

Local context

Testing pilot launched in Southampton

A new Covid-19 home saliva test is to be trialed in Southampton. The trial which has been commissioned by the Department of Health and Social Care is a partnership between Southampton City Council, the University of Southampton and the NHS, alongside a wider Hampshire network of public services. Over 14,000 GP staff, key workers, university staff and students, and their respective households will be invited to participate in the first phase of the trial. Individuals will be contacted directly if they have been selected to be tested. Southampton was chosen for this programme as it has a diverse population, multiple transport links and a mixed economy, as well as unique academic and NHS expertise. More information is available from [Southampton City Council](#) and [Gov UK](#).

Supporting vulnerable residents

The *HantsHelp4Vulnerable* helpline has, as of today (22 June), received a total of 13,839 calls and has contacted a total of 17,971 people on the extremely vulnerable list through outbound calls. A total of 5,945 Local Response Centre referrals for voluntary support with food, medicine or other support have been made. The districts with the highest number of referrals from the contact centre were: New Forest (948), Basingstoke (917) and Havant (886). The district with the lowest number of referrals is Rushmoor (272). Help with food shopping, and prescriptions consistently remain the top two reasons for residents seeking support.

Armed Forces week

Hampshire County Council will fly the Armed Forces flag outside of the Great Hall, Winchester to mark Armed Forces week (22-27 June). Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the usual celebrations are not possible. The County Council's Armed Forces Champion and Executive Member for Communities, Partnerships and External Affairs, Councillor Andrew Joy is quoted in the County Council's [press release](#):

"We want to recognise and thank the whole Hampshire Armed Forces community of service personnel, reservists, veterans, cadets and their families and friends, for their extraordinary contribution to both the County and the UK. We hugely value our close relationship with our military services, and the raising of the Armed Forces flag in Winchester and across the County displays our unwavering support and affection for our Armed Forces family."

Police and Crime Commissioner survey

The Hampshire Police and Crime Commissioner and Hampshire Constabulary are gathering views on the police response to the Covid-19 pandemic each week through an online [survey](#). The responses will help shape the policing response throughout the pandemic.

National context

Communities

Local government guidance

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) has [updated](#) the guidance for local government to include information on the safe use of places of worship during the pandemic, business evictions, support for high street firms and support for the construction industry.

Social impact

The Office for National Statistics has [published](#) the indicators from *the Opinions and Lifestyle Survey* on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on young and older people. The release uses five waves of survey results covering the period from 3 April to 10 May.

Places of worship taskforce

[FaithAction](#), a national network of faith-based and community organisations, have been commissioned by MHCLG to gather voices from faith and community groups to ensure their views are represented at the Places of Worship Taskforce meetings.

Economy and business

Roadmap

The Prime Minister will announce this week which sectors of the economy will be permitted to open from July 4, under phase three of the roadmap. He will also announce the results of a review of the 2m rule. He is expected to set out the updated position to Parliament tomorrow (Tuesday 23 June).

Financial impact on local authorities

MHCLG has [published](#) the summary of data collected from local authorities on the financial impact of Covid-19. The data collected so far shows the combined spending and income pressure to the end of May has been £3.24 billion.

Construction

MHCLG has [announced](#) measures to support the construction industry and to protect the capacity of the sector. These include extending planning permission deadlines, speeding up planning appeals, and more flexible working hours for builders.

'Bounce back' plan for agriculture, food and drink industry

The Government has [announced](#) a new 'bounce back' plan of trade measures for the agriculture, food and drink industry. The range of measures includes the launch of a programme of webinars, promoting 50 food and drink export champions, a programme of physical and virtual events and Defra's "Food is GREAT" campaign to extend into the EU and the UAE later this year.

Protection for UK businesses

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy has [announced](#) changes to the Enterprise Act 2002, being laid before Parliament today (22 June). These will allow the Government to scrutinise certain foreign takeovers to ensure they do not threaten the UK's ability to combat a public health emergency such as Covid-19.

Zero emission vehicles

The Government has [confirmed](#) that the UK is seeking to put green technologies at the heart of economic recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic. Businesses can apply for a share of £15 million to support the development of zero emission vehicle technologies and a supporting supply chain.

MOTs for lorries, buses and trailers

The Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency has [updated](#) their guidance on MOTs to state that lorry, bus or trailer MOTs will restart from 4 July. Vehicles and trailers originally due an MOT in March or April have been given two 3-month exemptions and those due in May, June, July or August will receive one 3-month exemption.

Children and schools

School return in September

The Education Secretary [confirmed](#) in Friday's (19 June) press conference that all pupils in all year groups will return to school full-time in September. It was announced that class size limits, or "bubbles", could be increased to allow every child to return to school. Guidance on safety measures is likely to be published in the next fortnight.

Adults' social care and public health

PPE portal

The Department of Health and Social Care has [updated](#) the guidance on the PPE portal to confirm that GPs and small social care providers can now place orders multiple times per week within the limits set out in the guidance, instead of through a single weekly order.

Letter to directors of public health

The Health Minister, Jo Churchill, has [written](#) a letter of thanks to all directors of public health and their teams for their dedicated response to Covid-19 so far.

National Covid-19 data

Latest R number range

0.7-0.9 (19 June)

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

Cases

As of 4pm on 22 June, the total number of lab-confirmed cases was **305,289**. The daily number of lab-confirmed cases was **958**. The total number of Covid-19 associated deaths was **42,647**, with **15** 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