

Local context

Local Covid data

The County Council will today (1 February) [publish](#) the latest weekly Covid-19 data summary. Hampshire is seeing a steady decrease in the number of positive cases, but the numbers in hospital remain high. The County Council is thanking residents for all they are doing in helping to keep Hampshire safe – by protecting themselves and others.

The total number of cases in Hampshire since March 2020 is now 55,129 and there have been 3,052 cases confirmed in the last seven days.

The county's current weekly case rate has decreased to 251.5 per 100,000 population and remains below the England case rate at 309.5.

There have been 1,797 Covid-19 associated deaths in Hampshire since March, and 163 deaths reported in the last seven days.

The full data dashboard is available on the [Keep Hampshire Safe webpage](#). [Data on Hampshire districts](#) and [data on positive cases in Hampshire schools](#).

Local vaccination programme update

The roll out of the vaccination programme across Hampshire and Isle of Wight continues to progress very well. Both Hampshire and Isle of Wight ICS and Frimley Health and Care ICS (which includes North East Hampshire) have delivered the first dose of vaccine to over 85% of the over 80s.

Large scale NHS Covid-19 vaccination centres in Basingstoke, Portsmouth and the Isle Wight are opening to the public today (1 February). They complement vaccination provisions at GP-led and hospital services across the region. The opening of the three centres follows the opening of the Southampton large-scale vaccination centre to the public last week (26 January). Initially, vaccinations will be offered to people in line with recommendations from the independent JCVI.

In addition, four pharmacies across Hampshire and Isle of Wight have now begun offering vaccination by appointment, with more due to go live in the coming weeks. Details of local pharmacies offering the vaccine will be added to the interactive map showing all local vaccination sites - [available here](#).

The area has sufficient vaccine capacity planned and continues to offer the first dose to the four priority cohorts for the first phase identified by the JCVI. Delivery against capacity is dependent on vaccine supply, and the NHS are confident that there is equitable supply of the vaccine across all Primary Care Networks (PCNs).

Vaccinating social care workers

The Government has asked councils to support the NHS Covid-19 vaccination programme by helping to identify frontline social care workers who are eligible for vaccination in cohort 2. Eligible frontline social care workers are those who provide direct care, closely and regularly, to those who are clinically vulnerable to Covid-19 (excludes care homes and care home residents who are in cohort 1).

Vaccinations for the wider care market are already underway and frequent communications continue to be sent out to providers to ensure that they are prepared. Please note that the County Council is not able to answer queries about individual providers and the exact timing of vaccinations.

Adults' Health and Care has established a *Vaccination Support Team* who are liaising with vaccination hubs to secure vaccination slots for these workers. The team are also contacting provider organisations and gathering information from them for example how many staff need vaccination and their geographic location. This enables the team to match organisations to the right hub, based on geography and available vaccination slots, and they can then give the provider the relevant information to enable them to book into the slots.

Vaccination communications

Hampshire County Council and the NHS are reminding residents who have received their vaccine that it is vital to keep following the rules of Hands-Face-Space to avoid putting others at risk. In a [press release](#), Councillor Judith Grajewski, Hampshire County Council's Executive Member for Public Health is quoted: "We all want an end to lockdown, so it is now more important than ever that we continue to observe these simple behaviours, to prevent further spread of the virus and protect our communities. Remember: just because you've had the vaccine, does not mean it is safe for you to socialise."

A new vaccination information animation has launched across social media platforms. It provides simple information about the Covid-19 vaccine - reminds people of the process, urges them to continue to follow the rules following being vaccinated and warns residents about vaccination scams. Watch the new animation [online here](#). As always, Members are encouraged to share/retweet with their social media followers, any relevant messages that we are posting on our corporate social media feeds – via @hantsconnect on both Twitter and Facebook, as well as LinkedIn and Instagram.



Children's Mental Health Week 2021

Hampshire Library Service is [promoting](#) a range of books that can help children stay safe, connected, and hopeful this Children's Mental Health Week (1-7 February). The theme of the week this year is 'Express Yourself' and young people are encouraged to share their feelings, thoughts and ideas to feel confident about expressing themselves.

Hampshire County Council continues to promote a range of mental wellbeing support available to children, young people and their families including:

- Hampshire Educational Psychology Service is offering a confidential [telephone support](#) line during the pandemic for teachers, parents and carers who have queries relating to the emotional wellbeing of a child or family.
- [Chathealth](#) is a text messaging support service run by the Public Health Nursing Service to help parents, carers and young people with a wide range of health and wellbeing worries.
- [Young Minds](#) and Hampshire [Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services](#) (CAMHS) provide information and support for parents, carers and young people.

Hampshire Futures

The County Council's Careers and Employability Service – Hampshire Futures - continues to provide advice and support to young people. They have recently [launched](#) a range of free virtual interactive support for school and college leavers as they make choices about their next steps. In addition, advisers are available to talk to individuals through one-to-one appointments via telephone or virtual meetings.

National context

National Covid-19 cases, deaths and vaccines data

The NHS Covid-19 vaccination daily data shows that within the reporting period 8 December 2020 – 1 February 2021, a total of **8,082,355**, people have received the 1st dose and a total of **460,907** people have received the 2nd dose. The data, including the weekly statistical release, is available to [view online](#).

As of 4pm on 1 February, the total number of people tested positive for Covid-19 was **3,835,783** and daily number of lab-confirmed cases was **18,607**. The total number of Covid-19 associated deaths within 28 days of a positive test was **106,564** with **406** deaths reported on the day. The data is available to [view online](#).

The R number range for the UK is **0.7 – 1.1** and the growth rate range **-5% to -0%** per day as of 29 January.

Communities

Crime trends and penalty notices

Preliminary figures [released](#) by the National Police Chiefs' Council show an overall fall in crime in England Wales of 13% in the four weeks to 20 December 2020, compared to the same period in 2019. Additionally, provisional data from police forces shows a total of 42,675 fixed penalty notices have been handed out for breaches of Covid-19 laws since they came into force.

Support for victims of rape and domestic abuse

The Government has [announced](#) a £40 million funding boost for specialist support services to help them recruit more staff, keep helplines open for longer and adapt to remote counselling where necessary.

A new government advertising campaign, #ItStillMatters, also launched today (1 February) which seeks to raise awareness of sexual violence services and ensure victims of rape and sexual abuse know where to get help.

Playgrounds and outdoor gyms

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government has [updated](#) guidance for owners and operators of playgrounds and outdoor gyms. This sets out the key principles for the safe usage of them during the latest national restrictions, including measures to help facilitate social distancing, cleaning and hygiene.

Broadband affordability

Findings [published](#) by Citizens Advice suggest that more than one in six people are struggling to afford their broadband during the third lockdown. According to the charity, only three of the largest 13 broadband providers have launched affordable tariffs for those on low-income benefits.

Children and education

Ofsted inspections

Ofsted has announced that children's social care focused visits will recommence from next month. It has set out its intention to serve notice during February, but not during the first week of the month.

Children's mental health

The Children's Commissioner for England, Anne Longfield, has [published](#) her fourth annual report on the state of children's mental health services in England. Longfield warns that services are "nowhere near" able to meet the needs of hundreds of thousands of children struggling through the pandemic.

Secondary school and college testing programme

NHS Test and Trace and Public Health England have temporarily paused the need for secondary schools

and colleges to carry out a confirmatory Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test following a positive result with a Lateral Flow Test (LFT).

Adults' social care and public health

Hospital discharge funding

Clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) have been contacted by NHS England and Improvement about the end of hospital discharge funding on 31 March. CCGs and councils have been asked to provide the number of cases, and their associated costs, from the March to August cohort still using this additional funding.

Workforce Capacity Fund

The Health Minister, Helen Whately, has [written](#) to local authority chief executives and directors of adult social care to provide further details on the previously announced £120 million Workforce Capacity Fund. The letter calls on councils to use this funding to target providers with the most urgent staffing shortages.

Vaccine communications materials

The Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) has [produced](#) posters on vaccination for councils to share with their networks. DHSC has also [updated](#) a Q&A document on Adult Social Care to include the latest lines on vaccine deployment, has made available a range of videos and blogs on the rollout of vaccines, and has produced a series of new shareable Q&A fact cards for councils to use across their social media channels.

Novavax vaccine

Novavax has [announced](#) that its vaccine has shown to be 89% effective in preventing Covid-19 in participants, as well as showing efficacy against new UK variant. The Government's Vaccines Taskforce has secured 60 million doses of Novavax's vaccine to be delivered in the second half of this year if approved for use by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency.

Valneva vaccine

The Government has [announced](#) that they have signed a deal for a further 40 million doses of Valneva's promising vaccine candidate. This brings the total UK vaccine portfolio to 407 million doses over the next two years.

Janssen vaccine

Janssen has [published](#) positive data from the Phase 3 studies of its single-dose Covid-19 vaccine candidate, showing it to be 66% effective overall in preventing Covid-19 in participants.

Surge testing

DHSC has [announced](#) that additional testing is being made available in locations where the Covid-19 variant first identified in South Africa has been found. Areas affected are London (W7, N17, CR4), West Midlands (WS2), East of England (EN10), South East (ME15, GU21), North West (PR9).

Economy, finance and business

Support for airports

The Department for Transport has [confirmed](#) that the Airport and Ground Operations Support Scheme is now open to commercial airports and ground handlers who have been financially impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. Commercial airports and ground handlers will be able to apply for up to £8 million each to support with fixed costs while travel restrictions remain in place.

Environment, transport and travel

Border restrictions

The Government has [outlined](#) tougher measures to prevent the arrival of new strains of Covid-19 into the UK, confirming plans for a 10-day quarantine in hotels or other government-provided accommodation for

travellers from 30 high-risk countries, including South Africa, Portugal and South American nations. Passengers will be met at the airport and transported directly into quarantine.

Restrictions on travel to England

The Government has [added](#) Burundi, Rwanda and United Arab Emirates (UAE) to the travel ban list. People who have been in, or transited through, the countries on the list in the last ten days will not be granted access to the UK from 1pm on 29 January 2021.

This does not include British and Irish Nationals, or third country nationals with residence rights in the UK, who will be able to enter the UK but will be required to self-isolate for ten days on arrival along with their household.

Additional links

- NHS information on the Covid-19 vaccination programme: 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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