

## Local context

### Secondary schools in Hampshire

Secondary schools have remained open in Hampshire since 18 March for students who are identified as vulnerable or the children of key workers. The Government has set an [expectation](#) that from today (15 June), secondary schools should open further to offer face-to-face support for a quarter of the Year 10 students at any one time. The Department for Education has made it clear that this is to supplement remote learning which students will continue to do from home and will be their main form of education. Alongside this, secondary schools will continue to support pupils in Years 7 to 9 who remain at home.

### Men's Health Week

This Men's Health Week (15-21 June), Hampshire County Council is [encouraging](#) men to consider the benefits of joining a men's group to connect with others for better mental and physical health during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Hampshire's [Men's Activity Network](#) consists of 20 men's groups across the county which offer a range of activities including online training courses, one-to-one mentoring sessions and fortnightly virtual networking sessions. The Network is promoting a [free online training session](#) on Thursday 18 June, for any community organisation that would like to learn how to reach out and engage more successfully with men locally. This includes a digital toolkit to help organisations attract new members, email [mensactivitynetwork@hants.gov.uk](mailto:mensactivitynetwork@hants.gov.uk) for details.

### Shared Lives Week

During Shared Lives Week (15-21 June), the County Council is [thanking](#) the county's *Shared Lives* carers who look after vulnerable adults in their own homes. Due to Covid-19 restrictions it is not possible to celebrate the week in the usual way. However, a five-day virtual tour of some of Hampshire's favourite attractions is planned, followed by a virtual tea party on Thursday and an online singalong.

While the scheme is not actively recruiting during the pandemic, it is still possible to express interest in becoming a *Shared Lives* carer. To find out more, call 01329 316861 or e-mail [shared.lives@hants.gov.uk](mailto:shared.lives@hants.gov.uk).

### Home and Well

Citizens Advice Hampshire's [Home and Well project](#) has been re-modelled during the Covid-19 crisis to provide support to around 200 people. *Home and Well* is a collaboration between Citizens Advice Hampshire, utility companies, and the CCG. It aims to support residents to return home as quickly and easily as possible after a hospital stay and ensure they have a home environment that will aid further recovery. For more information, see a newly published [case study](#), an [infographic showing the story and impact so far](#) or visit the [Home and Well webpage](#).

### Your Hampshire

Hampshire County Council issued the latest edition of [Your Hampshire](#) to subscribers last week. The newsletter aims to keep Hampshire residents up to date with local issues and

news from the County Council. This edition included information on the following: the new booking system for HWRCs, cycling and walking library scheme and volunteering, in the context of Covid-19.

## Transport pop-up measures

In preparation for non-essential shops re-opening today (15 June), the County Council has made some immediate changes to traffic signals and signs, to give pedestrians more space and time. This includes changing waiting times at 166 crossings in favour of pedestrians; altered traffic signals at some of Hampshire's busiest town centre traffic signal junctions, increasing the frequency that the pedestrian stage appears; and using electronic traffic information signs now to inform motorists to slow down, share the road and look out for pedestrians and people on bikes. [More information](#) is available on the County Council's Travel webpage.

## National context

### Community

#### Prime Minister's article in the Telegraph

The Telegraph [published](#) an article written by the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, in which he announces a new commission into racial inequality across the UK. The Commission on Race and Ethnic Disparities will report directly to the Prime Minister, with recommendations due by the end of the year.

#### Loneliness Awareness Week

The Loneliness Minister, Baroness Barran, is [encouraging](#) the public to reach out to friends, family and neighbours who are elderly or otherwise clinically vulnerable.

The Government has also [announced](#) the organisations who will receive a share of £5 million to reduce loneliness, which was pledged as part of the Chancellor's £750 million support package for charities.

#### Psychological First Aid

The Department of Health and Social Care has [announced](#) that frontline staff and volunteers will be able to access a free online Psychological First Aid training course from Public Health England. Access the training materials for free through the [Future Learn website](#).

#### Reservists

The Treasury has [announced](#) that service people returning to work in the coming months will be eligible for the job retention scheme. In addition, self-employed reservists who are currently ineligible for the Self Employment Income Support Scheme because of their service will be able to access a grant. More details of the changes will be included in updated guidance, to be published next week.

#### Veterans

The Veterans Minister, Johnny Mercer, has [announced](#) a new study to understand the effect of Covid-19 on former service personnel. The findings will allow policy makers to understand potential issues affecting veterans and respond accordingly.

### **Places of worship**

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government has [issued](#) guidance which provides advice on how places of worship can open, for limited permitted activities, in a manner that is safe and in line with social distancing guidelines.

## **Economy and business**

### **Letter to the retail sector**

The Minister for Small Business, Consumers and Labour Markets, Paul Scully, has [written](#) to those working in retail to thank them for “rising to the challenges of Covid-19” and to highlight the relevant government guidance.

### **Local authority grants**

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government has [published](#) letters authorising the early release of two grants to local authorities totalling £3.4 billion before the end of the month.

### **GDP monthly estimate**

The Office for National Statistics has [issued](#) the GDP monthly estimate for April 2020. The release shows that UK GDP fell by 10.4% in the three months to April as government restrictions on movement dramatically reduced economic activity. GDP fell by 20.4% in April, following a fall of 5.8% in March. This is the biggest monthly fall since the series began in 1997.

## **Children and schools**

### **Preparing for the wider opening of schools**

The Department for Education (DfE) has [updated](#) the planning guides for school leaders to help them prepare to open their schools for more pupils. The guides now contain information on how primary schools can welcome back additional pupils this term, how secondary schools can welcome year 10 and 12 pupils back for face-to-face contact, and where possible, invite pupils in other year groups in for a meeting this term.

### **Education and childcare guidance**

The DfE has [added to](#) the collection of guidance for teachers, school leaders, carers, parents and students. New information includes: [making the most of reduced classroom time](#); [supporting staff in curriculum planning for a phased return](#); [planning a curriculum to teach at school and at home](#) and [pastoral care](#).

## **Environment and place**

### **Public transport**

The Department for Transport has [updated](#) the guidance on safer travel to reflect the requirement for passengers to wear face coverings on public transport from today (15 June). A press release has been [issued](#) which outlines the expectations on passengers and highlights that those that fail to comply with the rules may be fined.

### **Green spaces**

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has [updated](#) the advice on accessing green spaces safely with guidance on the reopening of animal attractions such as zoos from today (15 June).

### Waste water

Sewage monitoring is [being established](#) across the UK as part of an advance warning system to detect new outbreaks of Covid-19. Sampling from sewage treatment works around the country will begin shortly. Data gathered will be used to refine the approach and feed into the Covid-19 Alert System created by the Joint Biosecurity Centre.

### Right to Buy receipts

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government has [temporarily relaxed](#) the rules to use Right to Buy receipts. Local authorities will have an additional six months (until 31 December 2020) to spend receipts that are due to be spent by end of June, and an additional three months to spend receipts that are due to be spent by the end of September.

## National Covid-19 data

### Latest R number range

**0.7-0.9** (12 June)

The reproduction number (R) is the average number of secondary infections produced by 1 infected person.

### Cases

As of 4pm on 14 June, the total number of lab-confirmed cases was **295,889**. The daily number of lab-confirmed cases was **1,514**. The total number of Covid-19 associated deaths was **41,698**, with **36** 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>

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