

Local context

Keep Hampshire Safe communications

The County Council continues to promote and proactively target key public health messages to Hampshire residents. A breakdown of Covid-19 communications, campaigns and community and stakeholder engagement over the last seven days can be viewed [online here](#).

The latest edition of the e-newsletter, Your Hampshire, was [issued](#) this week. The newsletter contains a range of useful information and updates for residents on topics including testing sites, celebrating autumn events safely, support for vulnerable families and the Kickstart scheme.

Nightingale Court - Winchester

The Government has [confirmed](#) that a Nightingale Court will be temporarily located at the Guildhall, Winchester until June 2021. The Guildhall was chosen because of its prominent city centre location and reputation as a civic hub. In addition, the layout of the building will adapt to a conventional court format while also allowing compliance with Covid-19 social distancing measures.

Nightingale Courts are being set up across the UK to manage a backlog of legal cases that have built up due to limited capacity in existing courts of law and the social distancing requirements now in place due to the pandemic. In total, 16 Nightingale Courts are now open nationwide.

Hampshire Perspectives

The first Hampshire Perspectives survey “Lifestyles in the Age of Covid-19”, aimed to inform the support that needs to be in place to help local residents, businesses and organisations as Hampshire seeks to move forward from the pandemic.

Between 23 September and 10 October 2020 almost 800 residents shared their perspective on how lifestyles in Hampshire have changed during the pandemic and how they may continue to evolve in the coming months.

Overall, respondents revealed that:

- as well as significant lifestyle changes relating to work, social lives and internet usage, they are increasingly buying locally, relaxing, and learning new things;
- relationships with friends and work colleagues have been strongly affected and around half of families are feeling less close;
- where connections with neighbours have increased, this has enabled them to feel more involved in their community and less isolated;
- almost half of those who attended local groups or activities prior to the pandemic remain unable to do so, with fears for personal safety being a key barrier;
- they have many concerns about the impact of the pandemic – in particular the state of the national economy and people’s adherence to government guidance. Health concerns also predominate – not just about personally catching the virus but also the impact on friends and family and the consequences of prolonged safety measures on mental wellbeing;
- they believe it will be at least six months before their life returns to normal.

National context

Communities

Local Covid alert levels

The Government [announced](#) yesterday (29 October) that the following areas will move from local Covid

alert level “medium” to local Covid alert level “high” from 00.01 on 31 October:

- Yorkshire and the Humber: East Riding of Yorkshire, Kingston-Upon-Hull, North East Lincolnshire and North Lincolnshire;
- West Midlands: Dudley, Staffordshire, Telford and the Wrekin;
- East Midlands: Amber Valley, Bolsover, Derbyshire Dales, Derby City, South Derbyshire, the whole of High Peak; Charnwood;
- East of England: Luton; and
- South East: Oxford City.

Today (30 October), the Government [confirmed](#) that Calderdale, City of Bradford, Kirklees, Leeds and Wakefield will move from local Covid alert level “high” to “very high” from 00.01 on 2 November.

Rough sleepers

The Communities Secretary, Robert Jenrick, has [announced](#) over £150 million of government funding to make more new long term homes available for rough sleepers and other vulnerable people.

Police recruitment

The Home Office has [confirmed](#) that the Government’s campaign to recruit 20,000 additional officers over the next three years is ahead of schedule, with almost 6,000 new officers having joined by the end of September.

Children and education

Disapportionment notice: school inspections legislation changes

The Secretary of State for Education [issued](#) a seventh notice about changes to state-funded school inspections requirements during the coronavirus outbreak.

He also [issued](#) a seventh notice to modify pupil registration requirements for temporary pupils.

Childcare and early years providers survey

Pupils displaying symptoms

The Department for Education (DfE) has published a list of actions that [early years](#), [schools](#) and [further education colleges](#) must follow in the event that a child or young person displays symptoms or if they confirm they have tested positive for Covid-19.

Adults' social care and public health

Testing

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has [published](#) an overview of NHS Test and Trace, which includes information on what happens after samples are submitted and how the laboratories process tests.

NHS Test and Trace

DHSC has [released](#) the latest NHS Test and Trace statistics (15-21 October) which show a total of 1,892,703 tests were processed, a 9% increase from the previous week. 97,014 (80.5%) people who tested positive and were transferred to the contact-tracing system were reached and asked to provide information about their contacts, compared with 78,903 (81.7%) the previous week.

NHS Covid-19 app updates

The Government has [announced](#) that NHS Covid-19 app users will benefit from a more accurate and user-friendly app. This is the latest in a series of updates since the national launch, designed to improve the efficacy and usability of the app.

REACT study

Imperial College London and Ipsos MORI have [published](#) interim results from the sixth report of the REACT study, which examines the levels of infection in the general population. The findings show infections continue to rise across all age groups and all regions in England, with the biggest increase in

those aged 55 to 64. The highest number of infections remain in the North West and Yorkshire and the Humber, where the overall prevalence has more than doubled.

C19 National Foresight Group Third Interim Operational Review published

The C19 National Foresight Group have recently [made](#) their third Covid-19 Pandemic Interim Operational Review (October) available to the public.

Economy and business

Work Coaches

The Department for Work and Pensions has [confirmed](#) that 4,500 new Work Coaches for the Jobcentre frontline will be trained to use their expertise to help jobseekers across the country get the support they need to find a job, retrain or gain vital practical experience. The next round of Work Coach recruitment will begin in mid-November, with thousands of new vacancies available.

Environment, transport and travel

Travel corridors

The Department for Transport has [announced](#) that Cyprus and Lithuania are to be removed from the travel corridor list of exempt countries. From 4am Sunday 1 November, people arriving in the UK from Cyprus or Lithuania will need to self-isolate. No countries were added to list of travel corridors this week.

National Covid-19 data

As of 4pm on 29 October, the total number of lab-confirmed cases was 965,340. The daily number of lab-confirmed cases was 23,065. The total number of Covid-19 associated deaths within 28 days of a positive test was 45,955, with 280 deaths reported on the day. The data is available to [view online](#).

The R number range for the UK is 1.1-1.3 and the growth rate range is +2% to +4% per day as of 30 October.

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