

13 July 2020

Local context

Visiting County Council care homes

Following careful consideration, the County Council has written to the families and loved ones of those living in the Local Authority's residential and nursing homes for older people to advise them that limited visiting is to resume this month. Visits are subject to strict social distancing and infection control procedures being in place.

Homes that have been Covid-19 free for more than 14 days are opening for pre-booked outdoor visits only in the outside areas and grounds. Visits will be limited to 30 minutes with a maximum of two family members allowed at any one time.

These arrangements will be kept under review as restrictions are lifted to ensure that any further changes reflect the latest Public Health England guidance. End of life and emergency visits will continue to be supported.

Hampshire Day

Hampshire County Council will mark 'Hampshire Day' this Wednesday (15 July) by raising the Hampshire flag outside the Great Hall in Winchester.

In the [press release](#), HM Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire, Nigel Atkinson Esq, is quoted: "Hampshire, like many counties, has had to deal with many challenges during the past few months as a result of Covid-19. However, our county still has much to celebrate on 'Hampshire Day' – its heritage, diverse and vibrant towns and villages, beautiful natural landscapes and, most of all, the people of Hampshire. The coronavirus may have kept us two meters apart, but we have found new ways, new spaces and new ideas to come together as a community, which I hope will be celebrated on this year's 'Hampshire Day'.

The county flag is not owned by any one organisation and can be purchased, alongside stickers and bunting from the [Hampshire Flag Company](#).



Helping children stay safe

A new children's book has been created to teach children how to stay safe during a pandemic. Launched as part of Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service's *Keeping Safe with Susie the Childminder* series, [Susie the Childminder and the Pandemic](#), aims to teach children about the importance of community, building resilience and staying safe, healthy and positive during challenging times.

Around 3,000 copies of the book, funded by Hampshire and the Isle of Wight Local Resilience Forum, will be sent to all Infant and Primary schools across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, as well as other educational settings.

National context

Communities

Cultural institutions

The Government has [announced](#) changes to the planning system to save theatres, concert halls and live music performance venues. Councils will now need to take the temporary impact of Covid-19 into account when considering permission for change of use, redevelopment or demolition of such venues. A written ministerial statement will be laid to outline the planning changes and will have immediate effect on the planning system.

Social impacts

The Office for National Statistics has [published](#) the indicators from the *Opinions and Lifestyle Survey* covering the period 2 July to 5 July.

Economy and business

Eat Out to Help Out

HMRC has [published](#) promotional materials for use by establishments who are taking part in the Eat Out To Help Out Scheme including posters and images.

From today (13 July), businesses are able to [register](#) for the Eat Out to Help Out Scheme.

Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme

HMRC has [published](#) guidance to support businesses to claim through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme for individuals who are not employees. This is possible when the individual is paid via PAYE and may include: office holders, agency workers and contingent workers in the public sector, among others.

Companies House

Companies House has [announced](#) that they will lift the temporary easement measures to suspend voluntary strike off action in response to Covid-19. The measures will be lifted from 10 September.

Driver and rider tests

The Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency has [issued](#) guidance for driving instructors and motorcycle trainers about the restart of driver and rider training and tests, including working safely and timescales.

Children and education

Holiday and after-school clubs

The Department for Education (DfE) has [updated](#) the guidance for providers offering out-of-school settings to with new content on group sizes (including the position for early years settings which provide care for both those under and over the age of 5). They have also added information on the opening of indoor sports facilities, and when providers will be able to use these venues.

In addition, the DfE has [updated](#) the guidance for parents and carers of children attending out-of-school settings.

School behaviour and attendance

The DfE has [published](#) a behaviour and attendance checklist for school leaders to support them to re-engage all pupils from the autumn term.

Online classroom

Oak National Academy, an online classroom established by the Government, has [published](#) its curriculum plans for next year, outlining the 10,000 lessons and resources that will be available. The resources are available to support any school with contingency planning and to support both remote and in-school lesson planning.

Adults' social care and public health

Covid-19 vaccines

The Government has published the [letter](#) sent by Sir Tim Barrow, UK Ambassador to EU, to the European Commission about Covid-19 vaccines procurement. The letter states that the UK Government has decided not to participate in the joint EU approach to Covid-19 vaccine procurement.

Emergency Assistance Grant for Food and Essential Supplies

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has [published](#) guidance for local authorities on managing the Local Authority Emergency Assistance Grant for Food and Essential Supplies. The grant is to support people who are struggling to afford food and other essentials due to Covid-19.

Environment, place and travel

Beach, countryside and coastal destinations

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government has [issued](#) guidance for the owners and operators of beach, countryside and coastal destinations during Covid-19.

Waste disposal

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has [published](#) guidance outlining how to dispose of your personal or business waste, including face coverings and PPE during Covid-19. The guidance does not apply to healthcare settings.

National Covid-19 data

Latest R number range

The R number range for the UK is 0.7-0.9 and the growth rate range is -5% to -2% per day as of 10 July 2020. The data is available to [view online](#).

Cases

As of 4pm on 13 July, the total number of lab-confirmed cases was **290,133**. The daily number of lab-confirmed cases was **530**. The total number of Covid-19 associated deaths was **44,830**, with **11** new deaths reported on the day. The data is available to [view online](#).

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>

Deborah Harkin

Assistant Chief Executive