communities

## **Covid-19 funding for local authorities**

The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, Robert Jenrick, [announced](#) yesterday (22 October) allocations for individual councils from the £1 billion of additional support announced by the Prime Minister earlier this month.

The County Council has been [allocated](#) £8,784,329 in this fourth tranche of funding. This brings the total amount allocated across all four tranches to £70,394,602.

## **Covid-19 disparities**

The first quarterly report on progress to address the findings of Public Health England's (PHE) review into disparities in the risks and outcomes of Covid-19 has been [published](#).

In a [statement](#) yesterday (22 October) Minister for Equalities, Kemi Badenoch, outlined several new measures the Government will take with the aim of protecting those most at risk including:

- Community Champions' scheme', funded by MHCLG, that will aim to enhance existing communication strategies in the most at risk places, and also fund work with grassroots advocates from impacted communities. The scheme will also provide funding for voluntary and community groups who specialise in working with communities most at risk from Covid-19.
- A new mandate for ethnicity to be recorded as part of the death certification process.
- An enhancement of the national Shielded Patients List to account for the increase in understanding of the risk factors related to the virus and the drivers of disparities.

## **Local Covid alert levels**

The Government yesterday (22 October) [announced](#) that Coventry, Slough and Stoke-on-Trent will move from local Covid alert level 'medium' to 'high' on 24 October.

# Adults' social care and public health

## **Education and Skills Funding Agency update**

The Education and Skills Funding Agency published an [update](#) on funding, legislation and actions for academies, schools, colleges, councils and further education providers in regard to Covid-19.

## **Sewage signals**

The Government has [announced](#) that a government-led project is successfully detecting traces of Covid-19 in sewage, providing an early warning for local outbreaks across the country and sharing data with NHS Test and Trace.

## **Flu vaccines**

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has [announced](#) that millions of doses of Flublok® have been authorised for supply by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency to ensure as many people as possible are vaccinated during the Covid-19 pandemic.

## **NHS Test and Trace**

DHSC has [published](#) the latest NHS Test and Trace statistics. The week, 8 October to 14 October, saw the service successfully reach 80.7% of people who tested positive and 75.1% of contacts where communication details were provided.

# Children and education

## **The National Tutoring Programme**

From November, schools will be able to access support for children and young people who have been most affected by school closures during the Covid-19 outbreak through the [National Tutoring Programme](#). The Department for Education has confirmed that they are hosting a webinar for schools on 5 November at 4pm that will provide an introduction to the programme.

## Education and Skills Funding Agency update

The Education and Skills Funding Agency published an [update](#) on funding, legislation and actions for academies, schools, colleges, councils and further education providers in regard to Covid-19.

## Actions for schools during the coronavirus outbreak

The Government has [updated](#) the guidance on what schools will need to do during the Covid-19 pandemic from the start of the autumn term, to include updates on prevention, response to any infection, pupils travelling from abroad, attendance and contingency planning for outbreaks.

# Economy and business

## Plan for Jobs

The Chancellor yesterday (22 October) [announced](#) that the winter support schemes are being increased to ensure livelihoods and jobs across the UK continue to be protected. Measures include:

- Job Support Scheme (JSS): changes announced to reduce the employer contribution to unworked hours under the JSS which will come into effect on 1 November when furlough ends.
- Self employed grant: increases the amount of profits covered by the two forthcoming self-employed grants from 20% to 40%, meaning the maximum grant will increase from £1,875 to £3,750. Similarly to JSS, this will run for six months from November.
- Business grants: Firms in Tier 3 will be eligible for a grant of up to £3,000 a month if affected by restrictions, even if they remain open. Hospitality, accommodation and leisure businesses in Tier 2 and 3 will be able to get additional grants of up to £2,100 a month, backdated to August if restrictions were in place.

# Environment, transport and travel

## Virgin Holidays

The Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) has [confirmed](#) that following their investigation into Virgin Holidays, they have secured formal commitments from the firm that ensure all of its customers receive their money without undue delay.

# National Covid-19 data

As of 5pm on 22 October, the total number of lab-confirmed cases was **810,467**. The daily number of lab-confirmed cases was **21,242**. The total number of Covid-19 associated deaths within 28 days of a positive test was **44,347**, with **189** deaths reported on the day. The data is available to [view online](#).

The R number range for the UK is **1.2-1.4** and the growth rate range is **+3% to +6%** per day as of 23 October.

## Additional links

- Hampshire County Council webpages on coronavirus (including links to press releases): <https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/coronavirus>
- Latest information on coronavirus: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>
- NHS information on coronavirus: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>
- FAQ from the Cabinet Office: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do>
- PPE guidance hub: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-personal-protective-equipment-ppe>
- Guidance for local government: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-local-government>

- County Councils Network (CCN) coronavirus information pages: <https://www.countycouncilsnetwork.org.uk/coronavirus-information-for-local-authorities/>
- Local Government Association (LGA) councillor guidance: <https://www.local.gov.uk/covid-19-outbreak-councillor-guidance>

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