



**Northamptonshire
Strategic
Coordination Centre**

Date: 26/05/2020

Covid-19 Daily Media Briefing

For any enquiries relating to this document, please contact: nccg.urgentresponsecomms@nhs.net

This document is for media colleagues across Northamptonshire.

Its purpose is to ensure media colleagues are sighted on the latest local and national information and briefings regarding COVID-19 (at the time of release).

The updates from cells are operational updates and there is no intention to provide a spokesperson to provide comment on these.

Strategic Coordination Centre – Francis Crick House

- Locally, Northamptonshire CCGs and Public Health Northamptonshire have set up the Northamptonshire Strategic Coordination Centre based at Francis Crick House, working to a rota of 8am to 8pm, 7 days a week
- Currently within the Northamptonshire Strategic Coordination Centre, an Incident Director is supported by an Incident Manager and Tactical Advisor as well as the following cells:
 - Hospital transfer and capacity
 - Primary care
 - Health logistics and personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - Scientific and Technical Advice Cell (STAC)
 - HR and resourcing
 - Communications
 - Community resilience
 - Economic support
 - Excess deaths
- Following national guidance, other organisations have set up equivalent Incident Coordination Centres as relevant.

Local position

Local case figures are updated daily and can be found [here](#)

Northamptonshire strategic aim

Protect and preserve by working in partnership to provide a coordinated response to slow the rate and extent of the outbreak; mitigate the impact on the community and essential services, and; start the process of planning for recovery.

Key public messaging

CORONAVIRUS ADVICE

Self-isolation

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild infection. If you live alone and you have symptoms of coronavirus illness (a new continuous cough and / or high temperature), however mild, stay at home for **7 days** from when your symptoms started.

If you live with others, anyone who develops symptoms in your household must stay at home for 7 days – and **everyone else in the household who remains well must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days**. The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital. You do not need to contact 111 to tell them you're staying at home. For more information about when to call 111 and advice about staying at home [click here](#).

Social distancing

Latest government guidance on social distancing advises the following:

- Stay at home as much as possible
- Work from home if you can
- Limit contact with other people
- Keep your distance if you go out (2 metres apart where possible)
- Wash your hands regularly

Full details available [here](#).

Shielding

Those who are **extremely vulnerable** (have organ transplants, specific cancers, severe respiratory diseases, have genetic conditions that increase risk of infection, are on immunosuppression therapies that significantly increase risk of infection or are pregnant with an underlying heart condition) to **remain home at all times and avoid face-to-face contact**.

CORONAVIRUS TESTING

Everyone over the age of five in the UK with symptoms is now eligible for coronavirus tests.

Anyone experiencing a new continuous cough; high temperature and loss of or change in their normal sense of smell or taste can book a test online at www.nhs.uk/coronavirus

Testing is being offered in 3 ways:

- Home testing kits which are delivered to someone's door
- Regional testing sites
- Mobile testing units

[Essential workers](#) can continue to apply for priority testing. These tests are prioritised over the tests available for the wider public through the NHS.

Care homes can apply for coronavirus testing kits to test their residents and staff. Care homes can apply whether or not any of their residents or staff have coronavirus symptoms.

[Full details of testing and how to access it can be found here](#)

Updates from system SCC cells

This section contains locally relevant information our Northamptonshire Strategic Coordination Centre cell colleagues have asked to be shared with you. Please be assured that, wherever appropriate, more urgent updates and information will be shared with colleagues directly outside this daily briefing.

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ADVICE (INC. PUBLIC HEALTH)

Updated guidance:

Government to offer antibody tests to health and social care staff and patients in England

- All NHS and care staff in England will be offered a test, with patients and care residents eligible at their clinician's request, from next week.
- Ten million tests so far have been secured and these will be rolled out over the coming months, with further agreements being negotiated with suppliers to supply millions of laboratory-based antibody tests.
- A positive test result for antibodies, whichever test is used, does not currently mean that the person being tested is immune to COVID-19.
- A Public Health England (PHE) study called SIREN is underway to establish whether antibodies indicate immunity to COVID-19, with a sample of 10,000 healthcare workers being tested to examine any potential immunity to the virus.

[Read the full article here](#)

New guidance - Clinical guide for supporting compassionate visiting arrangements for those receiving care at the end of life

This guidance is focused on supporting compassionate visiting arrangements for those receiving care at the end of life. It provides advice on how visiting at the end of life can be facilitated across a range of settings:

- Healthcare inpatient settings (including mental health and learning disability)
- Care homes
- Hospices
- Home

To read the guidance [please click here.](#)

Trial of rapid coronavirus test launched in Hampshire

The trial of a new, rapid coronavirus test will began in Hampshire yesterday. The new test, which has been proven effective in clinical settings, does not need to be sent to a laboratory to be processed and can return results within 20 minutes.

[Read the full article here.](#)

Coronavirus (COVID-19): scientific evidence supporting the UK government response

Updated the list of evidence provided to SAGE with reports from the COVID-19 Clinical Information Network (CO-CIN).

[Read the full article here.](#)

Consultation - [Additional GCSE, AS and A level exam series in autumn 2020](#)

Proposals for an additional exam series in autumn 2020 in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Updated guidance:

- [MHRA guidance on coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
Added information about the work of Clinical Practice Research Datalink (CPRD) in relation to COVID-19.
- [Case studies: remote education practice for schools during coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
Added additional case studies about adapting teaching practice for remote education.
- [Staying safe outside your home](#)
Updated face coverings section to include statement: 'You should be prepared to remove your face covering if asked to do so by police officers and staff for the purposes of identification.'
- [COVID-19: guidance for stepdown of infection control precautions within hospitals and discharging COVID-19 patients from hospital to home settings](#)
Guidance for stepdown of infection control precautions and discharging COVID-19 patients
- [COVID-19: management of exposed staff and patients in health and social care settings](#)
Guidance on the management of staff and patients who have been exposed to COVID-19 - Clarification of managing household members of exposed health or social care workers.
- [COVID-19: prisons and other prescribed places of detention guidance](#)
Information for prisons and other prescribed places of detention on coronavirus (COVID-19). Added updated poster.
- [COVID-19: infection prevention and control \(IPC\)](#)
Guidance on infection prevention and control for COVID-19. Added Appendix 2 on use of PPE: [available here.](#)

- [**Home Office extends bereavement scheme to NHS support staff and social care workers.**](#)

The bereavement scheme has been extended to the families and dependants of NHS support staff and social care workers who die as a result of contracting coronavirus (COVID-19).

COMMUNICATIONS CELL

Northants Together newsletter

The latest edition of Northants Together is available. Please [click here](#) to view. A new edition is expected today.

New #NorthantsTogether animation. Please [click here](#) to download.

Latest guidance

- [**Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): health and wellbeing of the adult social care workforce**](#)

Advice for those working in adult social care on managing your mental health and how employers can take care of the wellbeing of their staff during the coronavirus outbreak.

- [**What parents and carers need to know about schools, colleges and other education settings during the coronavirus outbreak**](#)

Information for parents and carers of children at registered childcare providers (including nurseries and childminders), primary and secondary schools and further education colleges. This is for both state-funded and independent schools.

- [**Transport and travel guidance**](#)

Guidance for safer travel and safer transport operations during the next phase of the coronavirus pandemic. Including:

- Walking, cycling, and travelling in vehicles or on public transport during the coronavirus outbreak.
- Safer working principles and risk assessment for transport operators and organisations

- [**Chancellor extends furlough scheme until October**](#)

Useful links

UK central government: <https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-COVID-19-uk-government-response>

World Health Organisation (WHO):

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

NHS:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Corona Helpline:

<https://educationgovuk.sharepoint.com/News/Pages/030220-coronavirus-update.aspx>

Handling of Contaminated waste:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings>

Northamptonshire LRF press releases and updates:

<https://www.northamptonshirehcp.co.uk/category/covid-19/>