

## Local context

### Skills and employment recovery plan

The County Council is developing a skills and employment recovery plan which harnesses its extensive resources to respond to the impact of Covid-19 within communities. In particular, the plan will focus on programmes of activity to support young people to recover from the crisis and reduce the number of 18-24 year olds who are unemployed. There are four key areas of action that the County Council and its partners will take forward over the coming months:

*Apprenticeships* – stabilise and grow apprenticeship provision in Hampshire by allocating an additional £1.1 million to the levy transfer scheme, bringing the total investment to £2 million by 2022; increasing capacity within the County Council’s apprenticeship team and continuing to promote the authority’s ‘Apprentice First’ policy. This will be an ‘all age’ initiative aligned to the Government’s new apprenticeship grant programme.

*Advice* – ensure that young people and adults have access to timely, relevant and high quality information, advice and guidance to support their education, employment and training decisions; work with the Hampshire Careers Partnership (HCP) to co-ordinate the approach and continue to focus on ensuring all young people have an offer of a place in education, employment or training post-16 and provide extra support for those who need it most. By working through the HCP, the County Council will ensure the work complements the additional resource received by the National Careers Service from the DfE.

*Skills* – provide access to relevant learning and skills programmes that support employment and wellbeing through the County Council’s £1.3 million adult and community learning programme and focus on functional skills, digital skills and resilience and wellbeing.

*Employability* – support young people to develop their core and employability skills, giving them the best chance of gaining the skills they need to progress into a rewarding career; expand pre-employment opportunities such as traineeships, supported internships and work experience placements; continue to develop the Employment & Skills Hub, linking employers to a skilled and local workforce and providing opportunities for young people including those with additional needs. This activity will directly support the Government’s new ‘Kick Start’ employment programme for young people.

### Winchester Movement Strategy

The Covid-19 pandemic has accelerated some of the changing travel patterns that were previously anticipated within the [Winchester Movement Strategy](#). The strategy, which was adopted last year by Hampshire County Council and Winchester City Council sets out an agreed vision and long-term priorities for travel and transport improvements in Winchester over the next 20-30 years.

Plans are currently being considered which include creating more park and ride provision across the city, improved and enhanced walking and cycling infrastructure, and reconfiguring the city centre to prioritise bus, pedestrian and cycle traffic and to reduce car use.

In the [press release](#), the Deputy Leader of Hampshire County Council and Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment, Cllr Rob Humby, is quoted: “With more people already cycling and walking, this is a critical time for us to make changes for the future as the Movement Strategy starts to be implemented, alongside Hampshire entering into a stabilisation phase from the Covid-19 pandemic. We’re working with colleagues at Winchester City Council every step of the way to ensure an excellent quality of life for those in the community.”

## Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs)

Hampshire County Council is [reminding](#) residents who have not yet registered for the free entry system which will be managed using Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) at Hampshire HWRCs, to do so. The system will ensure continued free access for Hampshire residents to any of Hampshire’s 24 HWRCs to dispose of household waste, while access for non-Hampshire residents (excluding Dorset Council residents) will be for a fee of £5 per visit. Up to three cars per Hampshire household can be registered for continued free access to Hampshire HWRCs using [an online form](#). Nearly 389,000 households have already successfully registered.

The ANPR registration scheme, which is being introduced on 1 August, was originally intended to begin on 1 April, but HWRCs were closed at the end of March following Government advice on essential travel.

Residents are also reminded that due to the Covid-safety measures in place, they will still have to book a slot before visiting an HWRC - using the [online booking system](#) or by phoning 02380 179 949, Monday to Friday 9am to 5:30pm.

## National context

### Communities

#### Managing local outbreaks

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) [published](#) an overview of the Government’s approach to managing local Covid-19 outbreaks. The overview sets out the five-step approach to managing local outbreaks and includes links to relevant guidance.

DHSC also [published](#) a page with a list of areas with additional local restrictions. The page includes links to information for councils, residents and workers about what to do and how to manage the outbreak.

#### Equality impact assessment

DHSC has [published](#) the *Coronavirus Act 2020: public sector equalities duty impact assessment*.

### Children and education

#### Death of a colleague or carer

The Department for Education has [issued](#) new guidance for employers and providers following a Covid-19 related death of a carer or colleague across children’s services.

### **CMA open letter to the early years sector**

Following analysis of the complaints received from various sources, the CMA has [published](#) an open letter and [more detailed advice](#) highlighting practices in the early years sector it considers unfair and contrary to consumer law.

## **Adults' social care and public health**

### **Vaccines**

The Government has [announced](#) that they have secured a deal with GSK and Sanofi Pasteur to gain early access to another promising new Covid-19 vaccine. This new deal means the Government has secured early access to four different types of immunisation and a total of 250 million doses.

### **PPE deliveries**

The DHSC has [published](#) experimental statistics showing the latest number of personal protective equipment (PPE) items distributed for use by health and social care services in England between 20-26 July.

## **Economy and business**

### **Creative industries**

The Government has [announced](#) a new £500 million Film and TV Production Restart Scheme to support film and television production struggling to secure insurance for Covid-19 related costs.

Further detail has also been released on how £880 million of the Government's £1.57 billion Culture Recovery Fund will support cultural, arts and heritage organisations.

### **Grant overpayments**

HMRC has [issued](#) guidance for people who received a Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme grant but were not eligible, or have been overpaid – the document outlines HMRC's current position on penalties. In addition, HMRC has [published](#) guidance which sets out what people should do if they have claimed too much, or not enough, from the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme.

Regarding the Self-Employment Income Support Scheme, HMRC has [updated](#) the guidance on how to alert HMRC and pay money back if a claim has been made in error, or an overpayment has been made.

### **Local authority grants**

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy has [published](#) updated data on the grants local authorities have distributed to support small and medium businesses. As of 26 July, £10.79 billion has been paid to over 879,700 business properties.

## **Environment, place and transport**

### **Cycling and walking**

The Government has [published](#) their plan for cycling and walking. It aims to set out a 'vision to make England a great walking and cycling nation' and sets out the actions required at all levels of government under four themes: better streets; decision making; empowering local authorities and; enabling and protecting people.

New, [higher standards for cycling infrastructure](#) have also been published in updated guidance, to ensure that schemes are better designed around cyclists' needs and to make sure they can support a larger number of cyclists in the future.

The Government has also [released](#) the first batch of bike repair vouchers worth £50 in a pilot scheme to encourage people to repair their old bikes and get back into cycling.

### Parks

Keep Britain Tidy and its Centre for Social Innovation has [developed](#) a new 'Love Parks' campaign to address the issue of litter being left behind in parks across the country. New data shows that more than half of the country's parks have had to secure extra resources to deal with the issues, including litter and anti-social behaviour, since lockdown was eased. Of those, 81% had to spend more on clearing up litter, 79% on bin emptying and 72% on maintaining public order or enforcing lockdown rules.



## National Covid-19 data

### Cases

As of 4pm on 28 July, the total number of lab-confirmed cases was **300,692**. The daily number of lab-confirmed cases was **581**. The total number of Covid-19 associated deaths was **45,878**, with **119** new deaths reported on the day. The data is available to [view online](#).

## 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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