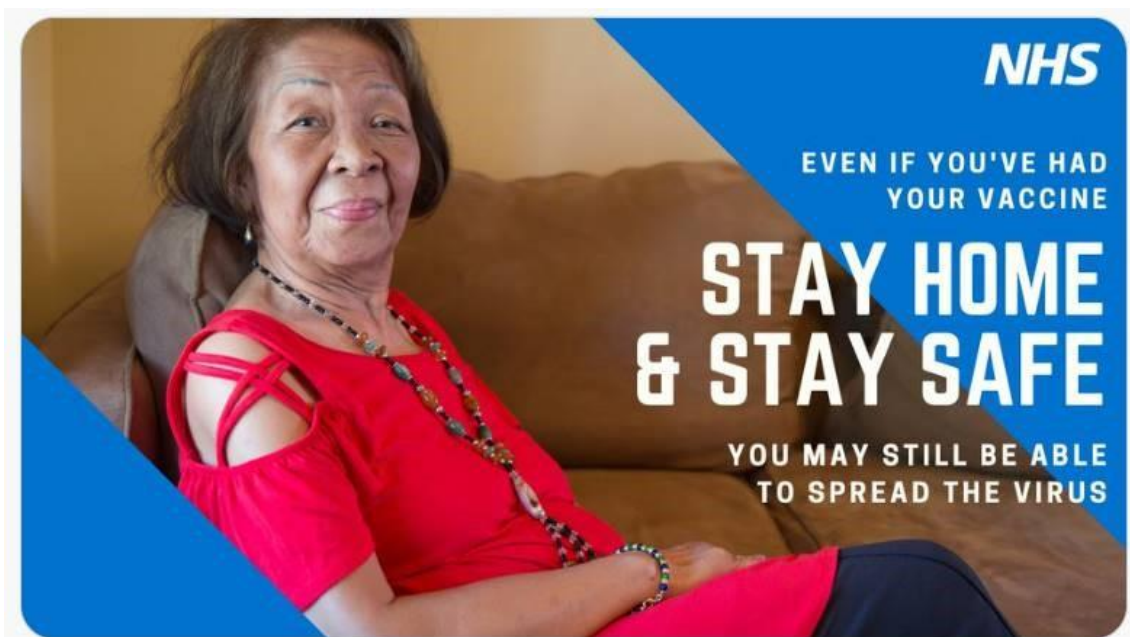


## Local context

### Vaccination

The County Council's new [vaccination webpage](#) has gone live. It contains important information for residents on the vaccination programme in Hampshire including signposting to local resources and national guidance on the vaccination programme. It also promotes useful reminders to residents including registering with a GP to be invited for a vaccine, waiting to be contacted by the NHS and continuing to follow 'hands, face, space' guidance following vaccination to avoid putting others at risk.

Further information has also been added to the County Council's [Connect to Support Hampshire webpage](#) on vaccinations including advice for people who may need help with transport to a vaccination appointment. They can contact their [local community transport provider](#) or [Good Neighbours group](#) as many are offering vaccination transport services. Residents can also call the [Coronavirus Support and Helpline](#) for advice.



### Community engagement

Hampshire County Council continues to ensure that communication and engagement with residents is as effective and far reaching as possible. To that effect, engagement work on Covid-19 is ongoing with Black Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) stakeholders through focus groups and dedicated meetings with community leaders.

In addition, the County Council has used demographic profiles as well as MOSAIC data and has reviewed evidence and good practice to underpin a BAME communications plan. Upcoming work includes:

- Adding translated advice and guidance on the County Council's website including Nepali and other languages;
- Linking with community engagement leads from district and borough councils and other partners to extend communications and feedback through local channels, including through a translated weekly Covid-19 bulletin launching soon;
- Developing a network of Community Champions which will train and support a network of people in the community to address health inequalities.

### Keep Hampshire Safe campaigns

The County Council continues to update and adapt campaigns as the pandemic evolves. This week, a new campaign has launched to make residents aware of the new Covid-19 variants and to remind them to keep

following the government guidance of hands-face-space as well as key hygiene behaviours and maintaining good ventilation at home. Watch the new variants animation [online here](#).

## New road signs

The Authority is installing new highways signs to remind people of the importance of following the rules and to reinforce the hands-face-space message. This low cost, offline advertising is an effective way to ensure that the message is visible to more people.

Additionally, in appreciation and recognition of the ongoing hard work and commitment of all critical workers who are supporting the Covid-19 effort, Hampshire Highways and Skanska are installing a series of road signs in key locations near hospitals and care homes across the county to say 'thank you'. Hampshire Highways are coordinating with Adults' Health and Care to pinpoint the most appropriate locations for up to 20 signs.



## 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 – 26 January 2021, a total of **6,221,850**, people have received the 1<sup>st</sup> dose and a total of **444,011** people have received the 2<sup>nd</sup> dose. In the South East, a total of **983,816** people have received the 1<sup>st</sup> dose and a total of **76,803** people have received the 2<sup>nd</sup> dose. The data, including the weekly statistical release, is available to [view online](#).

As of 4pm on 26 January, the total number of people tested positive for Covid-19 was **3,689,746** and daily number of lab-confirmed cases was **20,089**. The total number of Covid-19 associated deaths within 28 days of a positive test was **100,162** with **1,631** deaths reported on the day. The data is available to [view online](#).

The R number range for the UK is **0.8-1.0** and the growth rate range **-4% to -1%** per day as of 22 January.

## Communities

### Prime Minister's statement – 27 January

The Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, made a [statement](#) on the Government's measures to safeguard the UK against Covid-19 today (27 January). In the statement, the Prime Minister offered his condolences to all those who have lost loved ones at the number of Covid-19 deaths surpassed 100,000. It was confirmed that the UK remains on track to achieve the target of offering a first dose to everyone in the top four priority groups by the middle of February.

It was confirmed that it will not be possible to re-open schools immediately after the February half term and that plans are now for them to reopen by 8 March, with other economic and social restrictions being removed thereafter. The Government will prolong arrangements for providing free school meals for those eligible children not in school – including food parcels and the national voucher scheme.

It was announced that all UK arrivals who arrive from Covid-19 hotspots will have to quarantine in government-provided hotels – further details are expected on this policy next week.

### National League system

The Sports Minister, Nigel Huddleston, has [announced](#) that Steps 3-6 of the National League system will receive up to £10 million to protect the immediate future of approximately 850 clubs over the winter period.

## Children and education

### Traineeships

The Department for Education (DfE) has [announced](#) new £1000 cash support for businesses to help with the cost of providing a traineeship. The cash boost – which is available until 31 July 2021 - will aim to help businesses with the cost of providing a high-quality work placement for a trainee.

### Laptops and devices

DfE has [issued](#) information about how many laptops and tablets have been delivered or dispatched to local authorities and academy trusts to support remote learning.

### Schools reopening

The Children's Commissioner and Solace have [written a joint letter](#) to the Prime Minister urging him to set-out a roadmap for all pupils return to school. The letter does not call for a date to be set, but requests that the Government set out the key criteria that need to be met for schools to safely re-open, and what practical support will be needed within schools.

## Adults' social care and public health

### Virus variants

The Department of Health and Social Care has [announced](#) that the UK will offer its genomics expertise to identify new variants of the virus that causes Covid-19 to countries who do not have the resources to do so.

### Infection Survey

The Office for National Statistics has [released](#) the latest report which provides data about the characteristics of people testing positive for Covid-19 from the Infection Survey. This survey is being delivered in partnership with the University of Oxford, the University of Manchester, and Public Health England.

# Economy, finance and business

## Local government finance

MHCLG has [updated](#) the timetable for councils setting out when local government finance forms need to be submitted for 2021/22. The table includes the required format and the contact for each collection.

## Companies House

Companies House has [announced](#) that they have temporarily paused voluntary and compulsory strike off processes for one month, from 21 January - 21 February 2021.

## Additional links

- NHS information on the Covid-19 vaccination programme: [www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination](http://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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