

## Local context

### Local restriction tiers

The County Council awaits notification from Government on which local restriction tier Hampshire will be placed in from Wednesday 2 December.

There are 3 tiers for local restrictions:

- [Tier 1: Medium alert](#)
- [Tier 2: High alert](#)
- [Tier 3: Very High alert](#)

The Government is expected to announce which areas are in which tier by tomorrow morning (Thursday 26 November). Residents will be able to use the postcode checker to find out the restrictions in each area and the NHS COVID-19 app will be updated on 2 December.

### EU Exit

Hampshire County Council continues to work with partners to prepare for the end of the transition period and to support residents and businesses to be ready. A press release was [issued](#) yesterday urging businesses to check they are ready for the UK's exit from the EU on 31 December. As many businesses are facing change and disruption due to Covid-19 restrictions, they are reminded that support for preparing for the end of the transition period is available and they should access any help they need in good time.

The County Council has also [confirmed](#) that plans are in place to install the final elements of Operation Transmission, the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Local Resilience Forum's (LRF) multi-agency plan to reduce the risk of severe traffic delays at Portsmouth International Port, and on surrounding roads. Details on the A31 Winchester to Alresford short stay triage point are [available here](#).

### Port of Southampton

Associated British Ports has [confirmed](#) that it will open a new next-generation-ready and open access cruise terminal for the 2021 cruise season in Southampton. The project, which forms part of the area's economic recovery plans from Covid-19, has received support from the Solent Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) through the Government's Getting Building Fund with an £8 million grant.

### School attendance

High attendance levels at both primary and secondary schools in the Hampshire County Council area continue. The Department for Education returns provided by schools last Thursday (19 November) show that attendance at primary level in Hampshire was at 92% (compared to 88% nationally) and secondary attendance in Hampshire was at 86% (compared to 79% nationally).

### Emergency planning for carers

The County Council is supporting residents who are unpaid carers to consider developing their own emergency plans should they be unable to provide care at short notice. A campaign is currently live across social media platforms signposting those who look after another adult to useful websites and local support organisations. For more information, please see the 'carer support' section of [Connect to Support Hampshire](#) which has links to support and advice from Andover Mind and The Princess Royal Trust for Carers in Hampshire.

Do you look after  
another adult?



What if you could not care  
for them at short notice?

0:14 99 views

## National context

### Spending Review 2020

The Chancellor, Rishi Sunak, today (25 November) delivered the Government's Spending Review. In his [statement](#), the Chancellor said his immediate priority was to protect people's lives and livelihoods throughout the pandemic - allocating £55 billion to tackle Covid-19 next year. He also set out the Government's ambition to deliver stronger public services and the next stages of its investment plans in infrastructure to drive the UK's recovery and "level up". For more information see the [Spending Review 2020 documents](#).

## Communities

### Christmas

The Cabinet Office [confirmed](#) yesterday (24 November) that the UK Government and the Devolved Administrations had agreed on joint arrangements for an easing of social restrictions that will allow people to reunite over the Christmas period.

Up to three households will be allowed to form a 'Christmas bubble' from December 23 - 27. Individuals will also be able to travel between tiers and across the whole of the UK without restriction within the five-day period, for the purposes of meeting with their bubble. Those travelling to and from Northern Ireland will be permitted to travel an additional day either side.

## **Printable tier posters: Medium, High and Very High**

The Government has [published](#) printable versions of a series of posters which can be used to communicate locally about the various tiers of restrictions (medium, high and very high) which will apply in England from 2 December.

## **Visa applicants**

The Home Office has [updated](#) the guidance for visa customers and applicants in the UK, visa customers outside of the UK and British nationals overseas who need to apply for a passport affected by travel restrictions associated with coronavirus. This includes visa extension information for healthcare workers whose visa expires between 1 October 2020 and 31 March 2021.

# Children and education

## **Youth Covid-19 support fund**

The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport has [announced](#) a £16.5 million emergency funding package to protect the immediate future of grassroots and national youth organisations.

## **Remote education**

The Department for Education (DfE) has [published](#) guidance for schools on sourcing educational resources during the Covid-19 outbreak.

## **Home test kits**

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

# Adults' social care and public health

## **Lateral flow tests**

The Department of Health and Social Care has [updated](#) the list of councils that will receive lateral flow tests via their directors of public health. Lateral flow tests are rapid turnaround tests that can process samples on site without the need for laboratory equipment, with most generating results in under half an hour.

# Economy, business and finance

## **Financial management data collection**

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government will launch the eighth round of the Covid-19 data collection on 4 December to gather information about the financial pressures councils are experiencing as a result of the pandemic. They are combining the November and December data collections into one and will be requesting information by 11 December.

# Environment, transport and travel

## **Testing strategy for international arrivals**

The Government has [announced](#) that from 15 December, passengers arriving into England from countries not on the travel corridor list will have the option to take a test after five days of self-isolation to reduce the 14-day self-isolation period. A negative result will release passengers from the need to isolate further. In addition, a new financial support package was announced for airports and ground handlers serving them.

## National Covid-19 data

As of 8.30pm on 24 November, the total number of people tested positive for Covid-19 was **1,538,794** and daily number of lab-confirmed cases was **11,299**. The total number of Covid-19 associated deaths within 28 days of a positive test was **55,838**, with **608** deaths reported on the day. The data is available to [view online](#).

The R number range for the UK is **1.0-1.1** and the growth rate range is **0% to +2%** per day as of 20 November.

## 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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