



Briefing Note 59 - COVID-19 Guidance As at 09:00 Saturday 16th May 2020

A. Headline UK announcements on Friday 15th May 2020

Item

- A1 [Government grants Transport for London £1.6 billion funding package](#)
- A2 [UK aid boost for charities and NGOs fighting COVID-19 in the developing world](#)
- A3 [Overview of scientific advice published by Department for Education](#)
- A4 [Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme: HMRC Collection of Guidance](#)
- A5 [Government Office for Science publishes the latest R number](#)
- A6 [Care homes support package](#)
- A7 [Infection Control Fund launched to fight spread of infection in care homes](#)
- A8 [Health Secretary's statement at 5pm ministerial briefing \[incomplete transcript\]](#)
- A9 [New taskforce developing plans to reopen places of worship](#)
- A10 [COVID-19 detection dogs trial launched](#)

B. Data sources

Sources of daily rolling data

- B1 [Slides and datasets used in 5pm ministerial media briefing](#)
- B2 [UK statistics: \(a\) recorded deaths 33,998 \(+384\) \(b\) positive tests 236,711 \(+3,560\)](#)
- B3 [UK government COVID-19 data tracker](#)
- B4 [Office for National Statistics \(ONS\): analysis of COVID-19 data](#)
- B5 [Government Office for Science: The R number \(weekly update\)](#)

C. Devolved administrations

Information for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland

- C1 [Information about COVID-19 and its impact on Scotland](#)
- C2 [Information about COVID-19 and its impact on Wales](#)
- C3 [Information about COVID-19 and its impact on Northern Ireland](#)



D. Commentary

The 5pm media briefing was led by the Health and Social Care Secretary, Matt Hancock. He announced a package of support measures for care homes in England, including £600 million for an [Infection Control Fund](#). Responsibility for care homes is a devolved responsibility and in England this lies with local authorities who have been required to gather and submit information on the current status of measures in place in care homes within their jurisdiction by 29th May 2020. A [letter](#) to local authority chief executives sets out what is required in detail. All local authorities are required to review or put in place a care home support plan and report on their planning to central government. This information is required to be made public in the interests of transparency.

During the day, the government announced funding to support transport services operated by [Transport for London](#) to ensure essential services keep operating in the capital.

The Government Office for Science will now be publishing the R number on a weekly basis on its [website](#) - now included as a reference source at B5. R is the infection reproduction number representing the average number of secondary infections produced by one infected person.

Trials for specially trained 'COVID-19 dogs' that may be able to detect coronavirus in humans from odour samples, even before symptoms appear, are to begin as part of new research being carried out by the [London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine](#), the charity [Medical Detection Dogs](#) and [Durham University](#). This will establish whether the dogs could be used as a potential new non-invasive, early warning measure to detect coronavirus in the future. Dogs used for the trials will include Labradors and Cocker Spaniels.

We can help control the virus if we all STAY ALERT

HM Government

- Stay at home as much as possible
- Keep your distance if you go out (2m where possible)
- Work from home if you can
- Wash your hands regularly
- Limit contact with other people
- Do not leave home if you or anyone in your household has symptoms

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Annex

RESOURCES: UK government guidance and related advice

REF	DOCUMENTS and OTHER SOURCES OF GUIDANCE	DATE
Adult social care		
R1	Changes to Care Act 2014 allowing local authorities to prioritise care	01/04/2020
R2	How to work safely in care homes	27/04/2020
R3	Dedicated app for social care workers	06/05/2020
R4	Health and wellbeing of the adult social care workforce	11/05/2020
Business and other venues – directions to close		
R5	Guidance for closing certain businesses and venues in England	13/05/2020
R6	Designated power to issue fixed penalty notices by local authorities	23/04/2020
Business support and employment		
R7	Guidance for employees, employers and businesses	15/05/2020
R8	Financial help for the self-employed	26/03/2020
R9	Are you covered under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme?	14/05/2020
R10	Claiming wages through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	14/05/2020
R11	Grant funding scheme: guidance for local authorities – version 5	24/04/2020
R12	Business support – Frequently Asked Questions	Website
R13	Guidance for businesses on grant funding schemes: Version 5	24/04/2020
R14	Expanded retail discount 2020-2021: guidance for local authorities	02/04/2020
R15	Grant funding allocations by local authority in England	13/05/2020
R16	Grant payments made to businesses by local authority area in England	11/05/2020
R17	Procurement guidance to public bodies on payment of their suppliers	13/05/2020
R18	Increase to Working Tax Credits with effect from 6th April 2020	07/04/2020
R19	Guidance: employers claiming under the Job Retention Scheme (version 4)	11/05/2020
R20	Financial support for businesses: Headline terms for ‘Future Fund’	19/04/2020
R21	Online support tool for employers and the self-employed	Website
R22	Business Improvement Districts to receive £6.1 million funding	01/05/2020
R23	Treasury Direction: Self-Employment Income Support Scheme	30/04/2020
R24	Bounce Back Loan Scheme: Letter from Chancellor to accredited lenders	01/05/2020

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R25	Top-up discretionary business grant fund scheme for small businesses	02/05/2020
R26	Tax credits customers to be paid even if working less hours	04/05/2020
R27	How to apply for a Bounce Back Loan	Website
R28	Business rates revaluation postponed until 2021	06/05/2020
R29	New funding to support dairy farmers	06/05/2020
R30	Chancellor extends Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme until October 2020	12/05/2020
R31	Business support through Trade Credit Insurance guarantee	13/05/2020
R32	Business support funding: guidance on Local Authority Discretionary Fund	13/05/2020

Children and young people

R33	Guidance on vulnerable children and young people	15/05/2020
R34	Guidance for parents & carers on looking after mental health of children	21/04/2020
R35	Guidance for children's social care services	06/05/2020

Construction sites

R36	Construction Leadership Council	Website
R37	Construction site operating procedures – version 3	14/04/2020
R38	Charter for Safe Working Practice	13/05/2020
R39	Working safely in construction - video	13/05/2020

Deaths and bereavement

R40	Guidance for care of the deceased	15/05/2020
R41	Directions to councils to allow family members to attend funerals	17/04/2020
R42	Guidance to local authorities in England on local death management	April 2020
R43	Guidance for managing a funeral during the pandemic	19/04/2020
R44	Collection of guidance for those involved in managing deaths	21/04/2020
R45	Information leaflet for the bereaved	April 2020
R46	Public Health England Data Series on Deaths in People with COVID-19	29/04/2020
R47	New daily reporting for all deaths in England (press release)	29/04/2020
R48	Chief Coroner's Note 34 – guidance for coroners	26/03/2020
R49	Chief Coroner's Note 35 – hearings during the pandemic	27/03/2020
R50	Chief Coroner's Note 36 – Coronavirus Act: provisions relevant to coroners	30/03/2020
R51	Chief Coroner's Note 37 and possible exposure in the workplace	28/04/2020
R52	Verification of deaths in times of emergency	05/05/2020
R53	Local death management: templates for use by local authorities in England	15/05/2020

Education settings and vocational training		
R54	Collection of guidance for schools and other educational settings	15/05/2020
R55	Information for parents & carers about schools & other settings	11/05/2020
R56	Guidance for schools and councils on maintaining educational provision	05/05/2020
R57	Guidance on temporary closure of schools in England	28/04/2020
R58	Safeguarding guidance for schools, colleges, and other premises in England	27/03/2020
R59	Guidance for further education colleges and providers	14/05/2020
R60	Guidance for head teachers on awarding qualifications in summer 2020	15/05/2020
R61	Guidance for teachers, students, parents, and carers on educational grades	15/05/2020
R62	Summer 2020 results for vocational, technical, and other qualifications	30/04/2020
R63	Free school meals guidance	15/05/2020
R64	Guidance for apprentices, employers, training providers and assessors	24/04/2020
R65	Funding to support schools with exceptional costs	07/04/2020
R66	Cancellation of GCSEs, AS and A levels: Frequently Asked Questions	01/05/2020
R67	Special schools managing children with complex needs (SEND)	07/05/2020
R68	Induction for newly qualified teachers	01/05/2020
R69	Actions for higher education providers and support for universities	04/05/2020
R70	International travel advice for educational settings	05/05/2020
R71	Awarding qualifications in 2020: Ofqual update following consultation	06/05/2020
R72	School attendance of children and teachers since 23rd March 2020	12/05/2020
R73	Examples of remote education practice from schools & academies	05/05/2020
R74	Preparing education & childcare settings to open on 1st June 2020	15/05/2020
R75	Vocational and technical qualifications in 2020: guidance for centres	15/05/2020
R76	Planning guide for primary schools reopening in England from 1st June 2020	15/05/2020
R77	Oak National Academy – an online teaching resource for teachers	Website
R78	BBC Bitesize: support for students in primary and secondary schools	Website
Food hygiene		
R79	Guidance for consumers on how to maintain food hygiene	25/04/2020
Glossary of terms used in UK government guidance		
R80	Glossary	03/05/2020
Healthcare professionals and hospital settings		
R81	Background information (epidemiology, virology, and clinical features)	13/05/2020

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R82	Collection of guidance for healthcare professionals and others	27/04/2020
R83	Management of exposed healthcare workers & patients in hospital	06/05/2020
R84	Guidance for ambulance trusts	11/04/2020
R85	Guidance for first responders	09/05/2020
R86	Guidance for taking swab samples	23/04/2020
R87	Infection prevention and control	03/05/2020
R88	Hospital discharge – collection of guidance	13/05/2020
R89	Hospital discharge service requirements	19/03/2020
R90	Hospital discharge patient leaflet	19/03/2020
R91	What you need to know about leaving hospital - leaflet	13/05/2020
R92	When you leave hospital to go home - leaflet	13/05/2020
R93	Leaving hospital to go to a care home - leaflet	13/05/2020
R94	Infection control precautions when discharging from hospital to home	23/04/2020
Homecare (domiciliary care)		
R95	PPE for care workers delivering home care in England	30/04/2020
R96	Putting on PPE for home carers	30/04/2020
R97	Taking off PPE for home carers	30/04/2020
R98	Over one million food boxes delivered to those most at risk in England	06/05/2020
R99	Guidance for people who receive direct payments for care and support	07/05/2020
International		
R100	Guidance for UK businesses trading internationally	24/04/2020
R101	UK financial assistance to help reduce mass infections in other countries	12/04/2020
R102	PPE export control process for UK companies trading internationally	05/05/2020
R103	How the FCO processes your data if you apply for an emergency loan	26/06/2018
R104	The British Gurkhas rescue Brits stranded in Nepal (video)	07/05/2020
R105	Attestation forms for travel to and within France	14/05/2020
Laboratories		
R106	Guidance for organisations with laboratory testing capability	09/04/2020
Laws and regulations		
R107	Coronavirus Act 2020	25/03/2020
R108	Coronavirus Act 2020: table setting out the status of each measure	07/05/2020
R109	Health Protection (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020	10/02/2020

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R110	Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions)(England) Regulations 2020	26/03/2020
R111	Domestic Abuse Bill	03/03/2020
R112	The Adoption and Children (Coronavirus)(Amendment) Regulations 2020	24/04/2020

Local authorities

R113	Guidance to local authorities for controlling fraud	March 2020
R114	Council tax: guidance for local authorities on the hardship fund	March 2020
R115	Guidance to local authorities in England on prioritising waste collections	15/05/2020
R116	Postponement of elections	06/04/2020
R117	Mitigating impacts on Gypsy and traveller Communities	01/05/2020
R118	25 local councils pledge to continue vital residential building safety work	06/05/2020

Medicines and healthcare products

R118	Medicines & Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) : collection	14/05/2020
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Mental health

R119	Mental health helplines	Website
R120	Support and guidance for those suffering with mental health issues	31/03/2020
R121	Easy-read guide: looking after your feelings and body	March 2020
R122	Health and social care staff who care for people lacking mental capacity	09/04/2020

Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR)

R123	Coronavirus analysis and implications for the UK economy	Website
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Personal protective equipment (PPE)

R124	PPE use for aerosol generating procedures	10/04/2020
R125	PPE use for non-aerosol generating procedures	08/04/2020
R126	Management of exposed healthcare workers and patients in hospitals	06/05/2020
R127	Coronavirus Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Hub	18/04/2020
R128	Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Plan	10/04/2020
R129	VAT removed from PPE purchases for three months (press release)	30/04/2020
R130	Millions more items of PPE to be provided through business partnerships	09/05/2020
R131	70 million face masks for NHS and care workers through new industry deal	15/05/2020

Procurement policy guidance to public bodies

R132	Payment to suppliers of public bodies	13/05/2020
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Public information

R133	Coronavirus: action plan – A guide to what you can expect across the UK	03/03/2020
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R134	NHS health advice for everyone	Website
R135	Stay at home guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection	28/04/2020
R136	Parliamentary Inquiry by Parliamentary Women & Equalities Committee	30/03/2020
R137	Prime Minister’s letter to the nation	23/03/2020
R138	Coronavirus public information leaflet	23/03/2020
R139	Coronavirus easy-read public information leaflet	April 2020
R140	Frequently asked questions: what you can and cannot do	11/05/2020
R141	Video explanation about the rate of infection value known as ‘R’	01/02/2020
R142	British Sign Language COVID-19 information accessible via SIGNHEALTH	Website
R143	Emergency funding to support most vulnerable in society	02/05/2020
R144	List of critical workers who can send their children to school	05/05/2020
R145	Statement by the Prime Minister explaining how restrictions will be eased	10/05/2020
R146	Staying alert and safe (social distancing)	11/05/2020
R147	Staying safe outside your home	11/05/2020
R148	How to make and wear a cloth face covering	11/05/2020
R149	Public advised to cover faces in enclosed public spaces	11/05/2020
R150	New guidance on spending time outdoors	13/05/2020

Rapidly Manufactured Ventilator System Project

R151	Indemnities granted to manufacturers	April 2020
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Recovery

R151	OUR PLAN TO REBUILD: The UK Government’s COVID-19 Recovery Strategy	11/05/2020
R152	UK Government’s Recovery Strategy: Large print version	12/05/2020
R153	Working safely during coronavirus: helping Brits get safely back to work	11/05/2020
R154	Working safely in construction and other outdoor work	11/05/2020
R155	Working safely in factories, plants, and warehouses	11/05/2020
R156	Working safely in laboratories and research facilities	11/05/2020
R157	Working safely in offices and contact centres	11/05/2020
R158	Working safely in other people’s home	11/05/2020
R159	Working safely in restaurants offering takeaway or delivery	11/05/2020
R160	Working safely in shops and branches	11/05/2020
R161	Working safely in or from a vehicle	11/05/2020
R162	Safer public places – urban centres and green spaces	13/05/2020



R163	Five roadmap taskforces to plan how to reopen closed sectors	13/05/2020
R164	Guidance for moving home safely in England	13/05/2020
R165	Safe working in education, childcare and children’s social care	14/05/2020

Renting and landlords

R166	Non-statutory guidance for landlords, tenants, and local authorities	28/03/2020
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Restoration of NHS services

R167	Fertility clinics to re-open from 11th May 2020	05/05/2020
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Rough sleepers

R168	Dame Louise Casey to lead government task force on rough sleeping	02/05/2020
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Scientific advice

R169	Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE): COVID-19 guidance	Website
R170	Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE) membership	07/05/2020
R171	Scientific evidence supporting the UK government response	Website

Security

R172	Guidance on cyber security and home working	02/04/2020
R173	‘Silent Solution’ – how to call the police by mobile if you cannot speak	07/04/2019
R174	Support for victims of domestic abuse announced by Home Secretary	11/04/2020
R175	Directions given to the NHS to disclose cyber security information to GCHQ	03/04/2020
R176	Thinkuknow programme to protect children when using devices online	Website
R177	Domestic abuse safe accommodation: emergency support fund	07/05/2020
R178	Countering online child sexual exploitation and abuse during the pandemic	08/05/2020
R179	Voluntary Principles to counter online child sexual exploitation and abuse	08/05/2020

Staying at home and away from others (social distancing)

R180	Measures to protect people at higher risk from Coronavirus	05/05/2020
R181	Easy-read guide on protecting extremely vulnerable people	March 2020
R182	How to help safely: guidance	23/04/2020

Testing and vaccines

R183	Status Tracker: tell the NHS about your experience of coronavirus	Website
R184	Government plans for scaling up testing programmes	04/04/2020
R185	Guidance on COVID-19 testing for frontline workers who are self-isolating	11/05/2020
R186	Testing arrangements for essential workers in England with symptoms	11/05/2020



R187	Booking tests: User guide for essential workers in England with symptoms	30/04/2020
R188	Mobile testing units to test frontline workers	26/04/2020
R189	Drug trials could be fast-tracked through new clinical trial initiative	29/04/2020
R190	Testing for coronavirus: privacy information	01/05/2020
R191	Test, track and trace plan launched on the Isle of Wight	04/05/2020
R192	New biological reagent available to support global diagnostic testing	06/05/2020
R193	New online portal for care homes to arrange testing for staff and residents	11/05/2020
R194	Government expands team to roll out test and trace programme	12/05/2020
R195	Patients severely ill with Covid-19 to have their genetic code studied	13/05/2020
R196	How tests and testing kits for COVID-19 work	13/05/2020

Transport and travel

R197	Guidance and advice to avoid non-essential travel in the UK	22/03/2020
R198	Safety guidance for towpaths and waterways	Website
R199	Government data methodology for gathering transport use data	15/04/2020
R120	Driver and rider trainers in England, Scotland, and Wales – DVSA guidance	22/04/2020
R201	£2 billion fund for cycling and walking - reducing public transport use	09/05/2020
R202	Statutory guidance for local authorities on managing their road networks	09/05/2020
R203	Temporary road signs for pedestrians, drivers, and cyclists	09/05/2020
R204	Transport Secretary’s oral statement on safer travel guidance	12/05/2020
R205	Transport and travel advice	12/05/2020
R206	Safer transport guidance for operators	12/05/2020

Trials and volunteers

R207	Volunteering for the National Health Service: Good Samaritan app	Website
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World Health Organisation

R208	World Health Organisation	Website
R209	WHO Health for all Challenge on 16th and 17th May 2020 (virtual)	Website