

SCC COVID-19 ebulletin dated 16 September 2020

Dear all

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

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

With best wishes,

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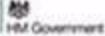
Current UK Alert Level: 3

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 level 4 to 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.

The current Government messaging is *'Hands, Face, Space'* (previously *'stay alert, control the virus, save lives'* and *'stay at home, protect the NHS, save lives'*)



COVID Alert Levels	
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 6.27pm on 15th September: 374,228 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, 41,664 have died (within 28 days of positive test) 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 the 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.

Area	Cumulative cases	Rate per 100,000 residents (2019 mid-year estimates)
Ipswich	751	548.5 per 100,000 residents
East Suffolk	945	378.8 per 100,000 residents
Mid Suffolk	364	350.4 per 100,000 residents
West Suffolk	589	329.0 per 100,000 residents
Babergh	295	320.5 per 100,000 residents
Suffolk	2,944	386.7 per 100,000 residents
East of England	28,449	456.2 per 100,000 residents
England	323,029	573.9 per 100,000 residents

COVID-19 related news from GOV.UK

- [More domestic abuse charities to benefit from government funding boost](#) - A further 25 charities will receive a share of £1 million boost as part of the government's £10 million emergency fund.

Other COVID-19 related news

BBC Health

- [Coronavirus: Tackling testing delays 'number one' priority, says minister](#) - The government will publish details of its plan to prioritise coronavirus tests in the next few days, Justice Secretary Robert Buckland has said.
- [Covid-safe mask for ENT procedures offered to NHS for free](#) - A protective device against coronavirus for at-risk doctors is to be provided free to the NHS.

[BBC World](#)

- India passes 5m coronavirus cases amid a spike in infections as the government continues to lift restrictions

- The virus appears to be spreading much faster in India than any other country, with more than 90,000 new cases a day
- US President Donald Trump has denied that he downplayed the seriousness of Covid-19, despite admitting in a recorded interview having done that
- Mr Trump repeated his claims that a vaccine could be ready "within weeks" despite scepticism from US health experts
- The UK government will announce plans to prioritise the NHS and care homes for testing in the next few days
- Manchester's mayor warns time is running out to fix the testing system

Suffolk

Coronavirus cases in care homes: In line with government guidelines are reporting weekly on the number of outbreaks within Suffolk care home settings, that Suffolk County Council has been made aware of. An outbreak is classed as a care home with two or more cases. 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.

Care providers with outbreaks				
	18/08/2020	25/08/2020	01/09/2020	15/09/2020
Ipswich and East Suffolk	5	4	3	3
West Suffolk	2	0	2	1
Waveney	0	1	0	1
Total	7	5	5	5

Number of deaths involving COVID-19 occurring in care homes during the period 10 April - 11 S										
	31.07.20	Change from last week	07.08.20	Change from last week	14.08.20	Change from last week	21.08.20	Change from last week	28.08.20	Chan from week
Suffolk	194	0+	195	1+	195	1+	195	0+	195	
Norfolk	151	0+	152	1+	152	1+	153	1+	153	

Cambs+ Peterborough	157	0+	157	0+	158	0+	160	2+	160
Essex	293	0+	294	1+	295	1+	295	0+	295
Hertfordshire	322	2+	322	0+	323	0+	324	1+	324

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/datasets/numberofdeathsincarehomesnotifiedtothecarequalitycommissionengland/2020>

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

Key National Guidance updates

	Title	Who For	Comments
UPDATED	Coronavirus (COVID-19): how to self-isolate when you travel to the UK	Everyone	Added example of exceptional circumstance which may permit you to leave your place of self-isolation: if you have a health condition or a disability that would be seriously exacerbated if you were not able to leave your accommodation (and its outdoor areas) where you are self-isolating to take exercise.

Useful Websites

	Title	Who For	Comments
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1	NHS – Your COVID Recovery	General Public	Your COVID Recovery helps you to understand what has happened and what you might expect as part of your recovery.
2	NHS - COVID-19 go-to page	General Public	
3	GOV.UK – COVID-19 homepage	Main cover webpage for all government guidance for public & professionals alike	
4	Coronavirus (COVID-19): guidance	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
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"> • <u>Asthma</u> • <u>Diabetes</u> 	General public	
7	<u>European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) COVID-19 homepage</u>	Professionals	
8	<u>Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker</u>	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 <u>COVID19 RADAR</u> (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.
	Public Health Suffolk's <u>Coronawatch Dashboard</u>	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.

<p><u>Mobile Testing Units in Suffolk</u></p>	<p>Everyone</p>	<p>It is important that anyone with coronavirus symptoms gets tested. Mobile testing units are commissioned by DHSC through G4S 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?</p>
<p><u>Support from the Suffolk Growth Programme Board (SGPB)</u></p>	<p>Everyone</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p><u>Suffolk Domestic Abuse 24/7 Helpline – Freephone 0800 977 5690</u></p>	<p>Everyone</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p><u>New Anglia: Employment Opportunities in Key Sectors in Norfolk and Suffolk</u></p>	<p>Individuals and Businesses wanting to know what employment opportunities are available in some of our key sectors</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p><u>Suffolk Safeguarding Partnership</u></p>	<p>Everyone</p>	<p>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.</p>

<u>NEW ANGLIA GROWTH HUB</u>	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.
<u>Healthy Suffolk: COVID-19 Emotional Wellbeing, Mental Health and Learning Disabilities Information Hub</u>	Everyone	This page contains links to a wealth of resources and support for your health and wellbeing.
<u>Suffolk County Council: Coronavirus information</u>	Everyone	Suffolk County Council coronavirus (COVID-19) information, including health advice, service changes, business support and schools guidance.
<u>Keep Moving Suffolk</u>	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 Weekly Epidemiological Update – 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

Table 1. Newly reported and cumulative COVID-19 confirmed cases and deaths, by WHO Region, as of 13 September 2020**

WHO Region	New cases in last 7 days (%)	Change in new cases in last 7 days	Cumulative cases (%)	New deaths in last 7 days (%)	Change in new deaths in last 7 days*	Cumulative deaths (%)
Americas	697 780 (38%)	-19%	14 699 174 (51%)	24 626 (61%)	10%	508 705 (55%)
South-East Asia	687 119 (37%)	11%	5 377 062 (19%)	8 991 (22%)	11%	92 391 (10%)
Europe	291 387 (16%)	8%	4 796 426 (17%)	3 050 (8%)	<1%	225 494 (25%)
Eastern Mediterranean	105 430 (6%)	14%	2 101 676 (7%)	2 302 (6%)	3%	55 012 (6%)
Africa	33 169 (2%)	-14%	1 116 321 (4%)	1 007 (2%)	-15%	23 916 (3%)
Western Pacific	30 074 (2%)	4%	546 552 (2%)	680 (2%)	6%	11 886 (1%)
† Other	-	-	741 (<1%)	-	-	13 (<1%)
Global	1 844 959 (100%)	-3%	28 637 952 (100%)	40 656 (100%)	8%	917 417 (100%)

*Percent change in the number of newly confirmed cases/deaths in past seven days, compared to seven days prior. Regional percentages rounded to the nearest whole number so global totals may not equal 100%.

**See data, table and figure notes

***This table is updated once weekly by WHO.

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