

SCC COVID-19 ebulletin 17 August 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,

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Leader, Suffolk County Council

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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 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')



Current UK Situation

- **As of 4:00pm on 16th August: 318,414 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, 41,366 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 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 (12 August 2020) the cumulative number of cases has increased by 12.** 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 (2019 mid-year estimates) | New or removed cases added since previous briefing: | Are these added cases more than 2 weeks old? |
| Ipswich | 718 | 524.4 per 100,000 residents | 2 added, 1 removed | One case was removed from 22 May |
| East Suffolk | 896 | 359.2 per 100,000 residents | 3 | No, but since the last update one case was added to 7 June and one case removed from 5 April) |
| Mid Suffolk | 337 | 324.4 per 100,000 residents | 3 | Yes, one case was added to 18 June |
| Babergh | 275 | 298.8 per 100,000 residents | -1 | Yes, one case was removed from 21 April |
| West Suffolk | 512 | 286.0 per 100,000 residents | 6 | Yes, one added to 21 April |
| Suffolk | 2,738 | 359.6 per 100,000 residents | 12 | |
| East of England | 25,609 | 410.7 per 100,000 residents | | |
| England | 275,200 | 488.9 per 100,000 residents | | |

COVID-19 related news from GOV.UK

- [Secretary of State message to the NHS on the coronavirus response](#): Health and Social Care Secretary Matt Hancock thanks the NHS workforce for the dedication they have shown in the national effort against coronavirus (COVID-19).

- [Public encouraged to register for COVID-19 vaccine trials as 100,000 already sign-up](#): Over 100,000 people have volunteered to take part in COVID-19 vaccine trials, helping to speed up efforts to discover a safe and effective vaccine.
- [£5 million for social prescribing to tackle the impact of COVID-19](#): The National Academy for Social Prescribing (NASP) has been awarded £5 million in funding to support people to stay connected and maintain their health and wellbeing following the COVID-19 pandemic.
- [UK government secures new COVID-19 vaccines and backs global clinical trial](#): UK citizens will receive early access to 90 million doses of 2 COVID-19 vaccine candidates should they prove safe and effective.

Other COVID-related news

COVID-19 related publications:

- [Hospital discharge and preventing unnecessary hospital admissions \(COVID-19\)](#): This guide discusses the lessons learned from hospital discharge and avoidance during the COVID-19 pandemic. It highlights challenges faced and good practice to prevent unnecessary admissions going forward.
- [Behind the headlines: Counting COVID-19 deaths](#): Although it might seem straightforward, counting the number of people who have died from COVID-19 related illness is complex. This blog, written by John Newton, delves into issues surrounding definition of a covid-19 death, reporting, calculating death rate, review findings and subsequent changes and many more.
- [COVID-19 and Suicide: A Crisis Within a Crisis](#): The pandemic has created a convergence of suicide risk factors that need a public health response. Christen Brownlee discusses this in her article published in the Hopkins Bloomberg Public Health Magazine
- [Brussels makes face masks compulsory in all public spaces as COVID-19 cases spike](#): Wearing a face mask became compulsory on Wednesday in all public places in Brussels as the number of COVID-19 infections rose to a government alert level that puts the city among the worst affected in Europe.
- ["The future of education is here"](#): According to the United Nations policy brief: Education during Covid-19 and beyond', the COVID-19 pandemic has created the largest disruption of education systems in history, affecting nearly 1.6 billion learners in more than 190 countries and all continents. Closures of schools and other learning spaces have impacted 94 per cent of the world's student population, up to 99 per cent in low and lower-middle income countries.
- [Why the U.S. Is Losing the War on COVID-19](#): "The pandemic has exposed the gulf between what this country promises for its citizens and what it actually delivers" says Alex Fitzpatrick is a Senior Editor at TIME

Other COVID-related news

NHS News

[Chemo doorstep drops help to keep cancer patients safe](#): Thousands of patients with cancer have had chemotherapy delivered to their doors so that they can more safely receive treatment during the coronavirus pandemic.

BBC Health:

- [Coronavirus: Public Health England 'to be replaced'](#): The 'Sunday Telegraph' claims Health Secretary Matt Hancock will this week announce a new body modelled on Germany's Robert Koch Institute.
- [Coronavirus: Appetite grows for home working and local lockdowns](#): King's College London (KCL) survey reveals 86% believe that, until a vaccine is found, workers should be able to decide whether they returned to the office. Experts said the results show people are prioritising public health over the economy and their social lives.
- [Coronavirus: Test for Covid-19 T cells immunity developed](#): Indoor Biotechnologies has developed a test for coronavirus T cells - which can potentially provide longer-term immunity to the virus than antibodies.
- [Parents urged to stay up-to-date with children's vaccinations](#): The Local Government Association said high vaccine uptake could prevent infections and stop pressure being piled on the NHS. The childhood vaccination programme is continuing as normal while jabs given in school are being rescheduled.
- [Coronavirus cases stable across most of England](#): Coronavirus cases across England appear to be levelling off, despite flare-ups in local hotspots, according to estimates from the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

BBC Global News:

- [Ruby Princess: New South Wales premier apologises over cruise ship outbreak](#): State officials in Australia have apologised for their failures over the handling of a huge Covid-19 outbreak on the Ruby Princess cruise ship.
- [New Zealand: Jacinda Ardern delays election over coronavirus fears](#): The prime minister of New Zealand, Jacinda Ardern, has postponed the country's general election by a month amid a spike in coronavirus cases.

| | Title | Who For | Comments |
|----------------|--|--|--|
| NEW | Self-isolating after returning to the UK: your employment rights | Employees and employers | Guidance for employees and employers on self-isolating after returning to the UK. |
| UPDATED | PPE portal: how to order emergency personal protective equipment | Dentists, orthodontists and optometrists | Dentists, orthodontists and optometrists added to the categories of provider that are invited to order from the portal |
| UPDATED | PHE data series on deaths in people with COVID-19: technical summary | Everyone | Related deaths time series spreadsheet updated with latest figures |

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| UPDATED | Coronavirus cases in the UK: daily updated statistics | Everyone | 16 August 2020 Updated daily figures. |
| UPDATED | Coronavirus (COVID-19): travel corridors | Everyone | Updated 15 August 2020 France, the Netherlands, Monaco, Malta, Turks and Caicos Islands and Aruba removed from the exempt list. |
| UPDATED | COVID-19: Guidance for the safe use of multi-purpose community facilities | Managers of community centres, village halls and other community facilities | Revised to reflect changes to restrictions on permitted activities under section 3 and to clarify face covering advice under section 2C |
| UPDATED | Coronavirus (COVID-19): admission and care of people in care homes | Care homes, local health protection teams, local authorities, clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) and registered providers of accommodation for people who need personal or nursing care | Added a new section on testing people moving from the community into a care home (Annex K) |
| UPDATED | The R number and growth rate in the UK | Everyone | The R number range for the UK is 0.8-1.0 and the growth rate range is -4% to -1% per day as of 14 August 2020 |
| UPDATED | Face coverings: when to wear one and how to make your own | Everyone | Updated enforcement action to reflect announced fine amounts |

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 | Heatwave Plan for England | Professionals | |
| 6 | Mental health support and advice from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · WHO · mentalhealth.org.uk | General public, staff and carers | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Ipswich & East CCG · Living Life To The Full · NHS Practitioner Wellbeing · Samaritans | | |
| 7 | <p>Chronic disease self- care during COVID-19:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asthma • Diabetes | General public | |
| 8 | European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) COVID-19 homepage | Professionals | |
| 9 | 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 |
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| | Public Health Suffolk's COVID19 RADAR (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 |

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| | | | aims to ensure research evidence is rapidly disseminated and turned into local action. |
| | <u>Public Health Suffolk's 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. |
| | <u>Mobile Testing Units in Suffolk</u> | 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? |
| | <u>Support from the Suffolk Growth Programme Board (SGPB)</u> | 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. |
| | <u>Suffolk Domestic Abuse 24/7 Helpline – Freephone 0800 977 5690</u> | 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. |
| | <u>New Anglia: Employment Opportunities in Key Sectors in Norfolk and Suffolk</u> | Individuals and Businesses wanting to know what employment opportunities | 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. |

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| | | are available in some of our key sectors | |
| | <u>Suffolk Safeguarding Partnership</u> | 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. |
| | <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 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 209, 16th August

Situation in numbers (by WHO Region)

Total (new cases in last 24 hours)

| | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Globally | 21 294 845 cases (267 291) | 761 779 deaths (5 985) |
| Africa | 945 165 cases (9 103) | 18 476 deaths (190) |
| Americas | 11 420 860 cases (149 645) | 414 326 deaths (3 843) |
| Eastern Mediterranean | 1 723 673 cases (13 401) | 45 704 deaths (343) |
| Europe | 3 754 649 cases (19 888) | 214 092 deaths (410) |
| South-East Asia | 3 040 168 cases (69 064) | 59 875 deaths (1 031) |
| Western Pacific | 409 589 cases (6 190) | 9 293 deaths (168) |

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