

## Local context

### National lockdown

The Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, last night (4 January) [announced](#) a national lockdown in England. The lockdown guidance was [published](#) last night with the instruction for people to follow it immediately. The rules are expected to become law from 00.01 on Wednesday. Parliament will sit, largely remotely, on Wednesday to debate and vote on the measures.

There is expected to be a review in the week beginning 15 February, with the national restrictions possibly being lifted and a return to the tiered system in the week of 22 February.

Councillor Keith Mans, Leader of Hampshire County Council and Chair of the Local Outbreak Engagement Board, has [issued](#) a message to Hampshire residents:

“Over the past seven days, we have seen the number of positive cases within our county rise substantially. This is of huge concern as the virus transmits increasingly quickly through our communities. The decision by Government to impose further restrictions on the population cannot have been an easy one but is regrettably the only immediate action currently available to help slow the spread of the virus in the near future.

“I understand that many will be disappointed and upset with the imposition of additional curbs on our daily lives, but it is absolutely imperative that we do all we can to minimise any further loss of life and support our hospitals to continue to treat those who fall seriously ill.

“As more are vaccinated, so we will be able to enjoy greater freedoms once again. In the meantime however, I am urging all Hampshire residents to abide by the rules to stay at home, and to stay local should essential journeys be required. Now more than ever we must work together to keep ourselves, our loved ones and our communities safe.

“Our immediate priority in the coming days and weeks is to continue to provide important essential local authority services, as well as ensure that those who need support to stay at home or shield are able to access it.”

National lockdown restrictions include:

- Residents to stay at home, apart from limited exemptions set out in law such as shopping for basic necessities
- Non-essential retail, indoor gyms and leisure facilities, and personal care services to close
- People to work from home if they can but they may travel to work if this is not possible, for example in the construction and manufacturing sectors
- Those who are ‘extremely clinically vulnerable’ are advised to stay at home at all times, unless for exercise or medical appointments, and not to attend work, even if they are unable to work from home
- In addition, colleges, primary and secondary schools will remain open only for vulnerable children and the children of key workers. All other children will learn remotely until February half term. Early Years settings which include nurseries, remain open.

Speech transcript - [published online](#)

Slides and datasets - [online here](#)

National lockdown guidance - [available here](#)

What you can and cannot do - [available here](#)

Update from the UK CMOs - [published here](#)



The poster features the Hampshire County Council logo in the top right corner. On the left, it says 'Keep Hampshire SAFE' with a small icon of a virus. The main text reads 'COVID-19 National lockdown' in large, bold letters. Below this, it says 'Stay at home except for essential journeys'. A red box contains the instructions: 'Wash hands ► Cover face ► Make space... and let in fresh air'. At the bottom, a red banner says 'Keep up to date at [hants.gov.uk/coronavirus](https://hants.gov.uk/coronavirus)'. On the right side, there is a white outline of a house with a red figure inside, representing staying at home.

## County Council service changes

Hampshire County Council will continue to communicate updates and changes to services via our [coronavirus webpages](#). Key service updates include:

- Hampshire Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) remain open. A [pre-booking system for residents to access Household Waste Recycling Centres \(HWRCs\)](#) to manage demand and reduce queuing traffic is still in place.
- Libraries are closed for browsing, however members can borrow, return and reserve physical items from libraries by using the [Ready Reads service](#) or [reserving online](#). Fines are frozen.
- Country Parks are open and normal hours and parking fees apply. However, due to restrictions, the farms at Manor Farm and Staunton Farm are closed. Titchfield Haven National Nature Reserve is also closed.
- Essential highways maintenance will continue in a Covid-safe way.
- Registration services will continue to offer birth and death registrations over the phone and citizenship ceremonies virtually. Weddings and civil partnership ceremonies will only take place with up to six people in exceptional circumstances, in line with government guidance.

## Hampshire Coronavirus Support and Helpline

The Hampshire Coronavirus Support and Helpline remains operational to provide support and advice to any Hampshire resident who has been impacted by Covid-19, including those who are self-isolating or shielding.

The Hampshire Coronavirus Support and Helpline can be contacted on **0333 370 4000**. (calls charged at local rate.) People can also request a call-back from the helpline by completing the [call-back request form](#).

The helpline is open 9am - 5pm Monday to Thursday and 9am - 4.30pm on Fridays and, to support the lockdown, will also open 10am - 3pm on Saturday and Sunday.

In addition, The Connect to Support Hampshire website has a [Coronavirus resource page](#) with information on a range of topics.

## National context

### Children and education

#### Schools

From today (5 January) all primary and secondary schools and colleges will move to remote learning. Children of key workers and vulnerable children will still attend school in person.

GCSEs and A-Levels this summer will be cancelled, the Education Secretary will work with the regulator Ofqual to design a way forward.

Nurseries and early years providers remain open.

The majority of university students will study from their current place of residence rather than returning to university.

#### Significant event notification

Ofsted is [reminding](#) childminders, nurseries and all other childcare providers that from the end of January 2021 they must use an online notification form to tell them about significant events. Providers should no longer notify Ofsted by phone or email.

### Adults' social care and public health

#### Better Health survey

Public Health England has [published](#) findings from its Better Health survey which suggest that 8 in 10 adults aged over 18 have decided to modify their lifestyle in 2021, with 7 in 10 adults saying that they are motivated to make healthier lifestyle changes due to Covid-19. Compared to last year, almost half of the population (43%) feel more motivated to make changes to their life in January.

#### Vaccine scam alert

Which? has [identified](#) a fake NHS text that has been circulating, telling people they are eligible to apply for the Covid-19 vaccine. The text links people to a fake NHS website and then asks for bank details to confirm identity. Information on avoiding and reporting internet scams and phishing is available on [Gov.uk](#).

### Economy, finance and business

#### Lockdown grants

The Chancellor, Rishi Sunak, has [announced](#) one-off top up grants for retail, hospitality and leisure businesses worth up to £9,000 per property. A £594 million discretionary fund has also been made available to support other impacted businesses.

### National Covid-19 data

As of 9pm on 4 January, the total number of people tested positive for Covid-19 was **2,713,563** and daily number of lab-confirmed cases was **58,784**. The total number of Covid-19 associated deaths within 28

days of a positive test was **75,431**, with **407** 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 **+1% to +6%** per day as of 23 December.

## 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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