



Briefing Note 63 - COVID-19 Guidance

As at 09:00 Wednesday 20th May 2020

A. Headline UK announcements on Tuesday 19th May 2020

Item

- A1 [COVID-19 Statutory Sick Pay Rebate Scheme for employers to launch on 26th May 2020](#)
- A2 [£37 million to support children with special needs with equipment, goods or services](#)
- A3 [Latest government figures show that millions are benefitting from support schemes](#)
- A4 [Wales to receive an additional £64.5 million for transport funding](#)
- A5 [Support for care homes: template for local authorities to report on status](#)
- A6 [Environment Secretary's statement at 5pm ministerial media briefing](#)

B. Data sources

Sources of daily rolling data

- B1 [Slides and datasets used in 5pm ministerial media briefing](#)
- B2 [UK statistics: \(a\) recorded deaths 35,341 \(+545\) \(b\) positive tests 248,818 \(+2,412\)](#)
- 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 Environment Secretary, George Eustice, who said there will be a shortage of labour for the UK farming harvest this year. He explained that each year until now large numbers of workers travel from eastern European countries such as Romania and Bulgaria to harvest crops such as salads, strawberries and vegetables. In 2020 it is estimated that only one third of those who come to the UK are here and that there will be a need



for British workers to ‘lend a hand’ during the harvest period. In order to meet the labour shortfall, the government has been working with the agricultural industry to devise a plan which will support people and help them take a second job – particularly those who are furloughed. The Environment Secretary announced the launch of a new [Pick for Britain](#) website where people can go online and check what opportunities exist with growers and employers. He urged those who are currently furloughed to check out the opportunities to supplement their income.

The Seventy-third World Health Assembly (WHA) was held virtually in Geneva, Switzerland on 18th – 19th May 2020. The World Health Assembly is the decision-making body of the World Health Organisation (WHO). The main functions of the World Health Assembly are to determine WHO policies, appoint the Director-General, supervise financial policies, and review and approve the proposed programme budget. Recorded sessions are available [here](#).

The [Office for National Statistics](#) released its data for deaths reported up to 8th May 2020 and these were referred to in the [slides](#) used at the daily ministerial media briefing. Arrangements for counting, recording and explaining COVID-19 death statistics continues to be challenging. Deaths reported at the daily media briefings are based on deaths where COVID-19 has been confirmed with a positive test, whereas the ONS data includes deaths registered in the UK where COVID-19 was mentioned on the death certificate. This includes cases without a positive test and suspected cases.

Yesterday, the latest number of reported deaths stood at 35,341 where COVID-19 has been confirmed with a positive test. For comparison purposes and using the ONS data up to 8th May 2020, the Department for Health and Social Care had recorded 31,241 deaths, compared with the ONS data of 41,020 deaths.

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	Admission and care of residents in care homes [under review]	02/04/2020
R2	Changes to Care Act 2014 allowing local authorities to prioritise care	01/04/2020
R3	How to work safely in care homes	27/04/2020
R4	Dedicated app for social care workers	06/05/2020
R5	Health and wellbeing of the adult social care workforce	11/05/2020
R6	Care homes support package	15/05/2020
R7	Infection Control Fund launched to fight spread of infection in care homes	15/05/2020
R8	Allocation table for the Infection Control Fund for adult social care	18/05/2020
Business and other venues – directions to close		
R9	Guidance for closing certain businesses and venues in England	13/05/2020
R10	Designated power to issue fixed penalty notices by local authorities	23/04/2020
Business support and employment		
R11	Guidance for employees, employers and businesses	18/05/2020
R12	Financial help for the self-employed	26/03/2020
R13	Are you covered under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme?	14/05/2020
R14	Claiming wages through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	14/05/2020
R15	Grant funding scheme: guidance for local authorities – version 5	24/04/2020
R16	Business support – Frequently Asked Questions	Website
R17	Guidance for businesses on grant funding schemes: Version 5	24/04/2020
R18	Expanded retail discount 2020-2021: guidance for local authorities	02/04/2020
R19	Grant funding allocations by local authority in England	13/05/2020
R20	Grant payments made to businesses by local authority area in England	19/05/2020
R21	Procurement guidance to public bodies on payment of their suppliers	13/05/2020
R22	Increase to Working Tax Credits with effect from 6th April 2020	07/04/2020
R23	Guidance: employers claiming under the Job Retention Scheme (version 4)	11/05/2020
R24	Financial support for businesses: Headline terms for ‘Future Fund’	19/04/2020

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R25	Online support tool for employers and the self-employed	Website
R26	Business Improvement Districts to receive £6.1 million funding	01/05/2020
R27	Treasury Direction: Self-Employment Income Support Scheme	30/04/2020
R28	Bounce Back Loan Scheme: Letter from Chancellor to accredited lenders	01/05/2020
R29	Top-up discretionary business grant fund scheme for small businesses	02/05/2020
R30	Tax credits customers to be paid even if working less hours	04/05/2020
R31	How to apply for a Bounce Back Loan	Website
R32	Business rates revaluation postponed until 2021	06/05/2020
R33	New funding to support dairy farmers	06/05/2020
R34	Chancellor extends Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme until October 2020	12/05/2020
R35	Business support through Trade Credit Insurance guarantee	13/05/2020
R36	Business support funding: guidance on Local Authority Discretionary Fund	13/05/2020
Children and young people		
R37	Guidance on vulnerable children and young people	15/05/2020
R38	Guidance for parents & carers on looking after mental health of children	21/04/2020
R39	Guidance for children's social care services	06/05/2020
R40	Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme: HMRC Collection of Guidance	15/05/2020
Construction sites		
R41	Construction Leadership Council	Website
R42	Construction site operating procedures – version 3	14/04/2020
R43	Charter for Safe Working Practice	13/05/2020
R44	Working safely in construction - video	13/05/2020
Deaths and bereavement		
R45	Guidance for care of the deceased	15/05/2020
R46	Directions to councils to allow family members to attend funerals	17/04/2020
R47	Guidance to local authorities in England on local death management	April 2020
R48	Guidance for managing a funeral during the pandemic	19/04/2020
R49	Collection of guidance for those involved in managing deaths	21/04/2020
R50	Information leaflet for the bereaved	April 2020
R51	Public Health England Data Series on Deaths in People with COVID-19	29/04/2020
R52	New daily reporting for all deaths in England (press release)	29/04/2020
R53	Chief Coroner's Note 34 – guidance for coroners	26/03/2020

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R54	Chief Coroner’s Note 35 – hearings during the pandemic	27/03/2020
R55	Chief Coroner’s Note 36 – Coronavirus Act: provisions relevant to coroners	30/03/2020
R56	Chief Coroner’s Note 37 and possible exposure in the workplace	28/04/2020
R57	Verification of deaths in times of emergency	05/05/2020
R58	Local death management: templates for use by local authorities in England	15/05/2020

Education settings and vocational training

R59	Collection of guidance for schools and other educational settings	18/05/2020
R60	Information for parents & carers about schools & other settings	11/05/2020
R61	Actions for schools and councils during the pandemic	18/05/2020
R62	Actions for schools during the temporary closure of schools in England	18/05/2020
R63	Safeguarding guidance for schools, colleges, and other premises in England	27/03/2020
R64	Guidance for further education colleges and providers	14/05/2020
R65	Guidance for head teachers on awarding qualifications in summer 2020	15/05/2020
R66	Guidance for teachers, students, parents, and carers on educational grades	15/05/2020
R67	Summer 2020 results for vocational, technical, and other qualifications	30/04/2020
R68	Free school meals guidance	15/05/2020
R69	Guidance for apprentices, employers, training providers and assessors	19/05/2020
R70	Funding to support schools with exceptional costs	07/04/2020
R71	Cancellation of GCSEs, AS and A levels: Frequently Asked Questions	01/05/2020
R72	Special schools managing children with complex needs (SEND)	07/05/2020
R73	Induction for newly qualified teachers	01/05/2020
R74	Actions for higher education providers and support for universities	04/05/2020
R75	International travel advice for educational settings	05/05/2020
R76	Awarding qualifications in 2020: Ofqual update following consultation	06/05/2020
R77	School attendance of children and teachers since 23rd March 2020	19/05/2020
R78	Examples of remote education practice from schools & academies	05/05/2020
R79	Preparing education & childcare settings to open on 1st June 2020	12/05/2020
R80	Vocational and technical qualifications in 2020: guidance for centres	15/05/2020
R81	Planning guide for primary schools reopening in England from 1st June 2020	15/05/2020
R82	Oak National Academy – an online teaching resource for teachers	Website
R83	BBC Bitesize: support for students in primary and secondary schools	Website

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Food hygiene		
R84	Guidance for consumers on how to maintain food hygiene	25/04/2020
Glossary of terms used in UK government guidance		
R85	Glossary	03/05/2020
Healthcare professionals and hospital settings		
R86	Background information (epidemiology, virology, and clinical features)	18/05/2020
R87	Collection of guidance for healthcare professionals and others	27/04/2020
R88	Management of exposed healthcare workers & patients in hospital	06/05/2020
R89	Guidance for ambulance trusts	11/04/2020
R90	Guidance for first responders	09/05/2020
R91	Guidance for taking swab samples	23/04/2020
R92	Infection prevention and control	03/05/2020
R93	Hospital discharge – collection of guidance	13/05/2020
R94	Hospital discharge service requirements	19/03/2020
R95	Hospital discharge patient leaflet	19/03/2020
R96	What you need to know about leaving hospital - leaflet	13/05/2020
R97	When you leave hospital to go home - leaflet	13/05/2020
R98	Leaving hospital to go to a care home - leaflet	13/05/2020
R99	Infection control precautions when discharging from hospital to home	23/04/2020
Homecare (domiciliary care)		
R100	PPE for care workers delivering home care in England	30/04/2020
R101	Putting on PPE for home carers	30/04/2020
R102	Taking off PPE for home carers	30/04/2020
R103	Over one million food boxes delivered to those most at risk in England	06/05/2020
R104	Guidance for people who receive direct payments for care and support	07/05/2020
International		
R105	Guidance for UK businesses trading internationally	24/04/2020
R106	UK financial assistance to help reduce mass infections in other countries	12/04/2020
R107	PPE export control process for UK companies trading internationally	05/05/2020
R108	How the FCO processes your data if you apply for an emergency loan	26/06/2018
R109	The British Gurkhas rescue Brits stranded in Nepal (video)	07/05/2020
R110	Attestation forms for travel to and within France	14/05/2020

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R111	UK aid for charities and NGOs fighting COVID-19 in the developing world	15/05/2020
Laboratories		
R112	Guidance for organisations with laboratory testing capability	09/04/2020
Laws and regulations		
R113	Coronavirus Act 2020	25/03/2020
R114	Coronavirus Act 2020: table setting out the status of each measure	07/05/2020
R115	Health Protection (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020	10/02/2020
R116	Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions)(England) Regulations 2020	26/03/2020
R117	Domestic Abuse Bill	03/03/2020
R118	The Adoption and Children (Coronavirus)(Amendment) Regulations 2020	24/04/2020
Local authorities		
R119	Guidance to local authorities for controlling fraud	March 2020
R120	Council tax: guidance for local authorities on the hardship fund	March 2020
R121	Guidance to local authorities in England on prioritising waste collections	15/05/2020
R122	Postponement of elections	06/04/2020
R123	Mitigating impacts on Gypsy and traveller Communities	01/05/2020
R124	25 local councils pledge to continue vital residential building safety work	06/05/2020
Medicines and healthcare products		
R125	Medicines & Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) : collection	14/05/2020
Mental health		
R126	Mental health helplines	Website
R127	Support and guidance for those suffering with mental health issues	31/03/2020
R128	Easy-read guide: looking after your feelings and body	March 2020
R129	Health and social care staff who care for people lacking mental capacity	09/04/2020
Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR)		
R130	Coronavirus analysis and implications for the UK economy	Website
Personal protective equipment (PPE)		
R131	PPE use for aerosol generating procedures	10/04/2020
R132	PPE use for non-aerosol generating procedures	08/04/2020
R133	Management of exposed healthcare workers and patients in hospitals	06/05/2020
R134	Coronavirus Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Hub	18/04/2020
R135	Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Plan	10/04/2020

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R136	VAT removed from PPE purchases for three months (press release)	30/04/2020
R137	Millions more items of PPE to be provided through business partnerships	09/05/2020
R138	70 million face masks for NHS and care workers through new industry deal	15/05/2020

Procurement policy guidance to public bodies

R139	Payment to suppliers of public bodies	19/05/2020
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Public information

R140	Coronavirus: action plan – A guide to what you can expect across the UK	03/03/2020
R141	NHS health advice for everyone	Website
R142	Guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection	18/05/2020
R143	Parliamentary Inquiry by Parliamentary Women & Equalities Committee	30/03/2020
R144	Prime Minister’s letter to the nation	23/03/2020
R145	Coronavirus public information leaflet	23/03/2020
R146	Coronavirus easy-read public information leaflet	April 2020
R147	Frequently asked questions: what you can and cannot do	11/05/2020
R148	Video explanation about the rate of infection value known as ‘R’	01/02/2020
R149	British Sign Language COVID-19 information accessible via SIGNHEALTH	Website
R150	Emergency funding to support most vulnerable in society	02/05/2020
R151	List of critical workers who can send their children to school	05/05/2020
R152	Statement by the Prime Minister explaining how restrictions will be eased	10/05/2020
R153	Staying alert and safe (social distancing)	11/05/2020
R154	Staying safe outside your home	11/05/2020
R155	How to make and wear a cloth face covering	11/05/2020
R156	Public advised to cover faces in enclosed public spaces	11/05/2020
R157	New guidance on spending time outdoors	13/05/2020
R158	Prime Minister’s article in the Mail on Sunday (17th May 2020)	17/05/2020
R159	Anosmia added to key COVID-19 symptoms	18/05/2020
R160	Health Secretary’s oral statement to Parliament	18/05/2020
R161	Government letter to all social housing residents in England	18/05/2020

Rapidly Manufactured Ventilator System Project

R162	Indemnities granted to manufacturers	April 2020
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Recovery

R163	OUR PLAN TO REBUILD: The UK Government’s COVID-19 Recovery Strategy	11/05/2020
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R164	UK Government's Recovery Strategy: Large print version	12/05/2020
R165	Working safely during coronavirus: helping Brits get safely back to work	11/05/2020
R166	Working safely in construction and other outdoor work	11/05/2020
R167	Working safely in factories, plants, and warehouses	11/05/2020
R168	Working safely in laboratories and research facilities	11/05/2020
R169	Working safely in offices and contact centres	11/05/2020
R170	Working safely in other people's home	11/05/2020
R171	Working safely in restaurants offering takeaway or delivery	11/05/2020
R172	Working safely in shops and branches	11/05/2020
R173	Working safely in or from a vehicle	11/05/2020
R174	Safer public places – urban centres and green spaces	13/05/2020
R175	Five roadmap taskforces to plan how to reopen closed sectors	13/05/2020
R176	Guidance for moving home safely in England	13/05/2020
R177	Safe working in education, childcare and children's social care	14/05/2020
R178	New taskforce developing plans to reopen places of worship	15/05/2020

Renting and landlords

R179	Non-statutory guidance for landlords, tenants, and local authorities	28/03/2020
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Restoration of NHS services

R180	Fertility clinics to re-open from 11th May 2020	05/05/2020
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Rough sleepers

R181	Dame Louise Casey to lead government task force on rough sleeping	02/05/2020
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Scientific advice

R182	Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE): COVID-19 guidance	Website
R183	Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE) membership	07/05/2020
R184	Scientific evidence supporting the UK government response	Website
R185	Overview of scientific advice published by Department for Education	15/05/2020
R188	Government Office for Science publishes the latest R number	15/05/2020

Security

R187	Guidance on cyber security and home working	02/04/2020
R188	'Silent Solution' – how to call the police by mobile if you cannot speak	07/04/2019
R189	Support for victims of domestic abuse announced by Home Secretary	11/04/2020
R190	Directions given to the NHS to disclose cyber security information to GCHQ	03/04/2020



R191	<u>Thinkuknow programme to protect children when using devices online</u>	Website
R192	<u>Domestic abuse safe accommodation: emergency support fund</u>	07/05/2020
R193	<u>Countering online child sexual exploitation and abuse during the pandemic</u>	08/05/2020
R194	<u>Voluntary Principles to counter online child sexual exploitation and abuse</u>	08/05/2020

Staying at home and away from others (social distancing)

R195	<u>Measures to protect people at higher risk from Coronavirus</u>	18/05/2020
R196	<u>Easy-read guide on protecting extremely vulnerable people</u>	March 2020
R197	<u>How to help safely: guidance</u>	23/04/2020

Testing and vaccines

R198	<u>Status Tracker: tell the NHS about your experience of coronavirus</u>	Website
R199	<u>UK Government Testing Strategy: Scaling up our testing programmes</u>	04/04/2020
R200	<u>Guidance on COVID-19 testing for frontline workers who are self-isolating</u>	11/05/2020
R201	<u>Testing arrangements for essential workers in England with symptoms</u>	11/05/2020
R202	<u>Booking tests: User guide for essential workers in England with symptoms</u>	30/04/2020
R203	<u>Mobile testing units to test frontline workers</u>	26/04/2020
R204	<u>Drug trials could be fast-tracked through new clinical trial initiative</u>	29/04/2020
R205	<u>Testing for coronavirus: privacy information</u>	01/05/2020
R206	<u>Test, track and trace plan launched on the Isle of Wight</u>	04/05/2020
R207	<u>New biological reagent available to support global diagnostic testing</u>	06/05/2020
R208	<u>New online portal for care homes to arrange testing for staff and residents</u>	11/05/2020
R209	<u>Government expands team to roll out test and trace programme</u>	12/05/2020
R210	<u>Patients severely ill with Covid-19 to have their genetic code studied</u>	13/05/2020
R211	<u>How tests and testing kits for COVID-19 work</u>	19/05/2020
R212	<u>Major long-term study to track spread of COVID-19 in UK population</u>	17/05/2020
R213	<u>Vaccines Manufacturing and Innovation Centre to open 12 months early</u>	17/05/2020
R214	<u>Funding and manufacturing boost for UK vaccine programme</u>	17/05/2020
R215	<u>Everyone in the UK with symptoms now eligible for tests</u>	18/05/2020

Transport and travel

R216	<u>Guidance and advice to avoid non-essential travel in the UK</u>	22/03/2020
R217	<u>Safety guidance for towpaths and waterways</u>	Website
R218	<u>Government data methodology for gathering transport use data</u>	15/04/2020



R219	<u>Driver and rider trainers in England, Scotland, and Wales – DVSA guidance</u>	22/04/2020
R220	<u>£2 billion fund for cycling and walking - reducing public transport use</u>	09/05/2020
R221	<u>Statutory guidance for local authorities on managing their road networks</u>	09/05/2020
R222	<u>Temporary road signs for pedestrians, drivers, and cyclists</u>	09/05/2020
R223	<u>Transport Secretary’s oral statement on safer travel guidance</u>	12/05/2020
R224	<u>Transport and travel advice</u>	12/05/2020
R225	<u>Safer transport guidance for operators</u>	12/05/2020
R226	<u>Government grants Transport for London £1.6 billion funding package</u>	15/05/2020
R227	<u>Transport Secretary’s written statement to Parliament on TfL funding</u>	18/05/2020
R228	<u>Government invests to protect critical freight routes</u>	18/05/2020

Trials and volunteers

R229	<u>Volunteering for the National Health Service: Good Samaritan app</u>	Website
R230	<u>COVID-19 detection dogs trial launched</u>	15/05/2020

World Health Organisation

R231	<u>World Health Organisation</u>	Website
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