

Local context

Local Covid-19 data

The County Council will today (25 January) [publish](#) the latest weekly Covid-19 data summary.

The total number of cases in Hampshire since March 2020 is now 52,077 and there have been 4,714 cases confirmed in the last seven days.

The county's current weekly case rate has decreased to 377.4 per 100,000 population and remains below the England case rate at 437.8.

There have been 1,604 Covid-19 associated deaths in Hampshire since March, and 126 deaths reported in the last seven days.

The full data dashboard is available on the [Keep Hampshire Safe webpage](#). [Data on Hampshire districts](#) and [data on positive cases in Hampshire schools](#).

Innovation South Virtual Campus

Basingstoke College of Technology has partnered with a group of colleges and universities in the Enterprise M3 LEP area to launch Innovation South Virtual Campus (ISVC) – a new range of free online courses which aims to help employers fill digital skills gaps in their businesses for free. The project intends to transform access to vital work-focused training such as cyber security and digital skills across the region and is funded by the Enterprise M3 LEP. For more information, please see the [ISVC website](#).

Local vaccine information

To ensure that Hampshire residents can easily access trustworthy and up to date information on the Covid-19 vaccination programme, a new tile has been added to the County Council's [coronavirus webpage](#) which links residents to the Southampton City CCG Covid-19 vaccination and roll-out [webpage](#). This contains updates for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, as well as FAQs and an online map of vaccination sites. To complement this, the County Council is also developing its own Covid-19 vaccine webpage which will signpost to local resources and national guidance on the vaccination programme. It will promote 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.

Cold weather

The County Council's highways teams have been working around the clock to ensure that Hampshire's roads remain safe and clear during the cold weather. In the [press release](#), Councillor Rob Humby, Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment at Hampshire County Council, is quoted: "As well as the main roads, the teams are also treating roads to Covid-19 vaccination and testing centres and we have additional gangs hand salting the entrances and footway areas at these sites. Winter teams will also treat Hampshire's community routes... ensuring roads to smaller schools and health centres are passable."

Long Covid

Approximately 10% of people who contract Covid-19 experience a prolonged illness called 'Long Covid'. Symptoms can be wide-ranging and fluctuating, including breathlessness, chronic fatigue, 'brain fog', anxiety and stress.

The NHS has established more than 60 nationwide sites to help combat Long Covid. This service is already up and running in most parts of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, and people can be referred by their GP. More information and guidance on recovery is available [on the NHS website](#).

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 – 25 January 2021, a total of **5,727,693** people have received the 1st dose and a total of **441,684** people have received the 2nd dose. In the South East, a total of **910,450** people have received the 1st dose and a total of **76,383** people have received the 2nd dose. The data, including the weekly statistical release, is available to [view online](#).

As of 4pm on 25 January, the total number of people tested positive for Covid-19 was **3,669,658** and daily number of lab-confirmed cases was **22,195**. The total number of Covid-19 associated deaths within 28 days of a positive test was **98,531** with **592** 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

Community Champions

The Government has [confirmed](#) that over £23 million funding has been allocated to 60 councils and voluntary groups to expand work to support those most at risk from Covid-19 and to boost vaccine take up.

Children and education

Support for babies and families

The Parent Infant Foundation has [launched](#) a report titled, *Working for babies: Lockdown lessons from local systems*, which explored how 0-2s were impacted by the spring lockdown and how local services responded. Key findings suggest that support services for babies and families were depleted and that 0-2 year olds were at an increased risk of domestic conflict, child abuse and neglect.

Remote education

Ofsted has [published](#) a new report which suggests pupils' engagement and motivation remains a significant challenge for schools providing remote education.

Adults' social care and public health

Providing home care and supported living services

The Government has [updated](#) guidance for those providing personal care to people living in their own home, and for providers of supported living settings during the pandemic. The update includes information on working with people in their own homes this winter.

The Government has also [updated](#) the guidance for care homes, setting out the support package to keep care homes safe.

Discharge from hospital

NHS England has [written](#) to directors of adult social care, system discharge leads and CCG accountable officers in relation to supporting discharge from hospital. NHS and council commissioners are reminded that they can use hotel accommodation to support discharge ('care hotels') as well as including a revised procurement framework to increase capacity of hospital-at-home and rehab/reablement services.

Post vaccination

Deputy Chief Medical Officer, Jonathan Van-Tam, has [written](#) an opinion piece in The Sunday Telegraph highlighting the importance of continuing to follow government guidance, even after receiving a Covid-19 vaccination.

New variant

The Government Chief Science Adviser, Sir Patrick Vallance, has [commented](#) on the new variant of Covid-19. He suggests that the new variant has increased mortality compared to the original virus, as well as increased transmission.

Economy, finance and business

Self Assessment late filing penalty

HMRC has [announced](#) that Self Assessment customers who cannot file their tax return by the 31 January deadline will not receive a late filing penalty if they file online by 28 February.

Kickstart Scheme

The Government has [announced](#) that over 120,000 jobs for 16 to 24 year olds have been created through the Kickstart Scheme. From 3 February 2021, employers will be able to apply to the Kickstart Scheme without a minimum threshold of 30 jobs.

Environment, transport and travel

TFL funding

The Secretary of State for Transport has [written](#) to the Mayor of London regarding an Extraordinary Funding and Financing Agreement for Transport for London.

Additional links

- NHS information on the Covid-19 vaccination programme: 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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