

## Local context

### Testing

The National Testing Programme is experiencing ongoing exceptionally high demand and is still prioritising testing capacity at sites in areas with higher prevalence. Testing capacity locally, and within the South East as a whole, is experiencing capped capacity as infection rates are lower than in other parts of the country.

### Hampshire Local Outbreak Engagement Board

The Hampshire Local Outbreak Engagement Board met on Tuesday 6 October and received an update on the current position in term of managing the outbreak in Hampshire; including data on current infection numbers, the position for care homes and death rates across the county. Members also received a comprehensive update on communications and engagement. The Covid-19 data update, provided by Public Health, is available to [view online](#), and the communications September summary is also available to [view online](#).

### EU Exit

The County Council has reopened its [EU Exit](#) webpages, to help Hampshire residents prepare for the end of the transition period. Residents are reminded that there may be specific action they must take in order to prepare for the end of the transition period, and are urged to '*check, change, go*' on the [Government's transition webpages](#). It is important that these actions are not forgotten amidst the Covid-19 pandemic and the County Council will continue to highlight the importance of preparing for the end of the transition period through its communication channels.

## National context

### Communities

#### **Social distancing**

The Cabinet Office has [updated](#) the guidance on meeting with others safely, to include information on seeing friends and family you do not live with you. Information on the rule of 6 has been clarified to confirm that in England, the limit of 6 includes children of any age.

### Children and education

#### **Travel advice for educational settings**

The Department for Education (DfE) has [updated](#) the guidance for educational settings, and their students and staff, who are travelling or planning to travel during the Covid-19 outbreak to include the latest advice.

#### **Home test kits webinars**

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) is hosting a [series of webinars](#) to support schools and colleges in understanding how to use Covid-19 home test kits in education settings.

### **Test kits**

DfE has [updated](#) the guidance on test kits for schools and FE providers with further information on the distribution of test kits for symptomatic staff.

### **Ofsted report**

Ofsted has [published](#) the first reports on how schools and children's homes are addressing the needs of children during the Covid-19 pandemic. The schools report is based on 121 pilot visits to schools across England carried out last month. It finds that school leaders are working hard to make sure pupils are catching up with their education in difficult circumstances. In the 70 children's homes visited for the [social care research](#), Ofsted found that staff have maintained an environment that is Covid secure, while keeping children's spirits up.

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

### **Antibody tests**

DHSC has [announced](#) that the Government has signed a deal with the UK Rapid Test Consortium (UK-RTC) for 1 million antibody tests. The antibody testing kits will support nationwide surveillance studies to track the spread of Covid-19 in the population.

## **Economy and business**

### **Self-Employment Income Support Scheme**

The Government has [updated](#) the guidance on how different circumstances affect the Self-Employment Income Support Scheme.

### **Support for jobseekers**

The Government has [launched](#) a new employment programme for job seekers, Job Entry Targeted Support (JETS). The £238 million programme will provide enhanced support for claimants who have been out of work for three months due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

### **Food businesses**

The Government has [updated](#) the guidance for food businesses to include businesses closing at 10pm, collecting NHS Test and Trace information and working from home.

## **National Covid-19 data**

As of 4pm on 7 October, the total number of lab-confirmed cases was **530,113**. The daily number of lab-confirmed cases was **14,542**. The total number of Covid-19 associated deaths within 28 days of a positive test was **42,445**, with **76** deaths reported on the day. The data is available to [view online](#).

The R number range for the UK is **1.3-1.6** and the growth rate range is **+5% to +9%** per day as of 2 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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