

9 September 2020

## Local context

### Five ways to wellbeing

To support the mental wellbeing of Hampshire residents throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, the County Council has redeveloped and updated its [five ways to wellbeing webpages](#).

Maintaining positive mental wellbeing enables people to become more resilient and able to cope. Evidence shows that there are five key elements which contribute to mental wellbeing which include: connecting with others; staying active; learning; helping people and being mindful. The webpages aim to help residents explore the actions they can take to support their own mental wellbeing and signposts to further resources, information, and useful apps. Over the next five weeks, universal messages from five ways to wellbeing will be promoted on social media alongside targeted messages for specific groups (e.g. new parents, university students).

To mark World Suicide Prevention Day (10 September), Hampshire residents will be encouraged to take a few minutes to understand how to recognise that someone may be struggling with their mental health, and what can be done to help them. Over a million people have already taken [free suicide awareness training](#) with The Zero Suicide Alliance. Advice regarding urgent support can be found at [Every Mind Matters](#), help is also available 24 hours a day 365 days a year from the [Samaritans](#).



### Heritage open days

Due to the Covid-19 outbreak, the annual Heritage Open Days (11-20 September) will be both physical and virtual this year.

In the [press release](#), the County Council's Executive Member for Recreation and Heritage, Councillor Seán Woodward, is quoted: "We are honoured to play a key role in preserving Hampshire's culturally and historically significant places and collections, such as the Great Hall and Hampshire Archives... With a wider selection of virtual experiences being offered this year to support social distancing, we hope people of all ages will have a fantastic time."

For more details about the events, please see the Heritage Open Days website at [www.heritageopendays.org.uk](http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk).

## Active places survey

Hampshire County Council is [reminding](#) residents to have their say on active travel within the county. The [Active Places Survey](#) aims to gather opinions and experiences about what it is like to walk, scoot, cycle and use a wheelchair, mobility scooter and/or pushchair in Hampshire – both for pleasure and as a mode of day-to-day transport. To accompany the survey there is also the opportunity for participants to send photographs illustrating how they feel about active travel in Hampshire.

During the Covid-19 outbreak, the County Council has reallocated road space for Hampshire's economic, environmental and physical health. Over 40 new temporary footpath and cycleway measures have been installed since June, providing people with the space to travel by bike or by foot while keeping a safe social distance. For more information visit the [Hampshire Covid-19 travel web pages](#).

# National context

## Communities

### Press Conference - 9 September

The Government held the first Covid-19 [press conference](#) today (9 September) since July. People were reminded to continue observing the key behaviours of washing hands, wearing face coverings and social distancing, as well as getting tested if they have symptoms. [New measures](#) were announced intended to suppress the growing spread of the virus, these include:

- **Social gatherings** of more than six people will be banned in law from Monday 14 September - with some exemptions (schools, workplaces, Covid-secure weddings, funerals and organised team sports). Failure to comply may result in the enforcement of a fine.
- From 18 September, it will be mandatory for certain businesses to have a system to collect **NHS Test and Trace data**, and keep this for 21 days.
- The Government will support local authorities and police forces to respond to breaches of Covid-19 Secure guidelines. A register of newly qualified and recently retired **Environmental Health Officers** (EHOs) will be launched to enable faster recruitment. The Government will also introduce **Covid-19 Secure Marshals** to help local authorities support social distancing in towns and city centres.

- The **Passenger Locator Form** needed for travelling to the UK will be simplified, and measures will be taken to ensure passengers have filled out their form before departure.

The Government will **restrict the opening hours of premises**, initially in local lockdown areas, with the option of national action in the future.

### **Bolton**

Yesterday (8 September) the Health and Social Care Secretary, Matt Hancock, made a [statement](#) outlining the new measures introduced in Bolton to reduce the spread of Covid-19.

### **COVID-19 cost tracker**

The National Audit Office (NAO) has [launched](#) a cost tracker to provide an independent summary of the estimated costs of the Government's response to the Covid-19 pandemic to date. The NAO estimates that, up to 7 August, the Government had announced over 190 measures, which have a total estimated cost of £210 billion. The NAO estimates government has so far spent over £70 billion, with several measures still to be fully implemented.

## **Children and education**

### **Pupils displaying Covid-19 symptoms**

The Department for Education (DfE) has [published](#) a list of actions that [early years and childcare providers](#), [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.

### **Every Mind Matters**

Public Health England's [new campaign, Better Health – Every Mind Matters](#), is designed to support children and young people's mental wellbeing as they return to school. Aimed at parents, carers, teachers and young people, the campaign provides NHS-endorsed tips and advice to support mental wellbeing and equip parents and carers with the knowledge to support them.

### **HSE spot checks**

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) has [issued](#) an education bulletin which details the HSE spot-checks to be carried out in schools as schools this autumn term. The HSE will phone schools to review the measures taken for reopening and to minimise spread of Covid-19.

### **SEND visits**

Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) have [confirmed](#) that they will start carrying out visits to local areas from October to find out about their arrangements for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). The visits are designed to understand the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the SEND system and to support improvement.

### **Educational psychologists**

The DfE has [issued](#) guidance on plans to build temporary educational psychologist capacity to support children and young people as schools, colleges and other educational settings return in September.

# Adults' social care and public health

## **Hands. Face. Space**

The Government has [launched](#) a new public information campaign to highlight how everyone can help stop the spread of the virus by remembering to wash their hands, cover their face and make space. 'Hands. Face. Space' will run across TV, radio, print, out of home, social and digital display advertising.

## **Long-term effects of COVID-19**

Public Health England (PHE) has [published](#) new information and guidance on the health problems reported following acute Covid-19 cases, and guidance for healthcare professionals on how to advise and support recovering Covid-19 patients.

## **Mental health and wellbeing**

PHE has [published](#) a report on population mental health and wellbeing during the Covid-19 pandemic. It includes up-to-date information to inform policy, planning and commissioning in health and social care. It is designed to assist stakeholders at national and local level, in both government and non-government sectors.

# Economy and business

## **Grants for businesses affected by local lockdowns**

The Treasury has [announced](#) new funding to support businesses impacted by Covid-19. Businesses required to close due to local lockdowns or targeted restrictions will be able to receive grants between £1,000 and £1,500 every three weeks.

## **Bounce-back plans**

The Exports Minister, Graham Stuart, has [outlined](#) new measures to help boost exports and increase British retail firms' readiness to sell overseas. New plans include the creation of a Consumer and Retail Export Academy to help businesses export, via a digital learning syllabus.

# National Covid-19 data

As of 4pm on 9 September, the total number of lab-confirmed cases was **355,219**. The daily number of lab-confirmed cases was **2,659**. The total number of Covid-19 associated deaths within 28 days of a positive test was **41,594**, with **8** deaths reported on the day. The data is available to [view online](#).

The R number range for the UK is **0.9-1.1** and the growth rate range is **-1% to +2%** per day as of 4 September.

## **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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