

Covid-19 Update

Coronavirus Emergency Committee

18 December 2020

UK Covid-19 Position

- Cases have seen an increase throughout England as a whole in the last week. Cases in the South East of England, including Hertfordshire, have begun to increase significantly
- 7 day rolling daily average hospital admission for Covid-19 patients was 1,402 on 10 Dec, slightly increasing from 1,395 on 3 Dec
- 7 day rolling daily average Coronavirus-related deaths was at 377 on 3 Dec down from 441 on 3 Dec
- The latest UK & England 'R' rate on 11 Dec is slightly up at 0.9-1.0
The East of England 'R' rate has also slightly increased to at 0.9-1.1

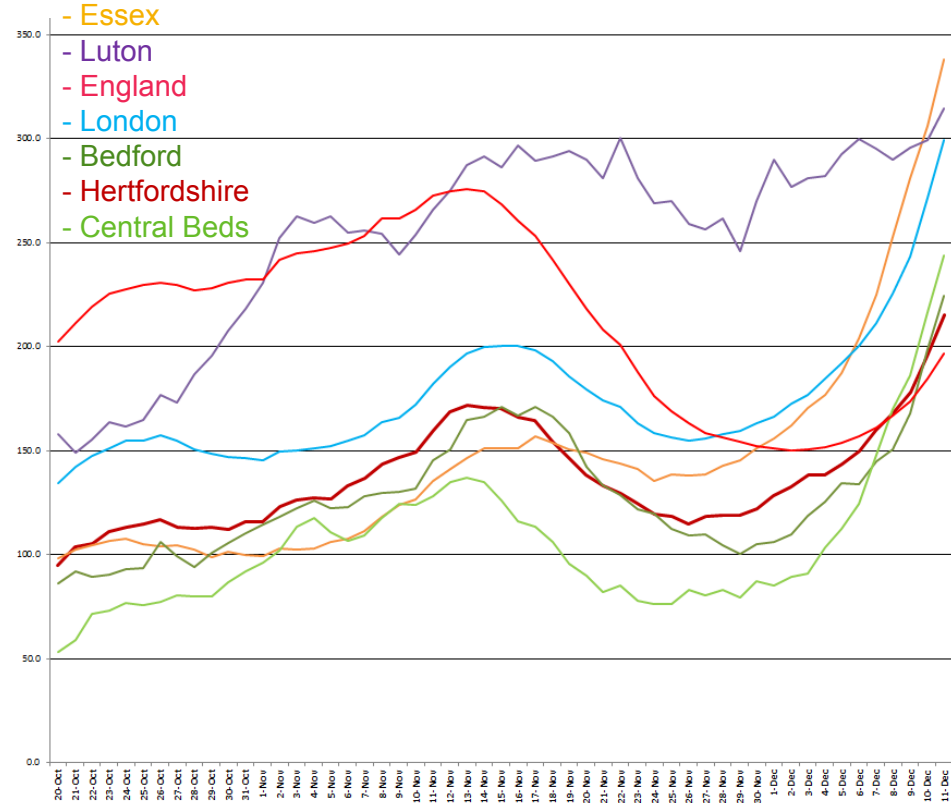
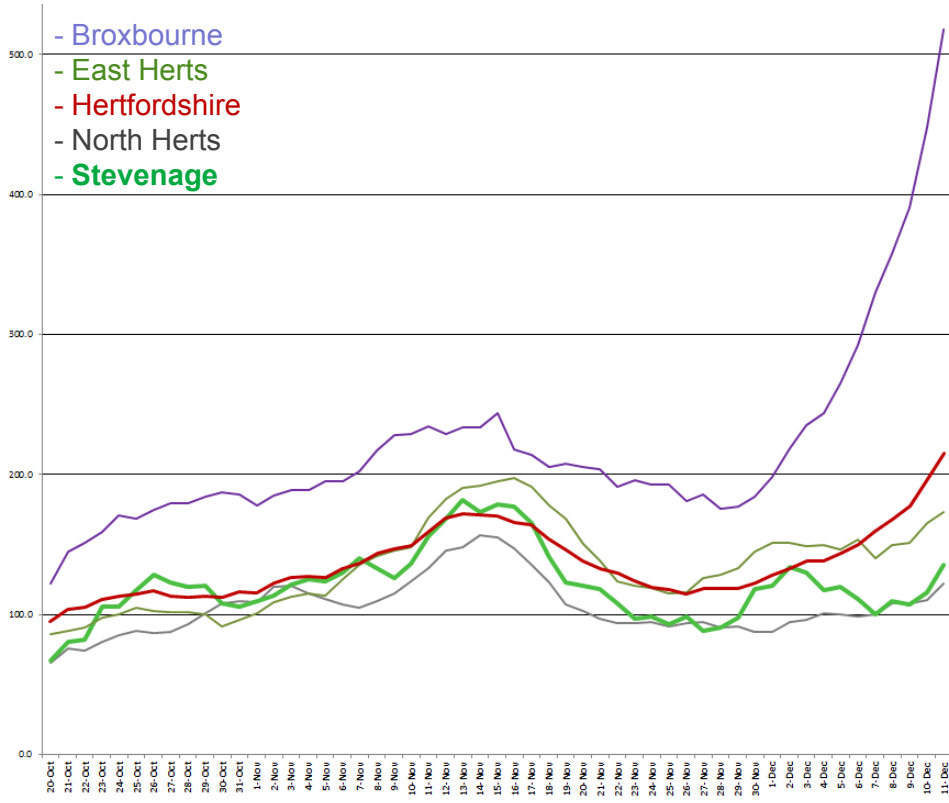
*Cases, Deaths & Admissions update daily (4pm) <https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk>
R rate updates every Friday afternoon www.gov.uk/guidance/the-r-number-in-the-uk*

Local & National Epidemiology

| | Broxbourne | Watford | Hertsmere | Three River | Dacorum | East Herts | Welwyn H | St Albans | Stevenage | North Herts | Hertfordshire | England | Central Beds | Bedford | Luton | Essex | London |
|--------------------------|------------|---------|-----------|-------------|---------|------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|---------------|-----------|--------------|---------|-------|--------|---------|
| *provisional | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| week change | 267 | 126 | 131 | 81 | 142 | 36 | 43 | 45 | 16 | 28 | 915 | 25,276 | 406 | 172 | 124 | 2,404 | 10,283 |
| 05.12 - 11.12 / 100,000 | 518.1 | 309.6 | 279.3 | 215.4 | 204.8 | 173.6 | 150.4 | 147.5 | 135.5 | 122.0 | 242.4 | 196.6 | 243.9 | 224.5 | 314.5 | 338.0 | 299.3 |
| *05.12 - 11.12 | 504 | 293 | 293 | 201 | 317 | 260 | 185 | 219 | 119 | 163 | 2,560 | 110,684 | 704 | 389 | 670 | 5,033 | 26,827 |
| week change | 56 | 23 | 15 | -4 | 30 | 35 | 33 | 15 | 25 | 8 | 236 | -3,888 | 66 | 27 | 55 | 565 | 2,569 |
| *28.11 - 04.12 / 100,000 | 243.6 | 179.1 | 154.4 | 128.6 | 113.1 | 149.6 | 115.4 | 117.2 | 117.3 | 101.1 | 155.8 | 151.7 | 103.2 | 125.2 | 282.1 | 176.5 | 184.6 |
| *28.11 - 04.12 | 237 | 173 | 162 | 120 | 175 | 224 | 142 | 174 | 103 | 135 | 1,645 | 85,408 | 298 | 217 | 601 | 2,629 | 16,544 |
| *14.11 - 20.11 / 100,000 | 186.1 | 155.3 | 140.1 | 132.9 | 93.7 | 126.2 | 88.6 | 107.1 | 88.8 | 95.1 | 133.4 | 158.6 | 80.4 | 109.6 | 256.3 | 138.6 | 155.9 |
| *21.11 - 27.11 | 181 | 150 | 147 | 124 | 145 | 189 | 109 | 159 | 78 | 127 | 1,409 | 89,296 | 232 | 190 | 546 | 2,064 | 13,975 |
| 14.11 - 20.11 / 100,000 | 205.6 | 168.8 | 143.0 | 144.7 | 125.4 | 150.3 | 136.5 | 114.5 | 120.7 | 102.6 | 156.1 | 218.0 | 90.1 | 142.0 | 289.6 | 149.1 | 179.4 |
| 14.11 - 20.11 | 200 | 163 | 150 | 135 | 194 | 225 | 168 | 170 | 106 | 137 | 1,648 | 122,680 | 260 | 246 | 617 | 2,221 | 16,074 |
| 07.11 - 13.11 / 100,000 | 233.3 | 187.4 | 155.4 | 206.8 | 126.0 | 190.3 | 160.9 | 165.7 | 182.1 | 148.2 | 175.0 | 275.9 | 137.2 | 164.5 | 287.3 | 146.3 | 196.8 |
| 07.11 - 13.11 | 227 | 181 | 163 | 193 | 195 | 285 | 198 | 246 | 160 | 198 | 1,848 | 155,323 | 396 | 285 | 612 | 2,178 | 17,633 |
| 31.10 - 06.11 / 100,000 | 195.3 | 175.0 | 117.2 | 125.4 | 113.1 | 125.5 | 164.2 | 107.8 | 129.8 | 107.1 | 136.2 | 249.3 | 106.7 | 122.9 | 254.9 | 107.8 | 154.6 |
| 31.10 - 06.11 | 190 | 169 | 123 | 117 | 175 | 188 | 202 | 160 | 114 | 143 | 1,438 | 140,313 | 308 | 213 | 543 | 1,605 | 13,855 |
| 24.10 - 30.10 / 100,000 | 187.1 | 176.0 | 135.3 | 95.4 | 78.8 | 91.5 | 119.5 | 70.7 | 108.1 | 107.8 | 112.6 | 230.5 | 87.0 | 105.6 | 207.5 | 101.2 | 147.0 |
| 24.10 - 30.10 | 182 | 170 | 142 | 89 | 122 | 137 | 147 | 105 | 95 | 144 | 1,189 | 129,768 | 251 | 183 | 442 | 1,507 | 13,171 |
| 17.10 - 23.10 / 100,000 | 159.3 | 139.8 | 137.2 | 125.4 | 101.4 | 98.2 | 112.2 | 86.9 | 105.9 | 80.9 | 115.1 | 225.3 | 73.1 | 90.6 | 163.8 | 106.6 | 151.3 |
| 17.10 - 23.10 | 155 | 135 | 144 | 117 | 157 | 147 | 138 | 129 | 93 | 108 | 1,215 | 126,830 | 211 | 157 | 349 | 1,588 | 13,563 |
| 10.10 - 16.10 / 100,000 | 99.7 | 103.5 | 107.7 | 99.7 | 70.4 | 73.5 | 86.1 | 58.6 | 45.5 | 44.2 | 81.0 | 173.5 | 55.4 | 65.8 | 123.0 | 80.4 | 107.1 |
| 10.10 - 16.10 | 97 | 100 | 113 | 93 | 109 | 110 | 106 | 87 | 40 | 59 | 855 | 97,640 | 160 | 114 | 262 | 1,198 | 9,595 |
| 03.10 - 09.10 / 100,000 | 90.5 | 96.3 | 84.8 | 93.2 | 65.3 | 88.8 | 62.6 | 56.6 | 33.0 | 47.9 | 74.0 | 162.3 | 41.6 | 77.3 | 96.2 | 60.0 | 92.4 |
| 03.10 - 09.10 | 88 | 93 | 89 | 87 | 101 | 133 | 77 | 84 | 29 | 64 | 781 | 91,378 | 120 | 134 | 205 | 894 | 8,281 |
| 26.09 - 02.10 / 100,000 | 50.4 | 60.1 | 54.3 | 42.9 | 42.6 | 59.4 | 30.9 | 42.4 | 10.2 | 26.2 | 44.4 | 110.9 | 25.3 | 59.4 | 59.1 | 36.3 | 62.5 |
| 26.09 - 02.10 | 49 | 58 | 57 | 40 | 66 | 89 | 38 | 63 | 9 | 35 | 469 | 62,399 | 73 | 103 | 126 | 540 | 5,605 |
| 19.09 - 25.09 / 100,000 | 42.1 | 34.2 | 24.8 | 41.8 | 18.7 | 24.7 | 17.1 | 29.0 | 13.7 | 15.7 | 26.6 | 66.0 | 19.7 | 48.5 | 70.4 | 23.2 | 39.7 |
| 19.09 - 25.09 | 41 | 33 | 26 | 39 | 29 | 37 | 21 | 43 | 12 | 21 | 281 | 37,125 | 57 | 84 | 150 | 346 | 3,557 |
| 12.09 - 18.09 / 100,000 | 43.2 | 28.0 | 44.8 | 15.0 | 12.9 | 12.7 | 10.6 | 31.7 | 20.5 | 18.7 | 23.4 | 38.8 | 23.6 | 19.6 | 35.7 | 14.0 | 21.3 |
| 12.09 - 18.09 | 42 | 27 | 47 | 14 | 20 | 19 | 13 | 47 | 18 | 25 | 247 | 21,843 | 68 | 34 | 76 | 209 | 1,913 |
| 05.09 - 11.09 / 100,000 | 16.4 | 22.8 | 35.3 | 18.2 | 10.3 | 11.4 | 34.9 | 35.0 | 30.7 | 16.5 | 23.4 | 34.7 | 12.5 | 28.9 | 27.7 | 10.8 | 26.2 |
| 05.09 - 11.09 | 16 | 22 | 37 | 17 | 16 | 17 | 43 | 52 | 27 | 22 | 247 | 19,538 | 36 | 50 | 59 | 161 | 2,348 |
| 29.08 - 04.09 / 100,000 | 19.5 | 20.7 | 60.0 | 22.5 | 18.7 | 8.0 | 18.7 | 20.9 | 18.2 | 9.0 | 22.2 | 23.2 | 11.4 | 16.7 | 26.3 | 10.9 | 20.5 |
| 29.08 - 04.09 | 19 | 20 | 63 | 21 | 29 | 12 | 23 | 31 | 16 | 12 | 234 | 13,082 | 33 | 29 | 56 | 162 | 1,838 |
| Total 29.08-27.11 | 1,810 | 1,470 | 1,447 | 1,163 | 1,530 | 1,659 | 1,359 | 1,436 | 838 | 1,131 | 13,012 | 1,128,603 | 2,677 | 2,021 | 4,167 | 17,642 | 134,260 |

- Hertfordshire has seen a significant increase in cases over the last week with three areas at or approaching 300 cases per 100,000
- This is most apparent in Broxbourne which has a rate of over 500 cases per 100,000
- The average rate in Hertfordshire is only just behind that of Essex and London and similar to Bedfordshire
- Stevenage continues to have the second lowest rate in Hertfordshire, with only North Herts being lower
- Despite this, Stevenage has seen its cases and rate increase over the last two weeks, even though these numbers initially dropped following the latest national lockdown

Local & National Epidemiology



Covid-19 Related Deaths in Hertfordshire

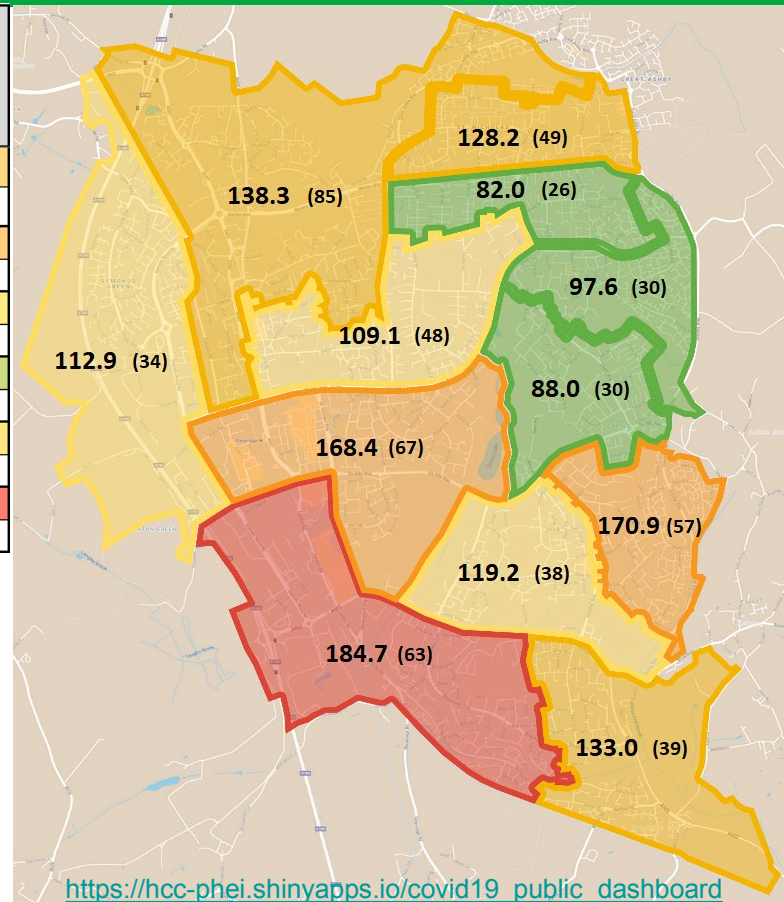
www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/causesofdeath/datasets/deathregistrationsandoccurrencesbylocalauthorityandhealthboard

| Week | Hertsmere | Watford | Three Rivers | St Albans | Broxbourne | Welwyn Hatfield | Dacorum | North Hertfordshire | East Hertfordshire | Stevenage | Total |
|---------------------|-----------|---------|--------------|-----------|------------|-----------------|---------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------|-------|
| Total last 14 weeks | 25 | 20 | 21 | 28 | 20 | 6 | 24 | 10 | 18 | 6 | 144 |
| 28/11 - 04/12 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 6 | 0 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 34 |
| 21/11 - 27/11 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 29 |
| 14/11 - 20/11 | 3 | 3 | 7 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 31 |
| 07/11 - 13/11 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 17 |
| 31/10 - 6/11 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 |
| 24/10 - 30/10 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 8 |
| 17/10 - 23/10 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| 10/10 - 16/10 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 |
| 03/10 - 09/10 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 11 |
| 26/09 - 02/10 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| 19/09 - 25/09 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| 12/09 - 18/09 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 05/09 - 11/09 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| 29/08 - 04/09 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Rate per 100,000 | 198.2 | 151.2 | 117.9 | 112.5 | 99.7 | 97.5 | 96.9 | 80.9 | 79.5 | 75.1 | 108.5 |
| Total | 208 | 146 | 110 | 167 | 97 | 120 | 150 | 108 | 119 | 66 | 1,291 |

- Unfortunately, for the third reporting week in a row, deaths throughout Hertfordshire have remained around 30 for the week.
- Stevenage has now had cases in each of the last 3 weeks, and in 5 of the last 6 weeks. With the latest week being the first to have multiple deaths in the same week.
- Despite this, Stevenage has the joint lowest amount of deaths since the end of August (6), shared with Welwyn Hatfield.
- Overall Stevenage has the lowest amount of deaths in the county (66) and the lowest rate per population (75.1).
- As with cases, Stevenage is clearly behind the trend of other districts in Hertfordshire.

Stevenage confirmed cases Geography

| | Roebuck | Bandley Hill | Bedwell | Woodfield + Old Town | Longmeadow | St Nicholas | Shephall | Symonds Green | Pin Green + Old Town | Manor | Chells | Martins Wood | Stevenage |
|--|-------------|--------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|----------------------|-------------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| 07/11 - 11/12 (5 week) Average Rate & Cases | 184.7 63 | 170.9 57 | 168.4 67 | 138.3 85 | 133.0 39 | 128.2 49 | 119.2 38 | 112.9 34 | 109.1 48 | 97.6 30 | 88.0 30 | 82.0 26 | 128.9 566 |
| 05/12 - 11/12 Rate & Cases | 190.5 13 | 194.9 13 | 163.4 13 | 170.9 21 | 153.5 9 | 117.8 9 | 188.1 12 | 83.0 5 | 102.3 9 | 113.9 7 | 58.7 4 | 63.1 4 | 135.5 119 |
| 28/11 - 04/12 Rate & Cases | 161.2 11 | 179.9 12 | 113.1 9 | 138.3 17 | 153.5 9 | 91.6 7 | 156.8 10 | 99.6 6 | 56.8 5 | 162.7 10 | 44.0 3 | 63.1 4 | 117.3 103 |
| 21/11 - 27/11 Rate & Cases | 161.2 11 | 134.9 9 | 125.7 10 | 32.6 4 | 68.2 4 | 91.6 7 | 78.4 5 | 116.2 7 | 68.2 6 | 48.8 3 | 102.7 7 | 78.9 5 | 88.8 78 |
| 14/11 - 20/11 Rate & Cases | 117.3 8 | 224.9 15 | 226.3 18 | 73.2 9 | 102.3 6 | 65.4 5 | 47.0 3 | 116.2 7 | 147.8 13 | 65.1 4 | 132.0 9 | 142.0 9 | 120.7 106 |
| 07/11 - 13/11 Rate & Cases | 293.1 20 | 119.9 8 | 213.7 17 | 276.7 34 | 187.6 11 | 274.8 21 | 125.4 8 | 149.4 9 | 170.5 15 | 97.6 6 | 102.7 7 | 63.1 4 | 182.1 160 |



- Cases continue to be spread throughout Stevenage. Despite this, Roebuck, Bandley Hill & Bedwell are seeing a slightly higher case rate.
- However, as numbers remain low in each area, we still see that a small number of cases can drastically change the rate per 100,000.
- The highest contributing factor to cases in Stevenage continues to be household clusters and community transmission.
- We are not seeing the same patterns regarding secondary school pupils as the rest of Hertfordshire.

Care Homes – 11th December

| As of Friday 11 December | Hertsmere | Watford | Three Rivers | St Albans | Welwyn Hatfield | Dacorum | Broxbourne | North Hertfordshire | East Hertfordshire | Stevenage | Total |
|---|-----------|---------|--------------|-----------|-----------------|---------|------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------|-------|
| Number of Beds | 1259 | 1082 | 576 | 1107 | 1113 | 1083 | 378 | 1286 | 1312 | 680 | 9876 |
| Residents w/ Covid-19 | 6 | 13 | 6 | 16 | 1 | 19 | 0 | 4 | 6 | 7 | 78 |
| Staff w/ Covid-19 | 3 | 7 | 11 | 31 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 12 | 12 | 23 | 111 |
| Homes with outbreaks of 5+ in last week | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

- The above table provides a snapshot of cases in care homes on Friday 11 December.
- Throughout Hertfordshire we continue to see a decline in care home outbreaks.
- Only one care home in Hertfordshire had an outbreak of 5 or more cases in the previous week.
- HCC Adult Care Services Incident Management team responds directly to reported outbreaks.
- 7 patients and 23 members of staff were diagnosed with Covid in Stevenage at the time of reporting.
- This is the second highest amount of staff with Covid-19 across the county, despite having the third lowest amount of beds.
- Sadly there have been a total of 29 confirmed deaths in care homes from 1 Sep to 10 Dec. Up 3 in the reporting week.

Tier 3 (Very High) Restrictions

Tier 3 Restrictions

| | | | |
|--|--|------------------------------|--|
| Meeting Friends & Family | No mixing of households. Max of 6 in public parks/gardens only | Personal Care | Open |
| Bars, Pubs and Restaurants | Closed – takeaway, drive-through or delivery only | Weddings and Funerals | 15 at weddings & wakes. 30 at funerals. No wedding receptions |
| Retail | Open | Entertainment | Indoor venues closed |
| Education | Open | Places of Worship | Open. Can only interact with household/support bubble |
| Work and Business | Everyone who can work from home should do so | Travelling | Avoid leaving your area other than for work or education |
| Indoor Leisure | Open – Group activities and classes should not take place | Exercise | Outdoor sport/classes can take place outdoors but should avoid higher-risk contact sports. Indoors with own household/bubble. Activities for elite sport, under 18s and disabled people can continue |
| Accommodation (e.g. hotels, B&Bs) | Closed (except for work or where cannot return home) | Large Events | Events should not take place. Drive-in events permitted. |
| Overnight stays | No overnight stays outside of local area, unless for work or education | | |

National Update

- New variant of Covid identified which could be accelerating the rate of transmission
- Restrictions will still be relaxed between 23 and 27 December within England, however in Wales only two households will now be able to meet in law, and in Scotland people are being asked to meet on one of the five days
- The self isolation period for those who have come into contact with someone with Covid-19 has been decreased from 14 to 10 days.
- The Government has confirmed the first wave of Tier 3 areas to receive its community testing offer.

National Update

- Pupils returning to secondary schools in January will be staggered in England
- All staff in secondary schools and colleges will be eligible for weekly rapid tests and students will be eligible for daily testing for seven days if identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive
- Government aim is for the NHS to vaccinate 250,000 people this week. More than 200 GP hubs commenced vaccinations this week together with 83 hospitals. The NHS hope to increase the number of GP centres to 300 next week
- National Leisure Recovery Fund to support publicly owned leisure facilities through the pandemic now open for applications
- Electoral Commission has set out safety rules for May elections.

Herts Covid-19 Vaccination Programme

- Vaccinations are now being carried out in hospitals in Hertfordshire and through some Primary Care Networks.
- Within Stevenage a couple of GP surgeries are being used as immunisation centres and vaccines will start to be administered to those over 80 years this week.
- Continuing to work with NHS (including Primary Care Trusts) Hertfordshire County Council and other Districts and Boroughs to roll out vaccine pods in response to the mass vaccination programme.
- Over 40 SBC staff trained to support non-clinical roles to date
- Vaccines will be prioritised as per the Government's vaccine prioritisation plan with first vaccinations currently being delivered in hospital settings.

Hertfordshire Resilience Update

- Herts Strategic Co-ordination Group moved to Alert Level 4 (red) last week – reaffirms major incident status due to pressure on acute trusts
- Cases in acute trusts are continuing to increase, including ventilated bed occupancy. Hospitals under pressure and activating BC plans. Death rate however remains stable. Community lateral flow testing to commence within the county in January
- Outbreaks flattening within Care Homes. However outbreaks within supported living accommodation scheme is becoming a concern

Hertfordshire Resilience Updates

- The Schools Cell is working to reduce case rates in schools due to this potentially being a main source of community transmission
- The current number of Clinically Extremely Vulnerable People within the county stands at 40,852
- Funding for fuel and food poverty has been received and will be distributed via Herts Help.
- Herts Communications Cell is focusing on the prevention of sharing practices which are emerging as potential transmission routes, sharing vapes, canned drinks, cigarettes and chewing gum.
- The Herts LEP has published its Covid Impact Assessment

Community testing



- Local Test Site (LTS) identified subject to site survey mobilisation could be early January.
- Site will be open 8am to 8pm every day with capacity for 290 pre-booked tests per day.
- SALC Conference Suite likely to go forward as a Lateral Flow (LF) test centre.
- Other sites in tier 3 districts to be stood-up as LF test centres

Outbreak management

- Local intelligence regarding outbreaks
- Contact tracing case numbers stable and self-isolation compliance visits successful
- Contact tracing service capacity remains sufficient for now



If you develop symptoms, book a test at www.nhs.uk or call 119
For support, contact **HertsHelp** at info@hertshelp.net or 0300 123 4044



Compliance and enforcement

- Herts Outbreak TCG is working to set up a deployable Covid marshal force
- SBC Marshalling rota in place - business case requesting additional resources to be submitted to HCC
- Compliance visits are up following an uplift in notified workplace clusters/outbreaks
- Ongoing regular liaison with the police regarding hotspots



Community and Housing

- Districts will each receive £10k from HCC to support local food banks to help those in hardship from January to March
- Stevenage Helps have issued food and activity parcels
- HC have started to issue holiday food vouchers for children who are eligible for free school meals
- Our National Leisure Recovery Fund expression of interest has been submitted. The Council will be submit a full bid before the deadline of 8th January 2021
- 165 households currently in Emergency, Temporary and B&B accommodation, including 26 rough sleepers
- Rent Arrears currently stand at £1,180,840

Claimant Count Mar 20 – Nov 2020

| | Stevenage | Stevenage | Hertfordshire | Hertfordshire | East | Great Britain |
|--------|--------------|------------|---------------|---------------|------------|---------------|
| | (Level) | (%) | (Level) | (%) | (%) | (%) |
| Mar-20 | 1,435 | 2.6 | 14,370 | 1.9 | 2.4 | 3.1 |
| Apr-20 | 2,590 | 4.6 | 25,795 | 3.5 | 4.1 | 5.1 |
| May-20 | 3,575 | 6.4 | 38,550 | 5.2 | 5.7 | 6.4 |
| Jun-20 | 3,290 | 5.9 | 36,350 | 4.9% | 5.4 | 6.2 |
| Jul-20 | 3,365 | 6 | 37,370 | 5.1 | 5.5 | 6.4 |
| Aug-20 | 3,410 | 6.1 | 38,390 | 5.2 | 5.6 | 6.5 |
| Sep-20 | 3,400 | 6.1 | 38,045 | 5.1 | 5.6 | 6.4 |
| Oct-20 | 3,235 | 5.8 | 36,410 | 4.9 | 5.3 | 6.2 |
| Nov-20 | 3,260 | 5.8 | 37,495 | 5.1 | 5.4 | 6.3 |

Business Support

- The National Job Retention Scheme has been extended to the end of April and the criteria remains unchanged – up to 80% of the salary of employees for hours not worked, with a cap of £2,500
- Business Update sent with info on funding, access to markets, EU Transition & business requirements in Tier 2/Tier 3
- Job opportunities to support mass testing site in Stevenage, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic
- **Employment support for those facing Redundancy**
<https://www.stevenage.gov.uk/business-and-licensing/covid-19-support-for-businesses/redundancy-support>
- **Growth Hub's COVID-19 Business Resource Page**
<https://r1.dotdigital-pages.com/p/4OQI-9KW/hgh-covid19>

Business Support – Grant funding

LRSG (OPEN) and (CLOSED):

Guidance received and local scheme subject to Member approval – likely to go live next week

Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG):

Discretionary grant scheme open to support businesses not previously supported including those without rateable premises

Christmas Support Payment for wet-led pubs:

New support for wet-led pubs that have been severely impacted over the Christmas period due to temporary local restrictions; criteria:

- based in England, derive less than 50% of sales from food
- in Tier 2 or Tier 3 local restrictions since 2 December 2020
- established before 1 Dec 2020

SBC Business Continuity and Workforce

- Cover arrangements for Christmas and New Year in place
- Focus on protecting vital frontline services
- Continued pressures on particular services in housing, repairs, So Safe, Environmental Health
- Continuing to identify back up capacity to support priority areas
- Identified SBC colleagues who can support the vital vaccination efforts
- All Staff Webinar – 17th December – on mental health and wellbeing



Communications update

- #StaySafeStevenage Campaign ongoing - digital/online/print
- Tier 2, Self-isolation and safety messages shared on social media
- Developing messaging to target and inform younger people to be safe
- Reopening of the High Street and Town Centre campaign with media partners
- Digital screens/boards: In progress following Director of Public Health support and approval
- Frequently Asked Questions updated and shared on the council's website

The screenshot shows a Facebook post from Stevenage Borough Council. The post text states: "From 00:01 am on Wednesday 16 December, the following areas of Hertfordshire will be in Tier 3: -Broxbourne -Three Rivers -Watford -Hertsmere. ... See more". Below the text is a map of Hertfordshire with regions color-coded: North Hertfordshire (orange), Stevenage (orange), East Hertfordshire (orange), St. Albans (orange), Welwyn Hatfield (orange), Broxbourne (orange), Watford (red), Hertsmere (red), and Three Rivers (red). To the right of the map are two panels: "TIER 2 HIGH ALERT" and "TIER 3 VERY HIGH ALERT", both with detailed information. Below the map, the post shows "3,827 People reached" and "1,168 Engagements". At the bottom, it says "Boost Unavailable" and "12 comments 52 shares".

Stevenage Borough Council
Yesterday at 16:44

From 00:01 am on Wednesday 16 December, the following areas of Hertfordshire will be in Tier 3:
-Broxbourne
-Three Rivers
-Watford
-Hertsmere. ... See more

Database rights
EUL 100019606

North Hertfordshire
Stevenage
East Hertfordshire
St. Albans
Welwyn Hatfield
Broxbourne
Watford
Hertsmere
Three Rivers

TIER 2 HIGH ALERT

TIER 3 VERY HIGH ALERT

3,827 People reached 1,168 Engagements

Boost Unavailable

12 comments 52 shares