

Government press conference - 2 June

The [press conference](#) was chaired by the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Matt Hancock.

The Government encouraged people with Covid-19 symptoms to get tested and highlighted the additional testing capacity that is available. New admissions to hospitals continue to fall and the occupation of ventilated beds by patients with Covid-19 remains at 9%.

The Government highlighted that Public Health England has [published](#) the *descriptive review of data on disparities in the risk and outcomes from Covid-19*. This confirms that the impact of Covid-19 has replicated existing health inequalities and, in some cases, has increased them. It was announced that the Minister for Equalities, Kemi Badenoch, will lead the Government's work into understanding what is driving these disparities and how different risk factors interact.

The press conference slides and datasets are available to [view online](#).

As of 5pm on 2 June, the total number of lab-confirmed cases was **277,985**. The daily number of lab-confirmed cases was **1,613**. The total number of Covid-19 associated deaths was **39,369**, with **324** new deaths reported on the day. The data is available to [view online](#).

National context

Border measures

The Home Secretary delivered an [oral statement](#) on the public health measures being introduced at the border from Monday 8 June. The temporary requirements are set out in full in the Health Protection Regulations laid today (3 June).

Waste

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has [updated](#) the guidance for local authorities on household waste to reflect that there are no restrictions on making journeys to local HWRCs.

Dairy farmers

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has [announced](#) that a [new dairy response fund](#) will open for applications on 18 June. The fund will provide dairy farmers experiencing difficulties grants of up to £10,000.

Fisheries response fund

The Marine Management Organisation has [confirmed](#) that qualifying fishing and aquaculture businesses will receive a further and final payment from the Government's £10 million Fisheries Response Fund.

Coronavirus grant funding

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy has [updated](#) the data showing the total amount of money that each local authority in England has received from the Government and distributed to SMEs up to 31 May.

Transport use

The Department for Transport has [published](#) its weekly set of statistics on transport use by mode.

Rough sleeping

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government has [published](#) the latest snapshot data for May about the support for people sleeping rough.

Prisons and probation

The Prisons and Probation Minister, Lucy Frazer, has [outlined](#) how prisons and probation services will start to recover from the restrictions imposed in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Testing

The Department of Health and Social Care has [updated](#) the privacy notice on Covid-19 virus testing for critical workers and their household members.

Charity Commission

The Charity Commission has [updated](#) the guidance for trustees on what matters may need to be reported as a serious incident during the Covid-19 pandemic. To submit serious incidents on behalf of the trustee body, charities can now use the [‘Report a serious incident’ online form](#).

Learning disabilities

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) has [published](#) data on deaths of people with a learning disability, some of whom may be autistic, and receiving care. While the CQC notes that there are a number of limitations in the data, it shows a significant increase in deaths of people with a learning disability as a result of Covid-19.

Local context

Support for vulnerable families

Hampshire County Council has [awarded approximately £100,000](#) as part of the Supporting Families Programme to 20 community organisations who are able to quickly deploy support to families in need. The additional help includes support to enable organisations to move their counselling and support online, as well as providing practical support for vulnerable families. Full details of all the grants awarded are available on the [County Council’s website](#).

Testing in care homes

Following the recent Government [announcement](#) that care home managers can use an [online portal](#) to request Covid-19 test kits for their care home, Hampshire County Council has been working closely with care home managers to ensure they have the relevant information and have confirmed their registration. The Director of Public Health also continues to work with the Adult Social Care team using local intelligence to assist the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) with prioritising areas for whole home testing for care homes for people older than 65 years.

The logistics of sending, collecting, and analysing the swab tests is complex and is being arranged centrally. Currently, there appear to be delays with care homes both receiving tests and having tests collected. The County Council continues to work with the Government and is providing feedback on the system as well as submitting its weekly returns. Work will also continue to be undertaken to support all care homes in Hampshire to access testing for Covid-19 and overcome issues - through partnership working across Hampshire, Public Health England and DHSC.

Cycling and walking

Hampshire County Council are implementing a range of temporary changes across the county to provide more road space for people walking and cycling. Some changes to traffic signals and signs have already been made to give pedestrians more space and time. The next stage will involve installing physical measures which will provide more space for safe social distancing.

Further schemes are in development to support retail spaces by taking traffic and parking out of town centres to create space. The plans are being developed with Hampshire’s district and borough councils, Business Improvement Districts, town and parish councils, and other organisations who have expressed an interest.

Communities, schools and residents are encouraged to make suggestions for schemes which support social distancing at – www.hants.gov.uk/transport/transportschemes/hantscovidtravel – with priority given to those ideas with the potential to make the most positive impact and which meet Government criteria for funding.

Domestic abuse

As part of a Domestic Abuse communications plan for the Covid-19 crisis, social media posts have been created to focus on both general audiences and specific groups. This week focussed on the key message that domestic abuse services are still open and that is important to seek help if you or someone you know is at risk or experiencing abuse. The targeted messaging was aimed at older people who are particularly vulnerable to financial abuse, and men and boys, who can also experience abuse. It signposts to [Hampshire Domestic Abuse Service](#), [We Are Hourglass](#) (a charity which supports older people) and [The Men's Advice Line](#).



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/>
- 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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