

Please find below the daily C19 update, which can be shared more widely.

SCC DAILY STATEMENT 15/07/2020

Please note that there will be no briefing tomorrow we will sending the briefing out three times a week (Monday, Wednesday and Friday but will revert to daily if needed.).

Please remember to **STAY ALERT, CONTROL THE VIRUS, SAVE LIVES**

With best wishes,

Matthew Hicks
Leader, Suffolk County Council

Nicola Beach
Chief Executive, Suffolk County Council

Stuart Keeble
Director of Public Health, Suffolk County Council



Current UK Alert Level: 3

On 19/06/2020 [update from the UK Chief Medical Officers on the UK alert level](#) confirmed that the UK COVID-19 alert level has been lowered from risk level 4 to risk level 3. It does not mean that the pandemic is over. The virus is still in general circulation, and localised outbreaks are likely to occur. Therefore we all need to follow current infection prevention guidance and messages.

Please note the Government's messaging is '*stay alert, control the virus, save lives*' (previously '*stay at home, protect the NHS, save lives*')

Level	Description
5	As level 4 and there is a material risk of healthcare services being overwhelmed
4	A COVID-19 epidemic is in general circulation; transmission is high or rising exponentially
3	A COVID-19 epidemic is in general circulation
2	COVID-19 is present in the UK, but the number of cases and transmission is low
1	COVID-19 is not known to be present in the UK

 

Current UK Situation

- As of 5pm on 14 July: 291,373 people have tested positive for COVID-19 in the UK (pillar 1 and pillar 2 testing). Of those who tested positive for COVID-19 in the UK, 44,968 have died across all settings. You can view the latest UK dashboard and cases by local authority [here](#).
- Confirmed cases in Suffolk are broken down by Districts & Boroughs in the table given below– **please note that these case numbers and the rates per 100,000 population cannot be compared with the case numbers and rates given in previous bulletins.**
- From 2 July, the number of lab-confirmed positive cases now includes those identified by testing in all settings (pillars 1 and 2). Pillar 2 refers to tests in commercial labs working in partnership with the NHS. Previously, only Pillar 1 confirmed cases were included (tests completed in NHS labs). **Due to this change many cases previously not attributed to any area are now included in area totals. This is not a recent surge in cases and is due to delays in reporting. As the quality of data continues to improve, numbers may fluctuate, but overall, case numbers and case rates in Suffolk remain low compared to the East of England and England as a whole.**

- Since the 14 July, 2 cases have been added, both in Ipswich. These numbers are shown in the two columns shaded grey.

			These columns may help in interpreting the data, they will only be calculated for Suffolk.	
Area	Cumulative cases	Rate per 100,000 residents	New or removed cases added since previous briefing:	Are these added cases more than 2 weeks old?
Ipswich	700	509.0	+2	No
East Suffolk	870	350.5		
Mid Suffolk	325	317.1		
Babergh	259	283.4		
West Suffolk	477	266.7		
Suffolk	2,631	346.8	+2	No
East of England	23,842	384.5		
England	250,379	447.3		

COVID-19 related news from [GOV.UK](#)

- [Face coverings to be mandatory in shops and supermarkets from 24 July](#): Health and Social Care Secretary, Matt Hancock, announced in Parliament the plan to make face coverings mandatory in all shops. This gives shops the right to deny entry to customers who do not comply with this policy. He said that wearing a face covering must go along with all the other measures that have helped slow the spread of the virus
- [GAD helps with modelling and analysis in 'Test and Trace'](#): Experts from Government's Actuary Department have been using their analytical skills to support the NHS's 'Test and Trace' programme. They provide modelling on policy questions such as need for test kits, contact tracers and people in isolation.

Other COVID-19 related news

- [Coronavirus: R number 'lower than thought' before lockdown eased in England](#): According to a government-commissioned study the rate of coronavirus infections in England was significantly reduced before lockdown eased in May. The research showed there were on average 13 positive cases for every 10,000 people and the reproduction number - or R - was 0.57. The R number was estimated to be between 0.7 and 1 at the time. Health Secretary Matt Hancock said the findings showed the impact of lockdown.

BBC Health:

- [Fewer heart attacks seen by NHS amid coronavirus](#): The Lancet reported that hospital admissions for heart attacks dropped by a third across England during the lockdown. It was estimated that by the end of May, 5,000 fewer people than expected were seen and treated for urgent heart symptoms. Therefore, some avoidable deaths may have occurred as a result.
- [Coronavirus: Smokers quit in highest numbers in a decade](#): More than one million people have given up smoking since the Covid-19 pandemic hit, a survey for charity Action on Smoking and Health suggests. Of those who had quit in the previous four months, 41% said it was in direct response to coronavirus. Separately, University College London found more people quit smoking in the year to June 2020 than in any year since 2007.

BBC Global:

- [Foreign students in US: Trump administration drops deportation plans](#): The US government has dropped its plans to deport international students whose courses move fully online because of the coronavirus pandemic. The U-turn comes just one week after the policy announcement after Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University sued the government over the plan. District Judge in Massachusetts says the parties have come to a settlement.
- [Coronavirus in South Africa: Inside Port Elizabeth's 'hospitals of horrors'](#): With key staff on strike or sick with coronavirus in the Eastern Cape province, nurses are forced to act as cleaners, surgeons are washing their own hospital laundry. There are also alarming reports of unborn babies dying in overcrowded and understaffed maternity wards. Chronic systemic failures seem to have led to the current overwhelming of health care services.
- [Global live updates](#):
 - In Venezuela, Caracas and the neighbouring state of Miranda will enter quarantine in order to combat an outbreak of coronavirus: The President claimed that the rise in cases was due to “illegal entry of cases” into the country.
 - Pubs and restaurants reopen in Scotland: Scotland has begun its most significant relaxation of coronavirus measures since the country went into lockdown in March. Hairdressers, barbers, bars, restaurants, cinemas, tourist attractions, places of worship and childcare settings can now all reopen.
 - US Biotech firm Moderna reported their vaccine development enters final stage of human trials on 27 July. The company aims to enroll 30,000 people in its clinical trial - with participants receiving either the vaccine or a placebo.
 - Russia has reported a further 6,422 new cases of coronavirus, bringing its total to 746,369, the fourth highest in the world, reports Reuters news agency.
 - Arrest after hospital 'issued fake virus certificate': People leaving Bangladesh are required to have a COVID free certificate. Police in Bangladesh have arrested the owner of a hospital amid allegations it had issued thousands of fake Covid-19 certificates to people seeking to leave the country.

- Melbourne was plunged back into lockdown last Thursday, but people are still out and about breaking the stay at home rules, authorities say.

Suffolk

Coronavirus cases within care home settings: SCC will be reporting weekly on the number of suspected or confirmed cases within Suffolk care home settings, that Suffolk County Council has been made aware of. Below is a table showing the number of providers affected and the number of suspected and confirmed cases since reporting began on 21/04/2020. These figures are listed on area basis and will not include the details of any specific care homes. These figures include care homes, extra care housing and supported housing. As a notifiable disease, care homes are required to report any potential or confirmed cases of Coronavirus to Public Health England (PHE) in order that this can be captured as part of the national reporting processes and also for PHE to provide advice and guidance on infection control. Care providers are under no obligation to report suspected or confirmed cases to the county council.

	21/04/2020		28/04/2020		05/05/2020		12/05/2020		19/05/2020		26/05/2020		02/06/2020	
	Providers affected	Suspected and confirmed Cases												
Ipswich and East Suffolk	30	157	43	209	54	259	47	216	38	199	30	136	31	
West Suffolk	13	61	12	78	17	113	20	115	19	82	17	73	11	
Waveney	7	47	14	76	14	64	12	86	10	71	10	56	11	
Total	50	265	69	363	85	436	79	417	67	352	57	265	53	

The below data is sourced from the ONS data set for the number of deaths in care homes involving COVID-19 by date of notification to the Care Quality Commission, Local Authorities in England. <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/datasets/numberofdeathsincareshomesnotifiedtothecarequalitycommissionengland>

Number of deaths involving COVID-19 occurring in care homes during the period 10 April - 10 July 2020.

	29.05.20	Change from last week	05.06.20	Change from last week	12.06.20	Change from last week	19.06.20	Change from last week	26.06.20	Change from last week	03.07.20	Change from last week	10.07.20	Change from last week
Suffolk	163	11+	166	3+	171	5+	171	0	173	2+	176	3+	177	1+
Norfolk	118	8+	124	6+	131	7+	132	1+	133	1+	137	4+	139	2+
Cambs+ Peterborough	121	14+	128	7+	134	6+	137	3+	140	3+	140	0	143	3+
Essex	220	9+	234	14+	240	6+	245	5+	248	3+	251	3+	256	5+
Hertfordshire	258	7+	263	5+	266	3+	267	1+	271	4+	273	2+	274	1+

In Suffolk we are continuing to see a higher percentage of Covid-19 related deaths within care homes compared to some other areas. The reasons for this are complex, but factors we think are contributing to this are more people choosing to die in their usual place of residence and the high number of nursing beds that we have within care homes. These provide care for people with complex care needs who may be coming towards the end of their life and in Suffolk we have very good practices for providing end of life care.

What we are seeing is while Suffolk has a higher percentage of Covid-19 related deaths within care homes compared with some other areas, we also have a lower percentage of Covid-19 related deaths within hospitals than some other areas.

Dying within a care home setting is often reflective of a person's wish to remain in their usual place of residence, in comfortable surroundings with people around them who are familiar, as opposed to being within a hospital setting.

Suffolk's care homes continue to care for residents with the utmost professionalism and kindness. They are following national guidance regarding social distancing, hygiene standards and the correct use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Testing is available for all care homes, for the entire home including staff and residents who are not displaying any symptoms. With more testing taking place, infection control and prevention measures can be more effective.

Local Businesses need us: In this week's column Councillor Nick Gowrley Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Housing and Enterprise talks about how our local businesses need us more than ever as the economy reboots. [Click here](#) to read.

Mobile Testing Units: visit www.suffolk.gov.uk/testing for newly published dates for mobile testing units across Suffolk. These dates are for the week commencing 20 July and are subject to change, so please check back regularly. 99.9% of households in Suffolk can now access a test

centre within a 30 minute drive. It is important that anyone with coronavirus symptoms starts isolating and gets tested. Tests can be booked at www.nhs.uk/coronavirus or by calling 119.

Key National Guidance updates

The existing guidance is being updated extremely regularly so please check any guidance relevant to your area to ensure that you are accessing the most up to date version. We are not including in this table all the published material but some of the key guidance that would be relevant to Suffolk County Council and our partners.

	Title	Who For	Comments
NEW	Coronavirus (COVID-19): planning update on cultural venues and holiday parks	Local Planning Authorities	This sets out the approach local planning authorities should take to decision making for venues temporarily vacant due to COVID-19, encourages local planning authorities not to undertake enforcement action which would restrict the ability of caravan and holiday parks to extend their open season
NEW	Face coverings: when to wear one and how to make your own	Public	A face covering is something which safely covers the nose and mouth, they include scarves, bandanas, religious garments or hand-made cloth coverings but these must securely fit round the side of the face, they are not classified as PPE, they are largely intended to protect others from the spread infection as it covers the mouth and nose, it does not replace social distancing
NEW	Types and uses of COVID 19 Tests	Public	Details on virus and antibody testing and what positive test results mean are given in this document
UPDATED	COVID-19: Guidance for the safe use of multi-purpose community facilities	Managers of multi-use community facilities	This applies to all community centres in England, except those in Leicester, a risk assessment must be completed, re-opening plans must be consistent with core public health guidance regarding health, hygiene, and social distancing, safe workplace guidelines to ensure employees are safe to return to work, links to the relevant guidance is available or each of these areas

UPDATED	Coronavirus (COVID-19) and prisons	People with family and friends in prisons of England and Wales	Additional means of communication have been introduced such as video calling, email, Prison Voicemail Service; measures to ensure distancing and methods to screen visitors for COVID-19 have been put in place
UPDATED	Coming to the UK for seasonal agricultural work on English farms	Employers and workers	Prior to travel the required forms need to be completed, details on how to contact NHS if symptomatic and how NHS test and trace works are given
UPDATED	Preventing and controlling outbreaks of COVID-19 in prisons and places of detention	Healthcare staff and custodial and detention staff	This applies to prisons (both public and privately managed), immigration removal centres, children and young people's secure estate, young offender institutions, secure training centres and secure children's homes
UPDATED	COVID-19 guidance for commissioners and providers of services for people who use drugs or alcohol	Commissioners, managers and staff in drugs and alcohol services in England, including services for young people	These services need to be kept open to protect vulnerable people who are at a greater risk for COVID, interventions such as detoxification, supervised consumption, and blood-borne virus testing and treatment should be re-introduced
UPDATED	COVID-19: Home Office extraordinary funding for domestic abuse support services	Local charities working with victims of domestic abuse	The Home Office has raised £2 million for victims of domestic abuse, the second round of bids is now open

Useful Websites

	Title	Who For	Comments
1	NHS - COVID-19 go-to page	General Public	
2	GOV.UK – COVID-19 homepage	Main cover webpage for all government guidance for public & professionals alike	

3	Coronavirus (COVID-19): guidance	Main collection of guidance for anyone in any setting	Guidance includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guidance for the public (incl. social distancing and shielding) - Guidance for non-clinical settings (incl. cleaning, educational settings, employees, employers, businesses, residential care, supported living and home care) - Guidance for health professionals - Infection prevention and control (incl. PPE) - Sampling and diagnostics
4	Heatwave Plan for England	Professionals	
5	Mental health support and advice from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHO • mentalhealth.org.uk • Ipswich & East CCG • Living Life To The Full • NHS Practitioner Wellbeing • Samaritans 	General public, staff and carers	
6	Chronic disease self- care during COVID-19: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asthma • Diabetes 	General public	
7	European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) COVID-19 homepage	Professionals	
8	Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker	Professionals	The tracker compares worldwide government responses to the coronavirus rigorously and consistently. The Oxford team collects information on common policy responses, scores the stringency of such measures, and aggregates these into a Stringency Index.

Local Resources:

Below are any local resources that would be relevant to Suffolk County Council and our partners.

	Title	Who For	Comments
	Public Health Suffolk's Coronawatch Dashboard	Everyone	Access to national and local data including confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19), deaths from coronavirus, Care home outbreaks and Google social mobility data from the dashboard along with a series of briefings which have been produced on related topics, all from publicly available sources.
	Mobile Testing Units in Suffolk	Everyone	It is important that anyone with coronavirus symptoms gets tested. Mobile testing units are mobilised by the Ministry of Defence and regularly appear across Suffolk. Please share details of the testing sites with your local community – see under Where can I get tested in Suffolk?
	Support from the Suffolk Growth Programme Board (SGPB)	Everyone	SGPB is a partnership of all Suffolk local authorities, Suffolk Chamber of Commerce, University of Suffolk and New Anglia LEP. In Suffolk our Economy & business recovery work for COVID-19 is being led by SGPB and the website includes links to funding / surveys / economic impact work. Please do pass this information on to your contacts.
	Suffolk Domestic Abuse 24/7 Helpline – Freephone 0800 977 5690	Everyone	The freephone number is live from 9am on Friday 22nd May 2020 for anyone with concerns including professionals who may be supporting clients as well as friends and family members who are concerned for loved ones.
	New Anglia: Employment Opportunities in Key Sectors in Norfolk and Suffolk	Individuals and Businesses wanting to know what employment opportunities are available in some of our key sectors	The New Anglia LEP - alongside other partners including local authorities - have pulled together lists and links to key employment roles needed now as part of the response to the current crisis.
	Suffolk Safeguarding Partnership	Everyone	The website aims to help everyone understand the signs of neglect or abuse and what to do if they are worried about a child or an adult.
	NEW ANGLIA GROWTH HUB	Businesses needing support	A one stop shop source of information for government support and guidance available to businesses including 121 business advice sources of business grants and loans.

	Healthy Suffolk: COVID-19 Emotional Wellbeing, Mental Health and Learning Disabilities Information Hub	Everyone	This page contains links to a wealth of resources and support for your health and wellbeing.
	Suffolk County Council: Coronavirus information	Everyone	Suffolk County Council coronavirus (COVID-19) information, including health advice, service changes, business support and schools guidance.
	Keep Moving Suffolk	Everyone	The website contains free resources, ideas, tips, useful links and positive stories to encourage people to stay active during these unprecedented times. The website and our social channels will be constantly updated.

Global: WHO Situation Report – reports available [here](#)

- [WHO Covid-19 Dashboard](#) for professionals using near real time data.
- [GOARN COVID-19 Knowledge hub](#) - central repository of quality public health information, guidance, tools and webinars which can be accessed freely at any point.

Situation in Numbers WHO SitRep 176, 14 July

Situation in numbers (by WHO Region)

Total (new cases in last 24 hours)

Globally	12 964 809 cases (196 775)	570 288 deaths (3 634)
Africa	492 660 cases (15 085)	8 430 deaths (177)
Americas	6 780 428 cases (110 549)	288 430 deaths (1 853)
Eastern Mediterranean	1 302 297 cases (15 646)	31 751 deaths (523)
Europe	2 946 104 cases (20 691)	203 957 deaths (373)
South-East Asia	1 196 651 cases (33 095)	29 900 deaths (642)
Western Pacific	245 928 cases (1 709)	7 807 deaths (66)