



Latest Information, Advice, Useful Links and Service Updates (Updated 15 April 2021)

This is a very fast-moving situation and our focus right now is on delaying the spread of coronavirus and ensuring our services are responding well. This is clearly hugely important and requires all of our attention.

The information below is intended as a resource to keep you up to date with the latest information and advice.

Covid-19 Trusted sources of information

- The most recent **verified data on cases in the UK and Norfolk** is available from Public Health England [here](#) and the Norfolk Insights website [here](#).
- Everyone has a key role in promoting www.nhs.uk/coronavirus and www.gov.uk/coronavirus as trusted sources of information to the public. It is really important to ensure people go to the right sources of information and keep up to date with how to look after themselves.
- **Keep up to date:** We have [a dedicated webpage for coronavirus updates](#) in Norfolk and impact on Norfolk County Council services. This is updated regularly so please do re-visit this page.
- **Service updates** - The most up to date information on council services can be found at [Norfolk County Council services disruptions](#). The council will continue to monitor its services and, if regulations and circumstances change, it will review its current plans.

Latest national announcements

- **UK moves into next phase of vaccine rollout** - The Prime Minister has [confirmed](#) that all adults over 50, the clinically vulnerable and health and social care workers have now been offered a coronavirus vaccine, and that the UK is moving to the next phase of the vaccination programme. **Phase 2 of the vaccination programme begins this week, with people aged 45 to 49 invited to book their appointments.**
- **Remaining university students to return to campus from step three of the roadmap** - The government has [confirmed](#) that all university students who have not yet returned to campus and in-person teaching will be able to do so from 17 May. The timing aligns with step three of the government's roadmap, where restrictions on social contact and indoor mixing will be further eased. Progression to step three of the roadmap will be dependent on a review of the latest data and the impact of step two on the four key tests.

Messages for residents

- **HRH The Duke of Edinburgh** - Following the sad announcement of the death of The Duke of Edinburgh last week, we have made arrangements for safe ways for residents to pay their respects. [Please visit the Lieutenancy page on our website for details.](#)
The Government have also announced that there will be a one-minute national silence to mark the death of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh at 15:00 on Saturday 17th April, the day of the funeral.

Covid-19

- **Lockdown is easing** - You can now meet people outside in a group of:
 - Six people or less, or
 - No more than two householdsIn addition:
 - non-essential retail, hairdressers and nail salons, public buildings, indoor leisure and sports facilities and most outdoor attractions can reopen

- outdoor hospitality venues can reopen, with table service only
- all childcare and supervised activities are allowed indoors. Parent and child groups can take place indoors for up to 15 people (children under 5 will not be counted in this number)
- weddings, civil partnership ceremonies, wakes and other commemorative events can take place for up to 15 people (anyone working is not included in this limit), including in indoor venues that are permitted to open or where an exemption applies. Wedding receptions can also take place for up to 15 people, but must take place outdoors, not including private gardens
- care home residents will be able to nominate two named individuals for regular indoor visits

[Go to GOV.UK for full details of current restrictions](#)

You aren't legally required to stay at home but you should keep any journeys to a minimum. You should continue to work from home if you are able to.

If you have any of the [coronavirus symptoms](#) you must [self-isolate](#) straightway and [get a test](#). You must continue to isolate if you test positive or are told to isolate by NHS Test and Trace. You can be fined up to £10,000 if you do not isolate. [Get support to self-isolate](#).

- **Symptom free testing** - As lockdown restrictions gradually ease, we all need to play our part to keep each other safe and have a steady return towards a more normal way of life. By getting tested twice a week, people can help to prevent the spread of infection. Regular testing will help to find cases that would otherwise have gone undetected. Up to one in three people with COVID-19 do not have symptoms and could be spreading the virus without knowing it.

Symptom free rapid Covid testing at home is available from 9 April. Tests are free, fast and easy to use and you can easily report test results online.

You can pick up test kits at a range of venues, including pharmacies and some libraries. You can [find a full map via the GOV.UK website](#). If you are unable to pick them up you can also [arrange for home delivery via the GOV.UK website](#) or by calling 119.

Anyone with symptoms should book a PCR test or call 119. Anyone who has a positive lateral flow test at home also needs to have this confirmed with a follow-up PCR test.

[For further details on testing, see the GOV.UK website](#).

Social care

- **Your Guide to Care and Support for Adults** - The latest edition of your guide to care and support for adults has now been published and is available to view here www.norfolk.gov.uk/careservices as either an e-book, or it can be downloaded as a PDF.

The publication contains lots of useful information to support people to be independent, resilient and well in Norfolk. There is information about how to get help and support, what kind of services are available and details of other organisations that can help.

Once copies have been delivered, it will be available free in libraries, GP surgeries and other places across Norfolk. It will also be available to request through our customer service centre on 0344 8008020.

General updates

- **Public Information Notice - Annual surface dressing work starts this week** - Road users are being advised that work starts this week on the annual spring and summer surface dressing project. This year 305 miles of Norfolk's roads will get a new seal to extend the life of the road, prevent potholes opening up, and provide a new skid-resistant surface to help reduce the risk of accidents.

The work is carried out between April and September every year while the weather is warmer. The team aims to get the holiday areas and main roads treated first so they are complete before the start of the summer season.

Crews will be starting work on Thursday, 15 April, in the Caister, Ormesby St Margaret, Blofield and Mautby areas.