

COVID-19 community update in Hampshire w/c 22 Feb 2021



Tuesday 23 February 2021

National lockdown - stay at home:

- The Government [has announced its roadmap](#) for easing lockdown restrictions over the next few months. **The key guidance hasn't changed** – stay at home, stay local (essential journeys only), work from home if you can and keep following 'hands, face, space'.
- Simple behaviours that can make a big difference – Keep following **Hands, Face, Space**.
- You will have heard about **new variants** of coronavirus. The way to control them is the same – keep following national restrictions and remember hands, face, space.
- Translated and accessible information on Covid-19 can be found [here](#)

COVID-19 Vaccination:

- Hampshire NHS Hospitals healthcare workers have been sharing their [vaccine experiences](#) in Tamil, Polish, Arabic, Portuguese, Nepali, Shona, Pidgin English, Turkish, Malay, Greek, Hindi, Malayalam, Punjabi, and Tagalog
- Both vaccines being used in the UK have been [shown](#) to reduce the need to go to hospital with COVID-19. Lead researcher Prof Aziz Sheikh said the results were "very, very" impressive and both vaccines were working "spectacularly".
- The British Asian Trust held an online event discussing COVID vaccination on 18 February. If you missed the session you can see the highlights [here](#).
- His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales gave his support in his opening remarks, with guest speakers including Nadhim Zahawi MP, Minister for COVID Vaccine Deployment, Adar Poonawalla, CEO, Serum Institute of India and Sadiq Khan, Mayor of London
- Some 17 million people in the UK have received at least one dose of a coronavirus vaccine.
- If you are over 65, you are able to book a vaccination appointment.
- The easiest way to arrange a vaccination is through the national booking service which can be accessed at www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination.
- Local community transport and voluntary schemes are offering vaccination transport services. You can find out details [here](#)

Testing:

- If you test positive for Coronavirus and have to self-isolate, you can find out if you qualify for financial support at [nhs.uk](https://www.nhs.uk), or contact your district or borough council to ask if you are eligible for a payment.
- If you receive a text or phone call from 01962 826982, please be assured this is from the Hampshire Local Tracing Service. It is **not** a scam call.

Rapid workforce testing

- Businesses with more than 50 employees, where staff cannot work from home during lockdown, can now access workplace testing for employees not showing symptoms. Details at: [this website](#)

Rapid community testing for eligible workers without symptoms

- An appointment-only rapid community testing scheme was launched on Monday 22 February and is aimed at Hampshire residents who travel regularly outside their home for work, and who are not covered by an existing workplace scheme. Details at: www.hants.gov.uk/testing-no-symptoms

Engagement

- Discussion groups specifically for BAME residents and community leaders are taking place from the end of February and during March to discuss views and issues around COVID-19. We are very keen to reach more residents from the widest range of backgrounds so please also encourage anyone else who may be interested to sign up for one of these sessions [here](#).

Thank you for your continuing support to **#KeepHampshireSafe**