

**SCC COVID-19 e-bulletin**  
**20<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

Dear all

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

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

HM Government

STAY ALERT • CONTROL THE VIRUS • SAVE LIVES

### Current UK Situation

- As of 4pm on 19<sup>th</sup> July: 294,792 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, 45,300 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 as follows.
- 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 – the cases now being reported occurred from April onwards. As this quality of this data continues to improve, these numbers may continue to fluctuate over time, but overall, case numbers and case rates in Suffolk remain low compared to the East of England and England as a whole.**
- **Compared to the previous briefing (17 July 2020) 10 extra cases have been added. These cases were added in the last two weeks, so are not historical confirmed cases. These numbers are depicted in the two additional columns shaded in grey below.**

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	701	509.7 per 100,000 residents	+2	No
East Suffolk	872	351.3 per 100,000 residents	+2	No
Mid Suffolk	325	317.1 per 100,000 residents		
Babergh	261	285.6 per 100,000 residents	+1	No
West Suffolk	482	269.5 per 100,000 residents	+5	No
Suffolk	2,641	348.2 per 100,000 residents	+10	No
East of England	24,170	389.8 per 100,000 residents		
England	253,585	453.0 per 100,000 residents		

### **COVID-19 related news from GOV.UK**

- [PM statement on coronavirus: 17 July 2020](#) – Main points from PM’s statement include:
  - We’re continuing to make steady progress. For 3 weeks now, the number of new cases identified through testing each day has been below 1,000. The latest SAGE advice is that, across the UK, **the R rate remains between 0.7 and 0.9, and the number of infections is shrinking by between 5% and 1% every day.**
  - Today we are publishing our [framework for containing and controlling future outbreaks](#) in England, which will enable national and local government to work closely together.
  - From 18 July, [local authorities have new powers](#) in their areas. They will be able to close specific premises, shut public outdoor spaces, and cancel events. These powers will enable local authorities to act more quickly in response to outbreaks, where speed is paramount.
  - Next week **we will publish draft regulations which clearly set out how central government can intervene** more effectively at a local level. Where justified by the evidence, ministers will be able to close whole sectors or types of premises in an area, introduce local “stay at home” orders, prevent people entering or leaving defined areas, reduce the maximum size of gatherings beyond national rules, or restrict transport systems serving local areas.
  - Antigen test capacity – that’s the test which tells you if you currently have the virus – has increased 100-fold since the start of March, from fewer than 2,000 tests a day to more than 200,000 tests a day now. Publicly available data suggests **we are now carrying out our tests more than anywhere else in Europe in total**, and more tests than Germany, France, Italy and Spain per capita.
  - We have taken a number of **steps to get the NHS ready for winter**: we have massively increased the number of ventilators available to patients; we have substantially increased the pipeline of personal protective equipment for the NHS and social care; we will be rolling out the **biggest ever flu vaccination programme in the history of the U.K.** Furthermore, an additional £3 billion of funding to the NHS in England to get ready for winter has been confirmed. This will allow the NHS to continue to use the extra hospital capacity acquired from the independent sector and also to maintain the Nightingale hospitals until the end of March.
  - From 25 July, we have already committed to reopening the indoor gyms, pools and other sports facilities.
  - From 1 August, we will update our advice on going to work.
  - Also from 1 August, we will reopen most remaining leisure settings, namely bowling, skating rinks and casinos, and we will enable all close contact services such as beauticians to resume. Nightclubs and soft play areas will sadly need to remain closed for now – although this will be kept under review.
  - In September, schools, nurseries and colleges will be open for all children and young people on a full-time basis, as planned.

- From October, we intend to bring back audiences in stadia and to allow conferences and other business events to recommence.
- We have said that the shielding programme for those most at risk in England, the clinically extremely vulnerable, will be paused at the end of this month. We will stay constantly vigilant and be sure to restart shielding at any point if required.
- [Millions could be vaccinated against Covid-19 as UK secures strong portfolio of promising vaccines](#) - The UK Government has secured early access to 90 million vaccine doses from the BioNTech/Pfizer alliance and Valneva with more in the pipeline as part of its strategy to build a portfolio of promising new vaccines to protect the UK from Covid-19. In addition, treatments containing Covid-19-neutralising antibodies have been secured from AstraZeneca to protect those who cannot receive vaccines
- [£266 million housing fund for vulnerable people](#) - Next Steps Accommodation Programme launched today makes resources available to councils to help ensure 15,000 people continue to have a safe place to stay.
- [Lockdown restrictions lifted in some areas of Leicestershire](#) - All additional lockdown restrictions will end in areas outside of Leicester City and the Borough of Oadby and Wigston on 18 July, the Health and Social Care Secretary has confirmed.
- [Pilots announced for return of spectators to elite sports events](#) - Sporting events will allow fans to return from 1 October with social distancing in place, if it is safe to do so.
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Infection Survey pilot: England, 17 July 2020](#) – Main points include:
  - We estimate around 1 in 2,300 individuals within the community population in England had COVID-19 within the most recent week, from 6 July to 12 July 2020. This equates to an estimated 24,000 people (95% credible interval: 15,000 to 34,000).
  - From 6 July to 12 July, we estimate there were around two new COVID-19 infections for every 10,000 individuals in the community population in England, equating to around 1,700 new cases per day (95% confidence interval: 700 to 4,200).
  - Between 26 April and 8 July, 6.3% of people tested positive for antibodies against SARS-CoV-2 on a blood test, suggesting they had the infection in the past.
- [Deaths involving COVID-19, England and Wales: deaths occurring in June 2020](#) – Main points include:
  - Of the deaths involving COVID-19 that occurred in England and Wales in March to June 2020, there was at least one pre-existing condition in 91.1% of cases. Dementia and Alzheimer disease was the most common main pre-existing condition found among deaths involving COVID-19.
  - COVID-19 was the third most frequent underlying cause of death in June 2020 (after Dementia and Alzheimer disease and Ischaemic heart diseases), with 7.1% of all deaths (2,525 deaths) due to COVID-19; this was a large decrease compared with the proportion seen in May, when COVID-19 was the most frequent underlying cause of death and accounted for 21.6% of all deaths.
  - Males had a higher rate of death due to COVID-19 than females in England and Wales; the age-standardised mortality rate (ASMR) for males was 65.1 deaths per 100,000 males compared with 43.3 deaths per 100,000 females.
- [The R number and growth rate in the UK](#) – As of 17 July, these are the latest estimates:

Region	R	Growth rate % per day
England	0.8-1.0	-4 to 0
East of England	0.8-1.0	-5 to +1
London*	0.8-1.1	-3 to +2
Midlands	0.7-1.0	-5 to -1
North East and Yorkshire*	0.7-0.9	-5 to -1
North West*	0.7-1.0	-6 to -1
South East*	0.8-1.0	-4 to 0
South West*	0.7-1.1	-6 to +2

\*Low case numbers and/ or a high degree of variability in transmission across the region means these estimates are insufficiently robust to inform policy decisions.

## **Other COVID-19 related news**

- [Hopkins Bloomberg Public Health Magazine](#) - COVID-19 Special Edition includes a collection of short articles on topics such as: The Future (How COVID-19 Will Change Us); The Prequel (Lessons Unlearned, Policies Underfunded); Voices of the Vulnerable; Racism and COVID-19; and Preparing for the Next Pandemic.

### **BBC News**

- [Outbreak investigated at Motherwell contact tracing centre](#) - Six people have tested positive for coronavirus in an outbreak at a test and trace call centre in North Lanarkshire.
- [England's test and trace programme 'breaks GDPR data law'](#) - The Department of Health has conceded the initiative to trace contacts of people infected with Covid-19 was launched without carrying out an assessment of its impact on privacy. The government said there is no evidence of data being used unlawfully.
- [Protein treatment trial 'a breakthrough'](#) - The preliminary results of a clinical trial suggest a new treatment for Covid-19 dramatically reduces the number of patients needing intensive care, according to the UK company that developed it.
- [Young people on benefits double in lockdown](#) - According to BBC analysis of official figures, more than one in six young people is now claiming out-of-work benefits in some parts of the UK. That's twice as many as were doing so three months ago. Parts of Liverpool and Blackpool have been worst hit, with closures of pubs and restaurants contributing. The government has announced a work placement scheme for 16 to 24-year-olds, but some still say they feel overlooked.

### **BBC Global picture**

- Globally the number of confirmed infections has risen to more than 14.4 million and deaths to 605,000
- In Australia, outbreaks linked to errors in the quarantine programme have seen Melbourne put back under partial lockdown
- EU leaders are meeting for a fourth day to try and agree a huge virus rescue plan

- Early research suggests a new treatment involving a protein called interferon beta could significantly reduce deaths
- Donald Trump has dismissed Johns Hopkins data showing the US has the seventh-highest mortality rate

## **Suffolk**

**Keep Moving Suffolk:** If you've been enjoying walking, running or cycling during lockdown, don't stop, you're doing a great job! We've refreshed the Keep Moving Suffolk website to help you keep motivated. Take a look at <http://keepmovingsuffolk.com>

**Business Support:** Suffolk Chamber of Commerce are here to support businesses through these uncertain times. Check out the latest news, updates & support resources at <https://www.suffolkchamber.co.uk/business-support/coronaviruscovid-19/>

**Mobile Testing Units:** visit [www.suffolk.gov.uk/testing](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/testing) for newly published dates for mobile testing units across Suffolk. These dates are for the week commencing 27 July and are subject to change, so please check back regularly. 99.9% of households in Suffolk are located within 30 minutes drive (89% within 20 minutes) of one of our local drive-through testing sites. It is important that anyone with coronavirus symptoms starts isolating and gets tested. Tests can be booked at [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus) or by calling 119. If you need to get tested, but do not have a booking, our local drive-through testing sites will still aim to offer you a test if capacity is available on the day.

## **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.

	<b>Title</b>	<b>Who For</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>NEW</b>	<a href="#">Local authority powers to impose restrictions under coronavirus regulations</a>	Local authorities	Supports the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) (No.3) Regulations 2020 that come into force on 18 July 2020.  Local authority powers include: closure of individual premises; restriction on events; closure/restrictions to a public outdoors place.
<b>NEW</b>	<a href="#">Containing and managing local coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreaks</a>	local authorities and local decision-makers	This document sets out how NHS Test and Trace and the Joint Biosecurity Centre (JBC) will work with local authorities, Public Health England (PHE) and the public to contain and manage local COVID-19 outbreaks.

			<b>Directors of Public Health (DPH) are accountable for controlling local outbreaks, working with Public Health England (PHE) and local health protection boards, supported with resource deployment by local ‘gold’ structures led by council chief executives, and local boards to communicate and engage with communities led by council leaders.</b>
<b>NEW</b>	<a href="#">Leicester lockdown: travel and transport</a>	people in Leicester and affected surrounding areas	Guidance for people in Leicester and affected surrounding areas about travelling during local lockdown.
<b>UPDATED</b>	<a href="#">Our plan to rebuild: The UK Government’s COVID-19 recovery strategy</a>		Added “The next chapter in our plan to rebuild”, which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Suppressing the virus</li> <li>- Opening up society and the Economy</li> <li>- Continuing our Plan to Rebuild</li> <li>- Preparing for Winter</li> <li>- Lifting restrictions step by step</li> </ul>
<b>UPDATED</b>	<a href="#">Closing certain businesses and venues in Leicester</a>	Businesses and venues in Leicester	Changes in the regulations regarding the closure of certain businesses and venues in Leicester which come into effect on 18 July 2020.
<b>UPDATED</b>	<a href="#">Local lockdown guidance for social distancing</a>	Everyone in an area of a local lockdown	Updated shielding guidance in Leicester - advice to shield continues across all geographic areas.
<b>UPDATED</b>	<a href="#">COVID-19: Guidance for small marriages and civil partnerships</a>	people planning to get married or form a civil partnership	From 1 August, small wedding receptions will be able to take place - this means sit-down meals for no more than 30 people, subject to COVID-19 Secure guidance.

<p><b>UPDATED</b></p>	<p><a href="#">Staying alert and safe (social distancing)</a></p>	<p>Everyone</p>	<p>Updated in-line with PM's 17 July update, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- from 24 July, face coverings will be required in shops and supermarkets</li> <li>- from 25 July, sports facilities and venues, including indoor gyms, fitness and dance studios, indoor swimming pools and indoor water parks, can open</li> <li>- from 1 Aug, the clinically extremely vulnerable will no longer need to follow advice on shielding, bowling alleys, skating rinks and casinos can open, further pilots of larger events can take place in venues, including in sports stadia and business conferences, small wedding receptions can take place, all remaining close contact services - such as facial treatment and make up application - can restart, in line with COVID-secure guidelines.</li> </ul>
<p><b>UPDATED</b></p>	<p><a href="#">COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection</a></p>	<p>Everyone</p>	<p>Updated information on disposal of used face coverings: "People who are self-isolating, and members of their household, should double bag face coverings and items of personal protective equipment to be disposed of, and store them for 72 hours before putting them in a 'black bag' waste bin."</p>
<p><b>UPDATED</b></p>	<p><a href="#">Preventing and controlling outbreaks of COVID-19 in prisons and places of detention</a></p>	<p>prisons and other prescribed places of detention</p>	<p>Added information on interpreting negative test results in those who are symptomatic: "Prisoners who test negative but continue to have symptoms of COVID-19 should stay in isolation for at least 7 days from symptom onset. Their close contacts should complete their 14 day isolation"</p>

			period following discussion with the HPT."
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### **Useful Websites**

	<b>Title</b>	<b>Who For</b>	<b>Comments</b>
1	<a href="#">NHS - COVID-19 go-to page</a>	General Public	
2	<a href="#">GOV.UK – COVID-19 homepage</a>	Main cover webpage for all government guidance for public & professionals alike	
3	<a href="#">Coronavirus (COVID-19): guidance</a>	Main collection of guidance for anyone in any setting	Guidance includes: - 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	<a href="#">Heatwave Plan for England</a>	Professionals	
5	Mental health support and advice from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">WHO</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">mentalhealth.org.uk</a></li> </ul>	General public, staff and carers	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Ipswich &amp; East CCG</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Living Life To The Full</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">NHS Practitioner Wellbeing</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Samaritans</a></li> </ul>		
6	<p>Chronic disease self-care during COVID-19:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Asthma</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Diabetes</a></li> </ul>	General public	
7	<a href="#">European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) COVID-19 homepage</a>	Professionals	
8	<a href="#">Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker</a>	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
<b>NEW</b>	Public Health Suffolk's <a href="#">COVID19 RADAR</a> (Research Action Digest And Review)	Professionals	Weekly summary of COVID-19 related research evidence that is relevant to the Suffolk system, makes recommendations for consideration, and aims to ensure research evidence is rapidly disseminated and turned into local action.

	<a href="#">Public Health Suffolk's Coronawatch Dashboard</a>	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.
	<a href="#">Mobile Testing Units in Suffolk</a>	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 <b>Where can I get tested in Suffolk?</b>
	<a href="#">Support from the Suffolk Growth Programme Board (SGPB)</a>	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.
	<a href="#">Suffolk Domestic Abuse 24/7 Helpline – Freephone 0800 977 5690</a>	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.
	<a href="#">New Anglia: Employment Opportunities in Key Sectors in Norfolk and Suffolk</a>	Individuals and Businesses wanting to know what employment opportunities are available	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.

		in some of our key sectors	
	<a href="#">Suffolk Safeguarding Partnership</a>	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.
	<a href="#">NEW ANGLIA GROWTH HUB</a>	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.
	<a href="#">Healthy Suffolk: COVID-19 Emotional Wellbeing, Mental Health and Learning Disabilities Information Hub</a>	Everyone	This page contains links to a wealth of resources and support for your health and wellbeing.
	<a href="#">Suffolk County Council: Coronavirus information</a>	Everyone	Suffolk County Council coronavirus (COVID-19) information, including health advice, service changes, business support and schools guidance.
	<a href="#">Keep Moving Suffolk</a>	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 181, 19 July**

Total (new cases in last 24 hours)

<b>Globally</b>	14 043 176 cases (166 735)	597 583 deaths (4 496)
<b>Africa</b>	579 091 cases (17 625)	9 546 deaths (197)
<b>Americas</b>	7 376 748 cases (70 377)	305 285 deaths (2 777)
<b>Eastern Mediterranean</b>	1 374 503 cases (13 712)	34 226 deaths (488)
<b>Europe</b>	3 060 525 cases (18 195)	206 965 deaths (281)
<b>South-East Asia</b>	1 391 407 cases (43 453)	33 543 deaths (636)
<b>Western Pacific</b>	260 161 cases (3 373)	8 005 deaths (117)

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