

Covid-19 daily update

Headlines

Updates in Gloucestershire

- [Nearly 100 homeless people have been found somewhere to stay during the Covid-19 crisis](#)
- New guidance for parent carers around support available to help care for children with additional needs during the Covid-19 crisis. [Read the guidance](#)
- See latest updates on the schools FAQ webpage:

[New information about Free School Meals provision during the Easter Holidays](#)

- **Stop Loan Sharks campaign and helpline** - this is a time of increased financial pressure for some people. Find out more at www.stoploansharks.co.uk and please share the helpline number 0300 555 2222

Daily stats

Total UK Tests -
163,194

Total UK Cases -
33,718

Total UK Deaths -
2,921

Total Confirmed Cases
in South West - **1,254**

Total Confirmed Cases
in Gloucestershire
- **208**

Total Deaths in
Gloucestershire - **16***

*publicly available data
on deaths in NHS
Trusts, based on where
the patient died

- Cllr Mark Hawthorne was part of a thank you message to all frontline workers with BBC Radio Gloucestershire

National updates

PPE guidance update: [Guidance on infection prevention and control for COVID-19](#)

[Almost £400 million to keep England's buses running](#)

[Guidance on coronavirus tests and testing kits](#)

[£300 million announced for community pharmacies to support them during coronavirus outbreak](#)

[Health Secretary sets out plan to carry out 100,000 coronavirus tests a day](#)

[New guidance for care homes](#), local health protection teams, local authorities, clinical commissioning groups (CCGs)

[Business rates: expanded retail discount](#) - guidance updated

Help hub stats

The helpline is now open 8am-8pm on weekdays and 9am-4pm on weekends.

As of 2 April, the following responses have been received:

- I can offer help – **2365**
 - I need help – **1328**
 - Someone I know needs help – **440**
 - My business can help – **198**
-

Key links

[National Guidance](#)

[General NHS advice](#)

[Latest advice and developments from Gloucestershire NHS](#)

[Gloucestershire's Community Help Hub](#)

[Council service updates](#)

[Make an adult social care referral](#)

[Business advice and support](#)

Our '[Looking after your wellbeing](#)' webpages are being updated regularly to support people to look after their physical and mental health

Your questions answered

How community networks, the Help Hub and the national volunteer programme are all interacting?

We are working closely with our NHS colleagues to share data on who is receiving support during the emergency so we can minimise duplication and confusion for vulnerable people. This relies on joining up the data feeds and the intelligence that we are receiving daily from our district council partners.

The Gloucestershire Community Help Hub hosted on the county council website is co-ordinating the data for people requiring help collected on the hub, the shielded cohort who received a letter or text from the Department for Working Pensions and the existing adult social care and children's social care service users.

This data is filtered every day to remove duplications, for example an individual in the shielding cohort who is a service user with Adult Social Care will be removed from the dataset. The filtered data is then sent out to each of the district councils for them to match up people requesting help with community groups and local volunteers.

The community volunteers are carrying out the following tasks:

- collecting shopping and checking on food supply
- walking dogs
- check-in phone calls
- the community volunteers will no longer be collecting medicines as they don't all have DBS checks

The NHS Volunteers are co-ordinated by the Royal Voluntary Service using an app. This service launched on 1 April 2020. The NHS volunteers are all being DBS checked and will carry out the following tasks for NHS patients:

- delivering prescriptions,
- providing patient transport,

- transporting medical equipment to NHS sites
- check in calls with patients.

How can community networks feed bulk information into this system so that there is no replication of work and people aren't falling through cracks after details have been handed to one place and not another?

In addition to data sharing across all partners the community resilience cell is mapping the community groups and existing VCS agencies who are supporting vulnerable people using GIS so that we can identify overlapping services and gaps in provision. Information is being fed into the mapping from the district councils, Gloucestershire VCS Alliance and the six Know Your Patch Networks. This will be an iterative process and will rely on all our networks across the county to ensure all vulnerable people's needs are met.

Is GCC leading with advice to health organisations re the distribution of medicines, or more generally advice for those essential services that will need to stay open and social distancing ref queuing?

As part of the Government's emergency legislation measures, we as a local authority and health system have worked with providers across the county to ascertain all providers' client listings. This is to include all clients regardless of funding stream. This will allow us to make sure we can assist in the consistent and ongoing care provision for all individuals within the county.

The Integrated Brokerage Service has been in daily contact with all Adult Social Care and health providers providing support and information to the providers on a range of matters such as;

- Who should call 111
- Steps to take for suspected Covid-19
- Infection and Prevention Control (IPC) for caring for a patient with Covid-19
- Briefing Note on Covid-19 for the independent sector
- Public Health Education England Resource
- Steps to take for suspected Covid-19
- IPC caring for a patient with Covid-19
- Revised Briefing Note on Covid-19 for the independent sector

We are in contact with the Head of Medicines Management within the clinical commissioning group and there has been considerable business continuity planning

in this area. Community pharmacy is key to our endeavors and there are social isolation measures already included.

Medicines management advice in the widest sense is provided by the ICS Pharmacy leads from the CCG, GHFT and GHC. This group of lead pharmacists work together with the Local Pharmaceutical Committee (representative organisation of the Community Pharmacies within Gloucestershire), to provide guidance and information about medicines that can be responsibly purchased from community pharmacies and other retail outlets.

The ICS Pharmacy leads have formed a Community Pharmacy 'cell' of the wider Primary Care programme. This 'cell' meets weekly to discuss the challenges presenting at this moment to Community Pharmacy, Hospital Pharmacy, Community Services Pharmacy provision in the Community Hospitals and services.

Community Pharmacy is commissioned by NHS England, who are responsible for more directional guidance relating to specific issues e.g. queuing and social distancing.