

Local context

Local Covid-19 data

The County Council will today (22 February) [publish](#) the latest weekly Covid-19 data summary. Hampshire is seeing a continued steady decrease in the number of positive cases but is urging residents to keep following the rules.

The total number of cases in Hampshire since March 2020 is now 60,134 and there have been 1,193 cases confirmed in the last seven days.

The county's current weekly case rate has decreased to 95.5 per 100,000 population and remains below the England case rate at 128.5.

There have been 2,433 Covid-19 associated deaths in Hampshire since March, and 137 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](#).

Community testing

The County Council has [confirmed](#) that following approval from the Department of Health and Social Care the asymptomatic community testing scheme will roll out in Hampshire over the next few days. The six-week scheme is aimed at those without symptoms of Covid-19 who regularly leave home to go to work and are not covered by an existing workplace testing scheme.

A total of 11 appointment-only community testing sites will become operational this week. Residents should check their district council website for launch dates and opening hours. The confirmed locations are:

- Basingstoke and Deane – former South Ham Library
- East Hants – Alton Sports Centre
- Eastleigh – The Point
- Fareham – Fareham College
- Gosport – Thorngate Hall Community Centre
- Hart – Hart District Council Offices
- Havant – Havant Library
- New Forest – Totton Health & Leisure Centre
- Rushmoor – Farnborough Leisure Centre
- Test Valley – Picket Twenty Sports Ground
- Winchester – Winchester Discovery Centre

More information is available in the [press release](#) and on the [County Council's website](#).

International and BAME staff vaccination video

Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust has [released](#) a video featuring its diverse team of international and Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) staff talking about getting their Covid-19 vaccination and encouraging others to take it up too. The video is being promoted on social media and is being shared across various networks.

Local rapid testing programme – Bramley (RG26)

The local rapid testing programme in Bramley concluded on Friday (19 February). The County Council would like to thank residents for their tremendous support. As is normal practice, test results will be communicated to individuals in confidence by NHS Test and Trace. At this stage, the County Council is not aware of any further cases of a Covid variant within Hampshire.

National context

National Covid-19 cases, deaths and vaccines data

The Covid-19 vaccination daily data shows that up to 21 February, a total of **17,723,840** people have received the 1st dose and a total of **624,325** people have received the 2nd dose.

As of 4pm on 22 February, the total number of people tested positive for Covid-19 was **4,126,150** and daily number of lab-confirmed cases was **10,641**. The total number of Covid-19 associated deaths within 28 days of a positive test was **120,757** with **178** deaths reported on the day. The data is available to [view online](#).

The R number range for the UK is **0.6 – 0.9** and the growth rate range **-6% to -3%** per day as of 19 February.

Government's Covid-19 response – spring 2021 (Roadmap)

Today (22 January) the Government [published](#) its roadmap for easing Covid-19 restrictions and the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, delivered a [statement](#) to the House of Commons on the plans.

The roadmap outlines four steps for cautiously easing restrictions across the whole of England. There will be at least five weeks between each stage and the Government will provide one week notice ahead of any changes. The 'no earlier than' dates are indicative and are subject to change.

It was confirmed that the Government will base decisions on moving to the next step on the latest Covid-19 data – the four 'tests' are: The vaccine deployment programme continues successfully.

- Evidence shows vaccines are sufficiently effective in reducing hospitalisations and deaths in those vaccinated.
- Infection rates do not risk a surge in hospitalisations which would put unsustainable pressure on the NHS.

- Our assessment of the risks is not fundamentally changed by new Variants of Concern.

The below summarises the four-step plan:

STEP 1
8 March

29 March

 **EDUCATION**

8 MARCH

- Schools and colleges open for all students
- Practical Higher Education courses

 **SOCIAL CONTACT**

8 MARCH

- Exercise and recreation outdoors with household or one other person
- Household only indoors

29 MARCH

- Rule of 6 or two households outdoors
- Household only indoors

 **BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES**

8 MARCH

- Wraparound care, including sport, for all children

29 MARCH

- Organised outdoor sport (children and adults)
- Outdoor sport and leisure facilities
- All outdoor children's activities
- Outdoor parent & child group (up to 15 parents)

 **TRAVEL**

8 MARCH

- Stay at home
- No holidays

29 MARCH

- Minimise travel
- No holidays

 **EVENTS**

- Funerals (30)
- Weddings and wakes (6)

STEP 2
No earlier than 12 April

At least 5 weeks after Step 1

 **EDUCATION**

- As previous step

 **SOCIAL CONTACT**

- Rule of 6 or two households outdoors
- Household only indoors

 **BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES**

- All retail
- Personal care
- Libraries & community centres
- Most outdoor attractions
- Indoor leisure inc. gyms (individual use only)
- Self-contained accommodation
- All children's activities
- Outdoor hospitality
- Indoor parent & child groups (up to 15 parents)

 **TRAVEL**

- Domestic overnight stays (household only)
- No international holidays

 **EVENTS**

- Funerals (30)
- Weddings, wakes, receptions (15)
- Event pilots

Communities

Sport Winter Survival Package

The Culture Secretary, Oliver Dowden, has [announced](#) the latest tranche of funding from the Government's £300m Sport Winter Survival Package, providing a boost to women's sport.

Children and education

School return

The Government has [confirmed](#) that schools and colleges are to reopen to all pupils from 8 March, with asymptomatic Covid-19 testing in place. In addition, wraparound childcare for primary and secondary pupils will resume from 8 March where necessary to enable parents to access work, education or medical care.

Psychological First Aid training

Public Health England (PHE) has [confirmed](#) that people who care for or work with children and young people aged up to 25 who have been affected by Covid-19 can now access a new online [Psychological First Aid \(PFA\) training course](#). The course, developed by PHE, offers training on how to provide practical and emotional support to children and young people affected by emergencies or crisis situations.

Adults' social care and public health

Care home visitors

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has [announced](#) that all care home residents will be able to be visited indoors by a single, named individual from 8 March. The visitor will be required to have a test beforehand, wear PPE during the visit and avoid close contact.

Outdoor, pod and screen visits will be able to continue in line with the published guidance which has been in place during lockdown, meaning there will be chances for residents to see more than just the one person they nominate.

Surge testing

DHSC has [announced](#) that working in partnership with the local authority, additional testing and genomic sequencing is being deployed to the CM13 postcode in Brentwood, Essex and within the CR0 postcode in New Addington, Croydon, where cases of the Covid-19 variant first identified in South Africa have been found.

Vaccination programme

NHS England has [confirmed](#) that over two thirds of people aged between 65 and 69 have now had their first Covid-19 vaccination, after invites went out a week ago, with people aged 64 also set to be called forward this week.

Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine

PHE [published](#) the first independent analysis in the UK showing the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine is effective against Covid-19 from the first dose.

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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