

## Local context

### Local Covid-19 data

The County Council will today (29 March) [publish](#) the latest weekly Covid-19 data summary.

The total number of cases in Hampshire since March 2020 is now 62,802 and there have been 436 cases confirmed in the last seven days.

The county's current weekly case rate is 29.8 per 100,000 population and remains below the England case rate at 56.

There have been 2,774 Covid-19 associated deaths in Hampshire since March 2020 and 18 deaths reported in the last seven days.

In Hampshire, 659,427 people have been vaccinated with at least one dose and 100,237 people have been vaccinated with at least one dose in the last seven days.

The full data dashboard is available on the [Keep Hampshire Safe webpage](#).

### Household Waste and Recycling Centres

The County Council is [reminding](#) residents to ensure they pre-book Household Waste and Recycling Centre (HWRC) slots before attending. The HWRCs are expected to be busier than usual over the Easter weekend and residents are reminded that bookings are currently limited to one slot per household per week and are asked to cancel their booking if they are no longer able to attend. The HWRC booking system offers more than 50,000 booking slots each week and, from 1 April, sites will be open for longer: 9am – 6pm every day during the summer months. While at HWRCs, residents are urged to adhere to social distancing and follow the rules in place at the sites to keep everyone safe.

## National context

### National Covid-19 cases, deaths and vaccines data

The Covid-19 vaccination daily data shows that up to 27 March, a total of **30,151,287** people have received the 1<sup>st</sup> dose and a total of **3,527,481** people have received the 2<sup>nd</sup> dose.

As of 4pm on 28 March, the total number of people tested positive for Covid-19 was **4,333,042** and daily number of lab-confirmed cases was **3,862**. The total number of Covid-19 associated deaths within 28 days of a positive test was **126,592** with **19** deaths reported on the day. The data is available to [view online](#). The R number range for the UK is **0.7 to 0.9** and the growth rate range is **-5% to -2%** per day as of 26 March.

## Communities

### Roadmap – Step 1

From today (29 March), further restrictions are eased, as outlined in the [Government's Covid-19 Response Spring 2021](#), which sets out the roadmap out of the current lockdown for England. The guidance on 'what you can and cannot do' has been [updated](#).

29 MARCH

## BUSINESS / ACTIVITIES

**Organised outdoor sport**  
(children and adults)

**Outdoor sport and leisure facilities**

**All outdoor children's activities**

**Outdoor parent & child groups**  
(up to 15 people, excluding under 5s)

## SOCIAL CONTACT

**Rule of 6 or two households outdoors**

**Household only indoors**

## TRAVEL

**Minimise travel**

**No domestic or international holidays**

COVID-19 ROADMAP 2021

### Hands, Face, Space and Fresh Air

In a new government campaign, the public will be urged 'Let's take this next step safely'. The public are reminded they must stay outside when meeting others in a new film which will be released this evening (29 March). The film highlights the impact of fresh air on reducing the risk of transmission and forms part of wider government 'Hands, Face, Space and Fresh Air'.



### Guidance on the safe use of council buildings

Updated guidance has been [published](#) following confirmation that emergency legislation regarding virtual council meetings will not be extended. Regulations on virtual council meetings introduced at start of the pandemic will end on 7 May. A [letter](#) from the Minister for Local Government, Luke Hall, has been circulated to the leaders of all principal councils outlining the changes.

Councils are also being encouraged by the Government to share their experiences via a [call for evidence](#) about how remote meetings have been used to inform any potential future legislation regarding their use beyond the pandemic.

### Test and Trace Support Payment Scheme

The Test and Trace Support Payment Scheme has been [allocated](#) an additional £12.9 million per month to enable local authorities to support those self-isolating.

### **SHARE checklist**

The SHARE checklist has been [updated](#), it aims to build public resilience to health misinformation and in turn help stop the spread of harmful and misleading information.

### **Health and disability benefits**

In line with the latest public health guidance and adhering to strict safety protocols, the Department for Work and Pension has [confirmed](#) plans to begin reintroducing face-to-face assessments for health and disability benefits.

### **Retail opening hours**

It has been [confirmed](#) that when they reopen from 12 April at the earliest, shops will have the flexibility to open until 10pm Monday to Saturday.

## **Children and education**

### **Children's services**

The Department for Education has [updated](#) its Covid-19 guidance for children's social care services. This includes guidance for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children in accordance with the latest quarantine guidelines and reflects the extension to existing regulatory flexibilities up to 30 September.

### **Education Inspections**

Ofsted has [confirmed](#) it will not return to a full programme of graded inspections until September. It will, however undertake on-site, lighter-touch inspections in the summer term.

### **Guidance for schools**

The guidance for schools during the Covid-19 pandemic has been [updated](#) with new information on operational guidance on Test and Trace support payments, the expectations for clinically extremely vulnerable pupils and staff, educational visits, wraparound provision and extra-curricular activity, physical activity in schools and inspections and added guidance on year 11 to 13 exam cohort attendance and provision for the 2021 summer term.

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

### **Vaccination priority list**

The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation has [advised](#) the Government to prioritise people for the Covid-19 vaccine who are over 16 and living with adults who have weakened immune systems, such as those with blood cancer, HIV or those on immunosuppressive treatment including chemotherapy.

### **Mental health and wellbeing**

The Covid-19 mental health and wellbeing recovery action plan has been [published](#), it sets out a cross-government, whole-person approach to promoting positive mental health and supporting people living with mental illness to recover and live well.

### **Lateral Flow Test video explainer**

An animated video, made by Public Health England, which provides an introduction to the use of lateral flow tests is now [available](#) in 12 additional languages and British Sign Language.

## **Economy, business and finance**

### **Employer testing duty**

New guidance has been issued outlining the employer testing duty. This duty requires employers whose staff travel regularly across UK borders to take reasonable steps to facilitate employees to take tests.

## Workplace testing

From 6 April, the [workplace testing programme](#) will supply home test kits to companies with over 10 workers where it is not possible to set up testing on-site, due to a lack of space or because companies operate across multiple sites.

## Environment, transport and travel

### Testing regime for international arrivals

A new testing regime has been [outlined](#) for international arrivals who will be exempt from quarantine for work purposes, including for hauliers arriving from outside the Common Travel Area into England.

## Additional links

- NHS information on the Covid-19 vaccination programme: [www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination](http://www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination)
- 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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