



Briefing Note 62 - COVID-19 Guidance

As at 09:00 Tuesday 19th May 2020

A. Headline UK announcements on Monday 18th May 2020

Item

- A1 [Government letter to all social housing residents in England \[18th May 2020\]](#)
- A2 [Government invests to protect critical freight routes](#)
- A3 [Statement from the 4 UK Chief Medical Officers on update to COVID-19 symptoms](#)
- A4 [Allocation table for the Infection Control Fund for adult social care](#)
- A5 [Transport Secretary's written statement to Parliament on TfL funding](#)
- A6 [Health Secretary's oral statement to Parliament](#)
- A7 [Foreign Secretary's statement at 5pm ministerial media briefing](#)
- A8 [Everyone in the UK with symptoms now eligible for tests](#)

B. Data sources

Sources of daily rolling data

- B1 [Slides and datasets used in 5pm ministerial media briefing](#)
- B2 [UK statistics: \(a\) recorded deaths 34,796 \(+160\) \(b\) positive tests 246,406 \(+2,684\)](#)
- 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 ministerial media briefing was led by the Foreign Secretary, Dominic Raab, who reiterated government advice to wear a face covering if outside your home in enclosed spaces and where it's difficult to socially distance – for example, in shops or on public transport.

Earlier in the day, the Health Secretary made an oral [statement](#) to Parliament announcing that now anyone in the UK with Covid-19 symptoms can be tested by booking online. He also explained that 21,000 [clinical contact tracers](#) have been recruited as part of the government's plan to implement its test, track and trace programme.

Anosmia has now been added to the key symptoms of COVID-19 following agreement by the chief medical officers of the four UK nations who issued a joint [statement](#). Anosmia is the loss of or a change in your normal sense of smell. It can also affect your sense of taste as the two are linked. The additional symptom means that now all individuals should self-isolate if they develop a new continuous cough, fever or anosmia.

The Minister for Housing, Christopher Pincher, has written a [letter](#) to all social housing residents in England explaining how the government plans to safely 'reopen society' and the guidance and support that is available to do this.

The government published financial information for its recently announced adult social care fund, giving details of its [allocation](#) to each local authority in England.

Mental Health Awareness Week runs from Monday 18th to Sunday 24th May 2020 and information and resources are available [here](#) and on the [Mind](#) website.

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
R5	Care homes support package	15/05/2020
R6	Infection Control Fund launched to fight spread of infection in care homes	15/05/2020
Business and other venues – directions to close		
R7	Guidance for closing certain businesses and venues in England	13/05/2020
R8	Designated power to issue fixed penalty notices by local authorities	23/04/2020
Business support and employment		
R9	Guidance for employees, employers and businesses	18/05/2020
R10	Financial help for the self-employed	26/03/2020
R11	Are you covered under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme?	14/05/2020
R12	Claiming wages through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	14/05/2020
R13	Grant funding scheme: guidance for local authorities – version 5	24/04/2020
R14	Business support – Frequently Asked Questions	Website
R15	Guidance for businesses on grant funding schemes: Version 5	24/04/2020
R16	Expanded retail discount 2020-2021: guidance for local authorities	02/04/2020
R17	Grant funding allocations by local authority in England	13/05/2020
R18	Grant payments made to businesses by local authority area in England	11/05/2020
R19	Procurement guidance to public bodies on payment of their suppliers	13/05/2020
R20	Increase to Working Tax Credits with effect from 6th April 2020	07/04/2020
R21	Guidance: employers claiming under the Job Retention Scheme (version 4)	11/05/2020
R22	Financial support for businesses: Headline terms for ‘Future Fund’	19/04/2020
R23	Online support tool for employers and the self-employed	Website
R24	Business Improvement Districts to receive £6.1 million funding	01/05/2020

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R25	Treasury Direction: Self-Employment Income Support Scheme	30/04/2020
R26	Bounce Back Loan Scheme: Letter from Chancellor to accredited lenders	01/05/2020
R27	Top-up discretionary business grant fund scheme for small businesses	02/05/2020
R28	Tax credits customers to be paid even if working less hours	04/05/2020
R29	How to apply for a Bounce Back Loan	Website
R30	Business rates revaluation postponed until 2021	06/05/2020
R31	New funding to support dairy farmers	06/05/2020
R32	Chancellor extends Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme until October 2020	12/05/2020
R33	Business support through Trade Credit Insurance guarantee	13/05/2020
R34	Business support funding: guidance on Local Authority Discretionary Fund	13/05/2020

Children and young people

R35	Guidance on vulnerable children and young people	15/05/2020
R36	Guidance for parents & carers on looking after mental health of children	21/04/2020
R37	Guidance for children's social care services	06/05/2020
R38	Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme: HMRC Collection of Guidance	15/05/2020

Construction sites

R39	Construction Leadership Council	Website
R40	Construction site operating procedures – version 3	14/04/2020
R41	Charter for Safe Working Practice	13/05/2020
R42	Working safely in construction - video	13/05/2020

Deaths and bereavement

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



R54	Chief Coroner’s Note 37 and possible exposure in the workplace	28/04/2020
R55	Verification of deaths in times of emergency	05/05/2020
R56	Local death management: templates for use by local authorities in England	15/05/2020

Education settings and vocational training

R57	Collection of guidance for schools and other educational settings	18/05/2020
R58	Information for parents & carers about schools & other settings	11/05/2020
R59	Actions for schools and councils during the pandemic	18/05/2020
R60	Actions for schools during the temporary closure of schools in England	18/05/2020
R61	Safeguarding guidance for schools, colleges, and other premises in England	27/03/2020
R62	Guidance for further education colleges and providers	14/05/2020
R63	Guidance for head teachers on awarding qualifications in summer 2020	15/05/2020
R64	Guidance for teachers, students, parents, and carers on educational grades	15/05/2020
R65	Summer 2020 results for vocational, technical, and other qualifications	30/04/2020
R66	Free school meals guidance	15/05/2020
R67	Guidance for apprentices, employers, training providers and assessors	24/04/2020
R68	Funding to support schools with exceptional costs	07/04/2020
R69	Cancellation of GCSEs, AS and A levels: Frequently Asked Questions	01/05/2020
R70	Special schools managing children with complex needs (SEND)	07/05/2020
R71	Induction for newly qualified teachers	01/05/2020
R72	Actions for higher education providers and support for universities	04/05/2020
R73	International travel advice for educational settings	05/05/2020
R74	Awarding qualifications in 2020: Ofqual update following consultation	06/05/2020
R75	School attendance of children and teachers since 23rd March 2020	12/05/2020
R76	Examples of remote education practice from schools & academies	05/05/2020
R77	Preparing education & childcare settings to open on 1st June 2020	12/05/2020
R78	Vocational and technical qualifications in 2020: guidance for centres	15/05/2020
R79	Planning guide for primary schools reopening in England from 1st June 2020	15/05/2020
R80	Oak National Academy – an online teaching resource for teachers	Website
R81	BBC Bitesize: support for students in primary and secondary schools	Website

Food hygiene

R82	Guidance for consumers on how to maintain food hygiene	25/04/2020
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Glossary of terms used in UK government guidance

R83 [Glossary](#) 03/05/2020

Healthcare professionals and hospital settings

R84 [Background information \(epidemiology, virology, and clinical features\)](#) 18/05/2020

R85 [Collection of guidance for healthcare professionals and others](#) 27/04/2020

R86 [Management of exposed healthcare workers & patients in hospital](#) 06/05/2020

R87 [Guidance for ambulance trusts](#) 11/04/2020

R88 [Guidance for first responders](#) 09/05/2020

R89 [Guidance for taking swab samples](#) 23/04/2020

R90 [Infection prevention and control](#) 03/05/2020

R91 [Hospital discharge – collection of guidance](#) 13/05/2020

R92 [Hospital discharge service requirements](#) 19/03/2020

R93 [Hospital discharge patient leaflet](#) 19/03/2020

R94 [What you need to know about leaving hospital - leaflet](#) 13/05/2020

R95 [When you leave hospital to go home - leaflet](#) 13/05/2020

R96 [Leaving hospital to go to a care home - leaflet](#) 13/05/2020

R97 [Infection control precautions when discharging from hospital to home](#) 23/04/2020

Homecare (domiciliary care)

R98 [PPE for care workers delivering home care in England](#) 30/04/2020

R99 [Putting on PPE for home carers](#) 30/04/2020

R100 [Taking off PPE for home carers](#) 30/04/2020

R101 [Over one million food boxes delivered to those most at risk in England](#) 06/05/2020

R102 [Guidance for people who receive direct payments for care and support](#) 07/05/2020

International

R103 [Guidance for UK businesses trading internationally](#) 24/04/2020

R104 [UK financial assistance to help reduce mass infections in other countries](#) 12/04/2020

R105 [PPE export control process for UK companies trading internationally](#) 05/05/2020

R106 [How the FCO processes your data if you apply for an emergency loan](#) 26/06/2018

R107 [The British Gurkhas rescue Brits stranded in Nepal \(video\)](#) 07/05/2020

R108 [Attestation forms for travel to and within France](#) 14/05/2020

R109 [UK aid for charities and NGOs fighting COVID-19 in the developing world](#) 15/05/2020

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Laboratories		
R110	Guidance for organisations with laboratory testing capability	09/04/2020
Laws and regulations		
R111	Coronavirus Act 2020	25/03/2020
R112	Coronavirus Act 2020: table setting out the status of each measure	07/05/2020
R113	Health Protection (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020	10/02/2020
R114	Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions)(England) Regulations 2020	26/03/2020
R115	Domestic Abuse Bill	03/03/2020
R116	The Adoption and Children (Coronavirus)(Amendment) Regulations 2020	24/04/2020
Local authorities		
R117	Guidance to local authorities for controlling fraud	March 2020
R118	Council tax: guidance for local authorities on the hardship fund	March 2020
R119	Guidance to local authorities in England on prioritising waste collections	15/05/2020
R120	Postponement of elections	06/04/2020
R121	Mitigating impacts on Gypsy and traveller Communities	01/05/2020
R122	25 local councils pledge to continue vital residential building safety work	06/05/2020
Medicines and healthcare products		
R123	Medicines & Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) : collection	14/05/2020
Mental health		
R124	Mental health helplines	Website
R125	Support and guidance for those suffering with mental health issues	31/03/2020
R126	Easy-read guide: looking after your feelings and body	March 2020
R127	Health and social care staff who care for people lacking mental capacity	09/04/2020
Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR)		
R128	Coronavirus analysis and implications for the UK economy	Website
Personal protective equipment (PPE)		
R129	PPE use for aerosol generating procedures	10/04/2020
R130	PPE use for non-aerosol generating procedures	08/04/2020
R131	Management of exposed healthcare workers and patients in hospitals	06/05/2020
R132	Coronavirus Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Hub	18/04/2020
R133	Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Plan	10/04/2020
R134	VAT removed from PPE purchases for three months (press release)	30/04/2020



R135 [Millions more items of PPE to be provided through business partnerships](#) 09/05/2020

R136 [70 million face masks for NHS and care workers through new industry deal](#) 15/05/2020

Procurement policy guidance to public bodies

R137 [Payment to suppliers of public bodies](#) 13/05/2020

Public information

R138 [Coronavirus: action plan – A guide to what you can expect across the UK](#) 03/03/2020

R139 [NHS health advice for everyone](#) Website

R140 [Guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection](#) 18/05/2020

R141 [Parliamentary Inquiry by Parliamentary Women & Equalities Committee](#) 30/03/2020

R142 [Prime Minister’s letter to the nation](#) 23/03/2020

R143 [Coronavirus public information leaflet](#) 23/03/2020

R144 [Coronavirus easy-read public information leaflet](#) April 2020

R145 [Frequently asked questions: what you can and cannot do](#) 11/05/2020

R146 [Video explanation about the rate of infection value known as ‘R’](#) 01/02/2020

R147 [British Sign Language COVID-19 information accessible via SIGNHEALTH](#) Website

R148 [Emergency funding to support most vulnerable in society](#) 02/05/2020

R149 [List of critical workers who can send their children to school](#) 05/05/2020

R150 [Statement by the Prime Minister explaining how restrictions will be eased](#) 10/05/2020

R151 [Staying alert and safe \(social distancing\)](#) 11/05/2020

R152 [Staying safe outside your home](#) 11/05/2020

R153 [How to make and wear a cloth face covering](#) 11/05/2020

R154 [Public advised to cover faces in enclosed public spaces](#) 11/05/2020

R155 [New guidance on spending time outdoors](#) 13/05/2020

R156 [Prime Minister’s article in the Mail on Sunday \(17th May 2020\)](#) 17/05/2020

Rapidly Manufactured Ventilator System Project

R157 [Indemnities granted to manufacturers](#) April 2020

Recovery

R158 [OUR PLAN TO REBUILD: The UK Government’s COVID-19 Recovery Strategy](#) 11/05/2020

R159 [UK Government’s Recovery Strategy: Large print version](#) 12/05/2020

R160 [Working safely during coronavirus: helping Brits get safely back to work](#) 11/05/2020

R161 [Working safely in construction and other outdoor work](#) 11/05/2020

R162 [Working safely in factories, plants, and warehouses](#) 11/05/2020

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R163	Working safely in laboratories and research facilities	11/05/2020
R164	Working safely in offices and contact centres	11/05/2020
R165	Working safely in other people's home	11/05/2020
R166	Working safely in restaurants offering takeaway or delivery	11/05/2020
R167	Working safely in shops and branches	11/05/2020
R168	Working safely in or from a vehicle	11/05/2020
R169	Safer public places – urban centres and green spaces	13/05/2020
R170	Five roadmap taskforces to plan how to reopen closed sectors	13/05/2020
R171	Guidance for moving home safely in England	13/05/2020
R172	Safe working in education, childcare and children's social care	14/05/2020
R173	New taskforce developing plans to reopen places of worship	15/05/2020
Renting and landlords		
R174	Non-statutory guidance for landlords, tenants, and local authorities	28/03/2020
Restoration of NHS services		
R175	Fertility clinics to re-open from 11th May 2020	05/05/2020
Rough sleepers		
R176	Dame Louise Casey to lead government task force on rough sleeping	02/05/2020
Scientific advice		
R177	Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE): COVID-19 guidance	Website
R178	Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE) membership	07/05/2020
R179	Scientific evidence supporting the UK government response	Website
R180	Overview of scientific advice published by Department for Education	15/05/2020
R181	Government Office for Science publishes the latest R number	15/05/2020
Security		
R182	Guidance on cyber security and home working	02/04/2020
R183	'Silent Solution' – how to call the police by mobile if you cannot speak	07/04/2019
R184	Support for victims of domestic abuse announced by Home Secretary	11/04/2020
R185	Directions given to the NHS to disclose cyber security information to GCHQ	03/04/2020
R186	Thinkuknow programme to protect children when using devices online	Website
R187	Domestic abuse safe accommodation: emergency support fund	07/05/2020
R188	Countering online child sexual exploitation and abuse during the pandemic	08/05/2020
R189	Voluntary Principles to counter online child sexual exploitation and abuse	08/05/2020

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Staying at home and away from others (social distancing)

R190	Measures to protect people at higher risk from Coronavirus	18/05/2020
R191	Easy-read guide on protecting extremely vulnerable people	March 2020
R192	How to help safely: guidance	23/04/2020

Testing and vaccines

R193	Status Tracker: tell the NHS about your experience of coronavirus	Website
R194	UK Government Testing Strategy: Scaling up our testing programmes	04/04/2020
R195	Guidance on COVID-19 testing for frontline workers who are self-isolating	11/05/2020
R196	Testing arrangements for essential workers in England with symptoms	11/05/2020
R197	Booking tests: User guide for essential workers in England with symptoms	30/04/2020
R198	Mobile testing units to test frontline workers	26/04/2020
R199	Drug trials could be fast-tracked through new clinical trial initiative	29/04/2020
R200	Testing for coronavirus: privacy information	01/05/2020
R201	Test, track and trace plan launched on the Isle of Wight	04/05/2020
R202	New biological reagent available to support global diagnostic testing	06/05/2020
R203	New online portal for care homes to arrange testing for staff and residents	11/05/2020
R203	Government expands team to roll out test and trace programme	12/05/2020
R204	Patients severely ill with Covid-19 to have their genetic code studied	13/05/2020
R205	How tests and testing kits for COVID-19 work	13/05/2020
R206	Major long-term study to track spread of COVID-19 in UK population	17/05/2020
R207	Vaccines Manufacturing and Innovation Centre to open 12 months early	17/05/2020
R208	Funding and manufacturing boost for UK vaccine programme	17/05/2020

Transport and travel

R209	Guidance and advice to avoid non-essential travel in the UK	22/03/2020
R210	Safety guidance for towpaths and waterways	Website
R211	Government data methodology for gathering transport use data	15/04/2020
R212	Driver and rider trainers in England, Scotland, and Wales – DVSA guidance	22/04/2020
R213	£2 billion fund for cycling and walking - reducing public transport use	09/05/2020
R214	Statutory guidance for local authorities on managing their road networks	09/05/2020
R215	Temporary road signs for pedestrians, drivers, and cyclists	09/05/2020



R216	Transport Secretary's oral statement on safer travel guidance	12/05/2020
R217	Transport and travel advice	12/05/2020
R218	Safer transport guidance for operators	12/05/2020
R219	Government grants Transport for London £1.6 billion funding package	15/05/2020

Trials and volunteers

R220	Volunteering for the National Health Service: Good Samaritan app	Website
R221	COVID-19 detection dogs trial launched	15/05/2020

World Health Organisation

R222	World Health Organisation	Website
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