



**Northamptonshire  
Strategic  
Coordination Centre**

**Date: 19/08/2020  
Time: 17:00**

# **COVID-19 Top Line Briefing**

**Contact:**  
[nccg.covid19@nhs.net](mailto:nccg.covid19@nhs.net)

**This document is for all members of the Northamptonshire Local Resilience Forum and the Strategic Coordination Centre, as well as colleagues in general practice.**

**Its purpose is to ensure colleagues are sighted on the latest local and national information and briefings regarding COVID-19 (at the time of writing). Recipients are asked to cascade this update to colleagues within their cells / teams as they deem appropriate, but please do not share outside your own organisation or distribute to the public domain.**

**New updates in this document are highlighted in yellow, while information unchanged from the previous day's report is unhighlighted.**

**Please note that the publication schedule for the Top Line Briefing has changed and it is now issued on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays only.**

## **Key headlines**

- UK to ramp up coronavirus monitoring programme
- New testing at Heathrow 'could avoid need to quarantine'
- UK 'not considering' compulsory workplace masks
- Lockdown in Aberdeen is extended
- Coronavirus smell loss 'different from bad cold'
- Australia PM backtracks on making vaccine mandatory
- Universities facing 'crazy demand' from students

## **National position**

**([Latest available data published by the Department of Health and Social Care, updated 18 August 2020 unless otherwise stated](#))**

**UK tests processed: 14,825,051**  
**Confirmed UK cases: 320,826**  
**Daily tests carried out: 150,174**  
**Total UK deaths: 41,381 \* (4pm, 18 August)**

\*deaths within 28 days of positive test

**Local position**

([Latest available data published by the Department of Health and Social Care, updated 19 August 2020](#))

Confirmed Northamptonshire cases: **4,084**

Northamptonshire deaths: **707**

**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**

The self-isolation period has been extended to 10 days for those in the community who have COVID-19 symptoms or a positive test result

Full details available [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**

On 1 August (Saturday) the government paused shielding. This means those who have been shielding will no longer have to, although they are still being advised to stay at home as much as possible.

Free food parcels, medical deliveries and care from the National Shielding Service will stop although volunteers will still be available to assist with deliveries of food and prescriptions and those registered will still be eligible for priority supermarket delivery slots.

Full details of the changes can be found [here](#)

**Face coverings**

The wearing of face coverings is now mandatory on all forms of public transport as well as in [shops and supermarkets in England](#). Face coverings should also be worn in enclosed public spaces where maintaining two-metre social distancing isn't possible. This is most relevant for short periods indoors

and in crowded areas. From the 8<sup>th</sup> August [the list of places where members of the public have to wear a face covering has been expanded](#).

The public have been advised to wear face coverings when attending healthcare settings such as GP surgeries and hospitals either as a visitor or outpatient.

A face covering is a covering of any type, which covers your nose and mouth. For guidance on how to wear and make a cloth face covering please [click here](#). A cloth face covering should cover your mouth and nose while allowing you to breathe comfortably. It can be as simple as a scarf or bandana that ties behind the head.

Full details available [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.

#### **PRIMARY CARE**

##### **Update from Royal Papworth Hospital: sleep and cardiology services**

Royal Papworth Hospital has switched on GP referrals in its sleep and cardiology services as of 15<sup>th</sup> August 2020. There are three RAS in place within eRS:-

- sleep
- specialised cardiology
- arrhythmia & pacing devices cardiology

All three services have been published and should now be visible. All RAS are available for advice and referral. As a tertiary hospital, no other services are open for GP referrals. The RAS process will be kept under review along with response rates and timeframes.

##### **ERS referrals to Royal Papworth Hospital**

Further to the communication above, a technical issue relating to E-RS and the Royal Papworth Hospital (RPH) has been identified and is due to an incorrect postcode for the ODS location for Papworth (ODS has it as CB2 0AT, when it should be CB2 0AY). E-RS relies on the location's postcode to calculate and display services in distance from the patient's own address.

Cambridge and Peterborough CCG have emailed the ODS team to resolve this, but in the meantime there is a crude workaround until the postcode is corrected. That is to advise your GPs that they can still locate the Papworth services if they remove the postcode and add Royal Papworth in the e-RS search screen – as shown below.

A further communication will be circulated as soon as the postcode issue is resolved.

Enter one or more of the following fields. Entering information in more than one row may reduce the services returned.

Clinical Term

Specialty

Clinic Type

Named Clinician

Refine Your Search With

Distance within  miles of  Postcode

Indicative Wait Time Less Than  Days

Organisation or Site Name

Age and Gender Appropriate Services Only

**Free webinar: at the heart of diabetes, by Kevin Fernando – co-produced by Primary Care Cardiovascular Society, Tuesday, 25th August at 7pm**

Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in people living with type 2 diabetes.

Since concerns were highlighted with rosiglitazone, it was made mandatory for all new diabetes drugs to prove their cardiovascular safety. Somewhat unexpectedly, not only was cardiovascular safety established with certain newer diabetes drugs but also cardiovascular superiority compared to placebo i.e. significant reductions in major adverse cardiovascular events.

This webinar will summarise key take-home messages from all the published diabetes cardiovascular outcome studies to date, how these studies have changed guidelines and what the implications are for primary care.

[Register for FREE](#)

**SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ADVICE (INC. PUBLIC HEALTH)**

**Announcements**

- [The future of public health](#)
- [Government creates new National Institute for Health Protection](#)
- [Nail bars, salons and some outdoor venues to reopen in Leicester](#)

**Statistics and data**

- PHE's [National COVID-19 surveillance reports](#), including weekly summary of findings monitored through various COVID-19 surveillance systems (updated 14 August)

- Latest [NHS test and trace stats for England](#) are now available and are also now available at UTLA level.
- [Regional excess death reports](#) are now published with data available by age, sex, Upper Tier Local Authority, ethnic group, level of deprivation, cause of death and place of death.

## COMMUNICATIONS

### Northamptonshire's Public Health team to start local Contact Tracing this week (press release)

Northamptonshire County Council's Public Health team are set to be amongst the first areas in the country to take on local contact tracing responsibilities when it launches today (Wednesday 19th August).

Luton, Leicester and Blackburn are already successfully carrying out local contact tracing measures and Northamptonshire proactively sought to take on this responsibility in response to a recent increase in cases to ensure as many COVID-19 cases are followed up as possible.

### COVID-19 testing availability in Northamptonshire today (daily press releases)

People in Northamptonshire will be able to access coronavirus testing in the following locations today. Up-to-date details are available on the [Northamptonshire County Council website](#)

### Upcoming co-ordination meetings

Meeting	Next meeting date	Time	Contact
<b>HETCG</b> (Health Economy Tactical Coordination Group)	Tuesday 25 August	16:30	<a href="mailto:nccg.covid19@nhs.net">nccg.covid19@nhs.net</a>
<b>SCG</b> (Strategic Coordination Group)	Thursday 20 August	13:30	<a href="mailto:nccg.covid19@nhs.net">nccg.covid19@nhs.net</a>
<b>TCG</b> (Tactical Coordination Group)	Friday 21 August	14:00	<a href="mailto:nccg.covid19@nhs.net">nccg.covid19@nhs.net</a>

### Useful links

#### UK government

[www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

#### Latest government guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-guidance>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested#who-can-be-tested>

#### World Health Organisation (WHO)

[www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus](http://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus)

**NHS**

[www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)

**NHS guidance for clinicians**

[www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus)