



Briefing Note 40 - COVID-19 Guidance

As at 09:00 Monday 27th April 2020

A. Headline developments announced on Sunday 26th April 2020

Item		Source
A1	Environment Secretary's speech at the 4pm ministerial media briefing.	https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/environment-secretarys-statement-on-coronavirus-covid-19-26-april-2020
A2	Presentation slides and datasets used to support the ministerial media briefing on Sunday 26 th April 2020.	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/slides-and-datasets-to-accompany-coronavirus-press-conference-26-april-2020
A3	UK statistics: 20,319 dead (+413) 148,377 tested positive (+4,463)	https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public
A4	UK government COVID-19 data tracker	https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/
A5	Office for National Statistics (ONS): Analysis of COVID-19 data and its effect on the UK economy and society	https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases

B. Key sources of government advice

Document	
B1	Glossary of terms used in government guidance https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-infection-prevention-and-control/glossary-of-terms
B2	Coronavirus: action plan – A guide to what you can expect across the UK 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
B3	World Health Organisation https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019
B4	NHS health advice for everyone https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/
B5	Mental health helplines https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/mental-health-helplines/
B6	Essential travel guidance https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-essential-travel-guidance



B7	<p>Guidance on social distancing for everyone in the UK and for vulnerable people</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people/</p>
B8	<p>Collection of guidance for schools and other educational settings</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-schools-and-other-educational-settings</p>
B9	<p>Guidance for schools and local authorities on maintaining educational provision</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/</p>
B10	<p>Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE): COVID-19 guidance</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/scientific-advisory-group-for-emergencies-sage-coronavirus-covid-19-response</p>
B11	<p>Guidance for employees, employers and businesses</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19</p>
B12	<p>Measures to protect people at higher risk from Coronavirus</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/</p>
B13	<p>Guidance on home care provision</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-residential-care-supported-living-and-home-care-guidance/covid-19-guidance-on-home-care-provision</p>
B14	<p>Guidance on vulnerable children and young people</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people/</p>
B15	<p>Guidance on temporary closure of schools in England</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-school-closures/guidance-for-schools-about-temporarily-closing</p>
B16	<p>Stay at home guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance</p>
B17	<p>Guidance for parents and carers - supporting children & young people's mental health</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/</p>
B18	<p>Coronavirus Act 2020</p> <p>http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2020/7/pdfs/ukpga_20200007_en.pdf</p>
B19	<p>Guidance on cyber security and home working</p> <p>https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/home-working</p>



B20	Compliance advice for businesses and other venues directed to close https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/business-and-other-venues-subject-to-further-social-distancing-measures/s
B21	Medicines & Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) : Collection of Guidance https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/mhra-guidance-on-coronavirus-covid-19
B22	Easy-read guide on protecting extremely vulnerable people – also known as ‘shielding’ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/875126/Easy_read_guidance_on_shielding_March_2020.pdf
B23	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
B24	How to help safely: guidance https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-how-to-help-safely--2/coronavirus-how-to-help-safely
B25	How to help safely: easy-read guide https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/879411/how-to-help-safely-easy-read-lo-res_v3.pdf
B26	Collection of guidance for healthcare professionals and others https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/wuhan-novel-coronavirus
B27	Guidance for closing certain businesses – as at 27 March 2020 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876535/270320_Revised_Guidance.pdf
B28	Guidance for local authorities for controlling fraud during COVID-19 emergency 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
B29	Financial help for the self-employed https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-gives-support-to-millions-of-self-employed-individuals
B30	How to check if you are covered under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme https://www.gov.uk/guidance/check-if-you-could-be-covered-by-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme
B31	How employers can claim wages through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-for-wage-costs-through-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme
B32	Interim safeguarding guidance for schools, colleges and other premises in England https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-safeguarding-in-schools-colleges-and-other-providers/



B33	<p>Non-statutory renting guidance for landlords, tenants and local authorities in England</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-and-renting-guidance-for-landlords-tenants-and-local-authorities?</p>
B34	<p>Online support and practical guidance for those suffering with mental health issues</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-the-public-on-mental-health-and-wellbeing/</p>
B35	<p>Small Business Grant Fund & Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant Fund – Version 3</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876893/small-business-grant-fund-retail-guidance-vers-3.pdf</p>
B36	<p>Easy-read guide: looking after your feelings and body</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876989/Easy_read_looking_after_your_feelings_and_body.pdf</p>
B37	<p>Easy-read guide: staying at home</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876715/</p>
B38	<p>Easy-read guide: keeping away from other people</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876699/COVID-19_Keeping_away_from_other_people_20200328.pdf</p>
B39	<p>Guidance for parents & carers on looking after mental health & wellbeing of children</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/</p>
B40	<p>Construction site operating procedures – version 3 (updated 14 April 2020)</p> <p>https://www.constructionleadershipcouncil.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Site-Operating-Procedures-Version-3.pdf</p>
B41	<p>Changes to the Care Act 2014 allowing local authorities to prioritise care and support</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-changes-to-the-care-act-2014/care-act-easements-guidance-for-local-authorities</p>
B42	<p>Guidance for care of the deceased – for health professionals and other organisations</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-care-of-the-deceased/</p>
B43	<p>Guidance for local authorities for implementing grant funds – version 3</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877286/small-business-grant-fund-and-retail-guidance-v3.pdf</p>
B44	<p>Collection of guidance for schools and other educational settings</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-schools-and-other-educational-settings</p>
B45	<p>Business Support – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)</p> <p>https://www.businesssupport.gov.uk/faqs/</p>



B46	<p>Guidance for businesses on grant funding schemes: Version 2 – 3rd April 2020</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878082/pdf</p>
B47	<p>Expanded retail discount 2020-2021: guidance to local authorities at 2 April 2020</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877758/Expanded Retail Discount Guidance 02.04.20.pdf</p>
B48	<p>Grant funding allocations by local authority in England</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-business-support-grant-funding?</p>
B49	<p>Admission and care of people in care homes: Version 1 -2nd April 2020</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877797/covid-19-care-homes-guidance.pdf</p>
B50	<p>Guidance on maintaining further education</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-further-education-provision/</p>
B51	<p>Guidance for head teachers on awarding qualifications in summer 2020</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878848/Summer 2020 grades for GCSE AS A level EPQ AEA in maths - guidance for heads of centres.pdf</p>
B52	<p>Guidance for local authorities to support and protect vulnerable children</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-childrens-social-care-services/</p>
B53	<p>Coronavirus Status Checker - Online Survey</p> <p>https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus-status-checker</p>
B54	<p>Guidance for teachers, students, parents and carers on educational grades in 2020</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878869/Summer 2020 grades for GCSE AS A level EPQ AEA in maths - guidance for teachers students parents UPDATED 09APR2020.pdf</p>
B55	<p>Summer 2020 results for vocational, technical and other qualifications</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/879019/Summer 2020 results for vocational technical and other qualifications.pdf</p>
B56	<p>Free school meals guidance</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-free-school-meals-guidance/</p>
B57	<p>Government plans for scaling up testing programmes – issued 3rd April 2020</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878121/coronavirus-covid-19-testing-strategy.pdf</p>



B58	<p>Management of exposed healthcare workers and patients in hospitals</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-management-of-exposed-healthcare-workers-and-patients-in-hospital-settings/</p>
B59	<p>Call for evidence by parliamentary Women & Equalities Committee: ends 30 April 2020</p> <p>https://committees.parliament.uk/work/227/coronavirus-and-the-impact-on-people-with-protected-characteristics/</p>
B60	<p>Safety guidance for towpaths and waterways from the Canal and River Trust</p> <p>https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/enjoy-the-waterways/safety-on-our-waterways/coronavirus</p>
B61	<p>Postponement of elections</p> <p>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</p>
B62	<p>Procurement policy guidance to public bodies on payment of their suppliers</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/procurement-policy-note-0220-supplier-relief-due-to-covid-19</p>
B63	<p>Guidance for apprentices, employers, training providers and assessors</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-apprenticeship-programme-response/</p>
B64	<p>Recruitment for Healthcare Support Workers at London NHS Nightingale Hospital</p> <p>https://www.nhsprofessionals.nhs.uk/en/Nightingale/Nightingale/Nightingale-London</p>
B65	<p>Funding to support schools with exceptional costs</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-financial-support-for-schools/</p>
B66	<p>Guidance to local authorities in England on prioritising waste collections</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-to-local-authorities-on-prioritising-waste-collections/</p>
B67	<p>Guidance for those who provide unpaid care to family and friends</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/</p>
B68	<p>Prime Minister's letter to the nation</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876876/CCS155_CCS0320349160-003_PM_letter_to_nation_on_coronavirus_Accessible.pdf</p>
B69	<p>Coronavirus public information leaflet accompanying Prime Minister's letter</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877678/coronavirus-leaflet.pdf</p>



B70	<p>Coronavirus easy-read public information leaflet</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/879412/coronavirus-leaflet-easy-read.pdf</p>
B71	<p>Increase to Working Tax Credits with effect from 6th April 2020</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/news/increase-to-working-tax-credits-what-this-means</p>
B72	<p>Hospital discharge service requirements</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/874213/COVID-19_hospital_discharge_service_requirements.pdf</p>
B73	<p>Infection control stepdown precautions when discharging from hospital to home</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-stepdown-of-infection-control-precautions-within-hospitals-and-discharging-covid-19-patients-from-hospital-to-home-settings/</p>
B74	<p>Guidance for health and social care staff caring for people lacking mental capacity</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878910/Emergency_MCA_DoLS_Guidance_COVID19.pdf</p>
B75	<p>Guidance for organisations with laboratory testing capability</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/879087/Guidance_for_Laboratories_offering_support_for_COVID-19_testing_for_publication_2_.pdf</p>
B76	<p>Coronavirus Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Hub</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-personal-protective-equipment-ppe</p>
B77	<p>Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Plan</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/879117/Coronavirus_COVID-19_-_personal_protective_equipment_PPE_plan.pdf</p>
B78	<p>Support for victims of domestic abuse announced by Home Secretary 11th April 2020</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/home-secretary-outlines-support-for-domestic-abuse-victims</p>
B79	<p>‘Silent Solution’ system: contacting the police by mobile phone if you cannot speak</p> <p>https://www.policeconduct.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Documents/research-learning/Silent_solution_guide.pdf</p>
B80	<p>UK financial assistance to help reduce mass infections in developing countries</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-leads-global-fight-to-prevent-second-wave-of-coronavirus</p>
B81	<p>UK Government COVID-19 data tracker</p> <p>https://obr.uk/coronavirus-reference-scenario/</p>



B82	Adult Social Care Action Plan (published 15th April 2020) https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/879639/covid-19-adult-social-care-action-plan.pdf
B83	Ofqual consultation for 2020 exam grading: online response closes 29th April 2020 https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/exceptional-arrangements-for-exam-grading-and-assessment-in-2020
B84	Government data sources and methodology for gathering transport use data https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-transport-data-methodology-note/
B85	Guidance for local authorities on implementing the £500 million hardship fund https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/879764/32020
B86	Guidance for consumers on how to maintain food hygiene https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-consumers-on-coronavirus-covid-19-and-food/
B87	Guidance on COVID-19 testing for frontline workers who are self-isolating https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested
B88	Step-by-step guidance for employers: how to claim under Job Retention Scheme https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/880092/Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme step by step guide for employers.pdf
B89	Directions to councils in England to allow family members to attend funerals https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/880093/Letter from Minister Simon Clarke.pdf
B90	Statutory guidance to local authorities in England on local death management https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/880047/Schedule 28 local death management guidance.pdf
B91	Guidance for managing a funeral during the pandemic https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-managing-a-funeral-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic/
B92	Information leaflet for the bereaved https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/880807/Bereavement-Leaflet-digital.pdf
B93	Guidance for special schools managing children with complex needs (SEND) https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-send-risk-assessment-guidance/
B94	Launch of Oak National Academy – an online teaching resource for teachers https://www.thenational.academy/



B95	BBC Bitesize: Online support for students in primary and secondary schools https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize
B96	Financial support for businesses: Headline terms for 'Future Fund' https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/880119/Convertible_Loan_Key_Terms_-_Final_Version_.pdf
B97	Online support tool for employers and the self-employed https://www.gov.uk/business-coronavirus-support-finder
B98	Grant payments made to businesses by local authority area as at 20th April 2020 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/880286/200420_local_authority_grant_payments.csv/preview
B99	PPE export controls on UK companies trading internationally https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-uk-businesses/
B100	Collection of guidance for those involved in managing deaths https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-those-involved-in-managing-covid-19-deaths/
B101	Guidance from the DVSA to driver and rider trainers in England, Scotland and Wales https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-letter-from-dvsa-chief-executive-to-driver-and-rider-trainers
B102	Testing arrangements for essential workers in England with COVID-19 symptoms https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested#arrange-a-test
B103	Booking tests: User guide for essential workers in England with COVID-19 symptoms https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/881043/covid-19-testing-self-referral-portal-user-guide.pdf
B104	Directions given to the NHS to disclose cyber security information to GCHQ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/879049/Security_of_NHS_and_Public_Health_Services_Digital_Systems_Coronavirus_Directions_2020.pdf
B105	Ofqual consultation on vocational and technical qualifications: closes 8th May 2020 https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/exceptional-arrangements-for-assessment-and-grading-in-2020
B106	Online portal for people who want to register to donate plasma for NHS trial https://www.nhsbt.nhs.uk/how-you-can-help/convalescent-plasma-clinical-trial/
B107	Mobile testing units operated by the Armed Forces to testing frontline workers https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mobile-coronavirus-testing-units-to-target-frontline-workers
B108	Thinkuknow education programme to protect children when using devices online https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/



C. Commentary

The 4pm daily media briefing was led by the Environment Secretary, George Eustice. He explained that the early days of panic buying in the shops had subsided and that food availability is back to normal levels and has been for several weeks. All supermarkets have introduced social distancing measures to protect their staff and their customers and it is important that shoppers continue to follow those measures.

Measures to support the clinically vulnerable are continuing to expand and over half a million food parcels have been delivered. Supermarkets are beginning to see staff who have been self-isolating gradually returning to work which is in turn increasing their capacity in the food supply chain.

The Environment Secretary referred to the Good Samaritan App which can be used to locate local volunteers who can help as volunteer shoppers for those who may need help with this. Information about the App and how to download and use it is at <https://www.goodsamapp.org/>

The number of people in hospital with COVID-19 is continuing to decline.

The Prime Minister resumed work this morning (Monday 27th April) and made a speech outside 10 Downing Street shortly after 9am thanking everyone for their efforts thus far. He said that the NHS has not been overwhelmed but the risk remains high, so we must continue to be patient with the 'lockdown' measures.