



## Briefing Note 20 - COVID-19 Guidance

As at 09:00 Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2020

### A. Headline developments announced on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Item		Source
A1	Letter to local authority chief executives on emergency legislation requiring them to postpone elections until 2021 and for remote council meetings	<a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878332/Coronavirus_COVID-19_-_letter_to_councils_about_local_authority_meetings_and_postponement_of_elections.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878332/Coronavirus_COVID-19_-_letter_to_councils_about_local_authority_meetings_and_postponement_of_elections.pdf</a>
A2	Procurement policy guidance to public bodies on payment of their suppliers to ensure service continuity	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/procurement-policy-note-0220-supplier-relief-due-to-covid-19">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/procurement-policy-note-0220-supplier-relief-due-to-covid-19</a>
A3	Foreign Secretary's statement at 5pm daily ministerial press briefing	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/foreign-secretarys-statement-on-coronavirus-covid-19-6-april-2020">https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/foreign-secretarys-statement-on-coronavirus-covid-19-6-april-2020</a>
A4	Guidance for apprentices, employers, training providers and end-point assessment providers and external quality assurance providers	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-apprenticeship-programme-response/">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-apprenticeship-programme-response/</a>
A5	Presentation slides and data sets used to support the Ministerial Press Conference on Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> April 2020	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/slides-and-datasets-to-accompany-coronavirus-press-conference-6-april-2020">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/slides-and-datasets-to-accompany-coronavirus-press-conference-6-april-2020</a>
A6	<b>UK statistics:</b> 5,373 dead (+439) 51,608 tested positive (+3,802)	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public</a>
A7	UK daily interactive statistical dashboard published by Public Health England showing UK cases and deaths	<a href="https://www.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/ae5dda8f86814ae99dde905d2a9070ae">https://www.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/ae5dda8f86814ae99dde905d2a9070ae</a>

### B. Key Sources of Government Advice

Document	
B1	<b>Glossary of terms used in government guidance</b> <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-infection-prevention-and-control/glossary-of-terms">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-infection-prevention-and-control/glossary-of-terms</a>
B2	<b>Coronavirus: action plan – A guide to what you can expect across the UK</b> <a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/869827/Coronavirus_action_plan_-_a_guide_to_what_you_can_expect_across_the_UK.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/869827/Coronavirus action plan - a guide to what you can expect across the UK.pdf</a>
B3	<b>World Health Organisation advice</b> <a href="https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019">https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019</a>

**STAY HOME** ➤ **PROTECT THE NHS** ➤ **SAVE LIVES**

B4	<b>NHS health advice for everyone</b> <a href="https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/">https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/</a>
B5	<b>Mental health helplines</b> <a href="https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/mental-health-helplines/">https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/mental-health-helplines/</a>
B6	<b>Essential travel guidance</b> <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-essential-travel-guidance">https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-essential-travel-guidance</a>
B7	<b>Guidance on social distancing for everyone in the UK and for vulnerable people</b> <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people/guidance-on-social-distancing-for-everyone-in-the-uk-and-protecting-older-people-and-vulnerable-adults">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people/guidance-on-social-distancing-for-everyone-in-the-uk-and-protecting-older-people-and-vulnerable-adults</a>
B8	<b>Guidance for schools and other educational settings</b> <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-schools-and-other-educational-settings">https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-schools-and-other-educational-settings</a>
B9	<b>Guidance for schools and local authorities on maintaining educational provision</b> <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision</a>
B10	<b>Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE): COVID-19 guidance</b> <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/scientific-advisory-group-for-emergencies-sage-coronavirus-covid-19-response">https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/scientific-advisory-group-for-emergencies-sage-coronavirus-covid-19-response</a>
B11	<b>Guidance for employees, employers and businesses</b> <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19</a>
B12	<b>Measures to protect people at higher risk from Coronavirus</b> <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19</a>
B13	<b>Guidance on home care provision</b> <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-residential-care-supported-living-and-home-care-guidance/covid-19-guidance-on-home-care-provision">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-residential-care-supported-living-and-home-care-guidance/covid-19-guidance-on-home-care-provision</a>
B14	<b>Guidance on vulnerable children and young people</b> <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people</a>
B15	<b>Guidance on temporary closure of schools in England</b> <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-school-closures/guidance-for-schools-about-temporarily-closing">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-school-closures/guidance-for-schools-about-temporarily-closing</a>
B16	<b>Stay at home guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection</b> <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance</a>

B17	<p><b>Guidance for parents and carers - supporting children &amp; young people's mental health</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak</a></p>
B18	<p><b>Compliance advice for businesses and other venues directed to close</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/business-and-other-venues-subject-to-further-social-distancing-measures/businesses-and-other-venues-subject-to-further-social-distancing-measures">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/business-and-other-venues-subject-to-further-social-distancing-measures/businesses-and-other-venues-subject-to-further-social-distancing-measures</a></p>
B19	<p><b>Emergency measures for railways to ensure continuity of operations and ticket refunds</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-ensures-ticket-refunds-and-protects-services-for-passengers-with-rail-emergency-measures">https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-ensures-ticket-refunds-and-protects-services-for-passengers-with-rail-emergency-measures</a></p>
B20	<p><b>Easy-read guide on protecting extremely vulnerable people – also known as ‘shielding’</b></p> <p><a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/875126/Easy_read_guidance_on_shielding_March_2020.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/875126/Easy_read_guidance_on_shielding_March_2020.pdf</a></p>
B21	<p><b>Coronavirus Act 2020</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2020/7/pdfs/ukpga_20200007_en.pdf">http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2020/7/pdfs/ukpga_20200007_en.pdf</a></p>
B22	<p><b>Guidance for UK businesses trading internationally</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-uk-businesses/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-uk-businesses-trading-internationally">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-uk-businesses/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-uk-businesses-trading-internationally</a></p>
B23	<p><b>Guidance on cyber security and home working</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/home-working">https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/home-working</a></p>
B24	<p><b>Guidance for local authorities for controlling fraud during COVID-19 emergency</b></p> <p><a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/875844/Fraud-Control-in-Emergency-Management-COVID-19-UK-Government-Guidance.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/875844/Fraud-Control-in-Emergency-Management-COVID-19-UK-Government-Guidance.pdf</a></p>
B25	<p><b>Guidance for closing certain businesses – as at 27 March 2020</b></p> <p><a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876535/270320_Revised_Guidance.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876535/270320_Revised_Guidance.pdf</a></p>
B26	<p><b>Guidance on how to help safely</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-how-to-help-safely--2/coronavirus-how-to-help-safely">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-how-to-help-safely--2/coronavirus-how-to-help-safely</a></p>
B27	<p><b>Financial help for the self-employed</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-gives-support-to-millions-of-self-employed-individuals">https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-gives-support-to-millions-of-self-employed-individuals</a></p>
B28	<p><b>How to check if you're covered under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/check-if-you-could-be-covered-by-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/check-if-you-could-be-covered-by-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme</a></p>

B29	<p><b>How employers can claim wages through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme</b>  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-for-wage-costs-through-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-for-wage-costs-through-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme</a></p>
B30	<p><b>New interim safeguarding guidance for schools, colleges and other premises in England</b>  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-safeguarding-in-schools-colleges-and-other-providers/coronavirus-covid-19-safeguarding-in-schools-colleges-and-other-providers">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-safeguarding-in-schools-colleges-and-other-providers/coronavirus-covid-19-safeguarding-in-schools-colleges-and-other-providers</a></p>
B31	<p><b>Non-statutory renting guidance for landlords, tenants and local authorities in England</b>  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-and-renting-guidance-for-landlords-tenants-and-local-authorities?">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-and-renting-guidance-for-landlords-tenants-and-local-authorities?</a></p>
B32	<p><b>Collection of healthcare guidance for healthcare workers and others</b>  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-guidance">https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-guidance</a></p>
B33	<p><b>Online support and practical guidance for those suffering with mental health issues</b>  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-the-public-on-mental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-the-public-on-the-mental-health-and-wellbeing-aspects-of-coronavirus-covid-19">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-the-public-on-mental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-the-public-on-the-mental-health-and-wellbeing-aspects-of-coronavirus-covid-19</a></p>
B34	<p><b>Small Business Grant Fund &amp; Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant Fund – Version 3</b>  <a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876893/small-business-grant-fund-retail-guidance-vers-3.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876893/small-business-grant-fund-retail-guidance-vers-3.pdf</a></p>
B35	<p><b>Easy-read guide: looking after your feelings and body</b>  <a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876989/Easy_read_looking_after_your_feelings_and_body.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876989/Easy_read_looking_after_your_feelings_and_body.pdf</a></p>
B36	<p><b>Easy-read guide: staying at home</b>  <a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876715/Coronavirus_COVID-19_advice_on_staying_at_home_20200328.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876715/Coronavirus_COVID-19_advice_on_staying_at_home_20200328.pdf</a></p>
B37	<p><b>Easy-read guide: keeping away from other people</b>  <a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876699/COVID-19_Keeping_away_from_other_people_20200328.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876699/COVID-19_Keeping_away_from_other_people_20200328.pdf</a></p>
B38	<p><b>Guidance for parents &amp; carers on looking after mental health &amp; wellbeing of children</b>  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/</a></p>
B39	<p><b>Construction site operating procedures – version 2 (updated 2 April 2020)</b>  <a href="http://www.constructionleadershipcouncil.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Site-Operating-Procedures-02-April-2020-v2.pdf">http://www.constructionleadershipcouncil.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Site-Operating-Procedures-02-April-2020-v2.pdf</a></p>
B40	<p><b>Changes to the Care Act 2014 allowing local authorities to prioritise care and support</b>  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-changes-to-the-care-act-2014/care-act-easements-guidance-for-local-authorities">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-changes-to-the-care-act-2014/care-act-easements-guidance-for-local-authorities</a></p>

B41	<p><b>Guidance for care of the deceased – for health professionals and other organisations</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-care-of-the-deceased/guidance-for-care-of-the-deceased-with-suspected-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-care-of-the-deceased/guidance-for-care-of-the-deceased-with-suspected-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19</a></p>
B42	<p><b>Guidance for local authorities for implementing grant funds – version 3</b></p> <p><a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877286/small-business-grant-fund-and-retail-guidance-v3.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877286/small-business-grant-fund-and-retail-guidance-v3.pdf</a></p>
B43	<p><b>Guidance on childcare and early years closures</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures</a></p>
B44	<p><b>Guidance for businesses on grant funding schemes: Version 2 – 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020</b></p> <p><a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878082/small-business-grant-and-retail-leisure-hospitality-grant-guidance-for-businesses-v2.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878082/small-business-grant-and-retail-leisure-hospitality-grant-guidance-for-businesses-v2.pdf</a></p>
B45	<p><b>Business Support – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.businesssupport.gov.uk/faqs/">https://www.businesssupport.gov.uk/faqs/</a></p>
B46	<p><b>Expanded retail discount 2020-2021: guidance to local authorities at 2 April 2020</b></p> <p><a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877758/Expanded_Retail_Discount_Guidance_02.04.20.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877758/Expanded_Retail_Discount_Guidance_02.04.20.pdf</a></p>
B47	<p><b>Grant funding allocations by local authority in England</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-business-support-grant-funding?">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-business-support-grant-funding?</a></p>
B48	<p><b>Launch of project fund bids to UK businesses for innovation – ends 17 April 2020</b></p> <p><a href="https://apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk/competition/583/overview">https://apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk/competition/583/overview</a></p>
B49	<p><b>Admission and care of people in care homes: Version 1 -2<sup>nd</sup> April 2020</b></p> <p><a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877797/covid-19-care-homes-guidance.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877797/covid-19-care-homes-guidance.pdf</a></p>
B50	<p><b>Guidance on maintaining further education</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-further-education-provision/">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-further-education-provision/</a></p>
B51	<p><b>Guidance for head teachers on how educational qualifications will be graded in 2020</b></p> <p><a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877930/Summer_2020_grades_for_GCSE_AS_A_level_EPQ_AEA_in_maths_-_guidance_for_heads_of_centres.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877930/Summer_2020_grades_for_GCSE_AS_A_level_EPQ_AEA_in_maths_-_guidance_for_heads_of_centres.pdf</a></p>
B52	<p><b>Guidance for teachers, students, parents and carers on educational grades in 2020</b></p> <p><a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877842/Summer_2020_grades_for_GCSE_AS_A_level_EPQ_AEA_in_maths_-_guidance_for_teachers_students_parents.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877842/Summer_2020_grades_for_GCSE_AS_A_level_EPQ_AEA_in_maths_-_guidance_for_teachers_students_parents.pdf</a></p>

B53	<b>Project funding available for innovation: competition closes on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2020</b> <a href="https://apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk/competition/583/overview">https://apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk/competition/583/overview</a>
B54	<b>Guidance for local authorities to support and protect vulnerable children</b> <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-childrens-social-care-services/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-local-authorities-on-childrens-social-care">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-childrens-social-care-services/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-local-authorities-on-childrens-social-care</a>
B55	<b>Coronavirus Status Checker - Online Survey</b> <a href="https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus-status-checker">https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus-status-checker</a>
B56	<b>Government plans for scaling up testing programmes – issued 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020</b> <a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878121/coronavirus-covid-19-testing-strategy.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878121/coronavirus-covid-19-testing-strategy.pdf</a>
B57	<b>Management of exposed healthcare workers and patients in hospitals</b> <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-management-of-exposed-healthcare-workers-and-patients-in-hospital-settings/">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-management-of-exposed-healthcare-workers-and-patients-in-hospital-settings/</a>
B58	<b>Call for evidence by parliamentary Women &amp; Equalities Committee: ends 30 April 2020</b> <a href="https://committees.parliament.uk/work/227/coronavirus-and-the-impact-on-people-with-protected-characteristics/">https://committees.parliament.uk/work/227/coronavirus-and-the-impact-on-people-with-protected-characteristics/</a>
B59	<b>Safety guidance for towpaths and waterways from the Canal and River Trust</b> <a href="https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/enjoy-the-waterways/safety-on-our-waterways/coronavirus">https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/enjoy-the-waterways/safety-on-our-waterways/coronavirus</a>

## C. Commentary

The Prime Minister was admitted to the intensive care unit at St Thomas’s Hospital, London, as a ‘precautionary measure’ yesterday evening.

Questions continue to be asked of government about the wearing of face masks by the public. The UK does not currently advise use of face masks outside of care settings. Public Health England concludes that there is very little evidence of widespread benefit from the use of face masks outside of the clinical or care settings, where they play a very important role.

Last week the government made two sets of regulations under the Coronavirus Act 2020 relating to elections and the postponement of elections and letters have been sent to all primary local authority chief executives. The first set of regulations enables all local authority meetings before 7 May 2021 to be held remotely and removes the requirement for the annual meeting this year. The second set postpones until 6 May 2021 local by-elections and other polls, either scheduled or which would otherwise arise before that date