

Yellow

The current alert level in Brighton & Hove is yellow.
This means, confirmed cases of COVID-19 are increasing on our city
More information on the current situation is given below

The [Brighton and Hove City Council](#) website has more information

[Coronavirus outbreak FAQs](#): Frequently asked questions on what you can and cannot do during the coronavirus outbreak.



Wash your hands regularly

avoid touching your face and use hand sanitiser when you are out



Watch your distance

stay at least 1m away from people outside of your household where you can



Wear a face covering if you are able to

on public transport, at hospitals, in shops and in enclosed spaces

Thank you for your part in supporting a

**healthier, stronger,
safer city**

A. Your Healthwatch

(1) Patient Transport survey - EXTENDED CLOSING DATE



Our online survey closes on 28th September 2020

Please give us your views on Patient Transport Services by completing our survey.

If you would rather, you can simply email us with your story or experience, or call and leave a message.

Healthwatch in Sussex want to hear about your experiences of using Patient Transport Services, and ideas for how the service might be improved. This Service takes you to your medical appointments, and home again.

[Click here to take the survey](#)

If you would like to share your individual story, please email your local Healthwatch:

Brighton and Hove - office@healthwatchbrightonandhove.co.uk 01273 234046

East Sussex - enquiries@healthwatcheastsussex.co.uk

West Sussex - helpdesk@healthwatchwestsussex.co.uk

The Clinical Commissioning Group approached Healthwatch to conduct this important piece of work. Once we have gathered your views, we will share the findings and recommended improvements with them. Your views will help to shape the future of the service which is due to be re-commissioned next year.

- The survey should take around 10 minutes to complete
- All data is stored anonymously
- we would recommend completing the survey on a PC, laptop, or tablet

At the end of the survey you can enter a prize draw to win one of five £25 gift vouchers for taking part. More information is available on our [website](#)

(2) COVID-19: David Liley, CEO of Healthwatch on BBC Radio Sussex

Today (18 September) BBC Radio Sussex approached Healthwatch for our comments on the current increase in COVID-19 cases. David Liley, CEO of Healthwatch Brighton and Hove stressed the following messages:



- The 'Hands. Face. Space' public information campaign which urges the public to continue to wash their hands, cover their face and make space to control infection rates and avoid a second peak.
- If people do not follow current guidance there is a real likelihood of further COVID restrictions.
- At the beginning of lockdown people were given clear instructions about what to do, but now we are asked to make judgements about what is best for ourselves and our families. Healthwatch sits on the city's Local Outbreak Engagement Board for COVID-19 and is pushing for simple messages to be shared.

(3) COVID-19: What people are telling us. A Healthwatch England report

[Read the key issues from over 19,700 people between April - June.](#)

Each month, thousands of people share their experiences with the Healthwatch network about NHS and social care services. During the COVID-19 pandemic, this has ranged from the affect lockdown has had on carers, to the problems getting emergency dental treatment.

In this briefing, Healthwatch England outline the issues over 19,700 people have raised, as well as taking an in-depth look at how technology has been used in response to the pandemic. Issues raised by patients include:

- Changes to routine and planned care
- Transport for those shielding
- Access to prescription medicines
- Emergency dental care
- Accessible information
- Hidden impact on family carers
- Care homes
- Impact on mental health
- Testing for COVID-19

B. Health and social care updates

(1) Our city's local plans for flu vaccinations

Flu vaccine

[Thousands in the city will be vaccinated against the flu virus this winter](#)

Flu vaccination clinics across Brighton and Hove are underway this September and the NHS is encouraging anyone who is eligible for a free flu vaccination to book an appointment with their GP or pharmacist, as soon as they receive an invitation.

Every year the flu virus kills people and hospitalises many more. This year it is even more important people who are most at risk of flu have their free flu vaccination. All clinics will run in line with infection prevention control and social distancing measures will be in place.

This year the flu vaccine is being offered on the NHS to:

- adults 65 and over
- people with certain medical conditions (including children in at-risk groups from 6 months of age)
- pregnant women
- people living with someone who's at high risk from coronavirus (on the NHS shielded patient list)
- children aged 2 and 3 on 31 August 2020
- children in primary school
- children in year 7 (secondary school)
- frontline health or social care workers

Later in the year, the flu vaccine may be given to people aged 50 to 64. More information will be available later in the autumn.

However, if you are aged 50 to 64 and in an at-risk group, you should not delay having your flu vaccine.

For a full list of priority groups and other information about this year's flu vaccine, visit www.nhs.uk and search for flu vaccine.







Information on the free flu vaccine is available in [Easyread](#) formats and in a [variety of languages](#).

(2) Which service do I need?

The NHS is still here for you if you need it. If you do need care, please choose well to prevent extra pressure on our services.

[BSUH NHS Trust services](#) including alternatives to A&E

[#HelpUsHelpYou](#) [#StayWellSussex](#)

					
Self-care	NHS 111	GP (Doctor)	NHS Walk-in Services	Minor Injuries Units	A&E or 999
Hangover. Grazed knee. Sore throat. Cough.	Unsure? Confused? Need help?	Diarrhoea. Runny nose. Painful cough. Head ache.	Unwell. Vomiting. Ear pain. Back ache.	Sprains and strains. Wound infections. Minor eye injuries. Insect and animal bites.	Choking. Severe bleeding. Chest pain. Blackening out.



A&E

These services are appropriate for broken bones, deep tissue wounds, or emergency conditions. Avoid long waiting times for X-rays you can also

[Full description of A&E Services](#)

Pharmacy

Expert advice on a wide range of long-term conditions and common illnesses such as coughs, colds and stomach upsets. Treatments for minor ailments and allergies. Many offer health checks.

Run out of your regular medicine? Don't go to your GP surgery or pharmacy to order it.

You can do this through the NHS App, Prescription Ordering Direct, your surgery or pharmacy's online service or call your surgery if these are not available

[Full description of pharmacies](#)

Urgent care service

Fast access to health advice, emergency contraception and minor injuries such as cuts, sprains and small fractures

[Full description of urgent care](#)

Minor Injuries

[Minor Injuries Unit at Queen Victoria Hospital, East Grinstead:](#) assessment and treatment of a wide range of minor injuries and ailments in both adults and children.

Open 8am to 8pm, 7 days a week.

Walk-in centre for minor conditions

[Brighton Station NHS Walk in Centre](#)

Tel: 0333 321 0946

Aspect House, 84-87 Queens Road, Brighton, BN1 3XE

[More information](#) and [Services](#)

(3) The Big Health and Care (socially distanced) Conversation: Carers



As part of the [Big Health and Care \(Socially Distancing\) conversation](#), the CCG are calling on the public and local community groups to help play a key role in helping them understand people's experiences of care during the COVID-19 crisis.

The CCG want to make sure that they understand what it has been like for people if they have needed to use health and care services during COVID-19 across Sussex - what has worked well, and what could have been better? If you did not access services when you thought you needed to, why not? What changes should we maintain, and what needs to go back to normal as much as possible?

This is **your chance to tell the CCG about your experiences**, ask questions and share your ideas as we move towards restoring services.



Do you care for someone, paid or unpaid, who couldn't do without you? How did lockdown affect that care? Join the Big Health and Care Conversation and let us know your experiences at

<https://bit.ly/SxBHCC20> [#LetsTalkSussex](#)

To feed in your views and experiences, you can:

- Visit [the website](#) and share your experience, ask questions, and more
- Email the team at sxccg.involvement@nhs.net or call us on 01903 708411
- Write to: FREEPOST RTUZ-ECYG-ERRK
Attn: Public Involvement Team
NHS Brighton and Hove Clinical Commissioning Group
Hove Town Hall, Norton Road, Brighton, BN3 4AH
- Invite the Public Involvement Team to your (virtual) group meeting

The first Big Health and Care Conversation theme was '**Accessing care from your GP practice**', which was held between Monday 27th July 2020 - Sunday 9th August 2020. You can learn about what we heard during this theme in this [video](#) from Dr Daphne Coutroubis, a local GP in Sussex.

Between 10th August 2020 - 23rd August 2020), the CCG asked to hear about '**Looking after your mental wellbeing through the pandemic**'. You can learn about what we heard during this theme in this [video](#) from Elaine Colomberg, Head of Participation, Experience and Involvement at Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.

Between 24th August to 6th September 2020, the CCG asked to hear about '**Your experiences of A&E**'

(4) Do you have a learning disability? Don't miss out on your free annual health check



Speak to your GP practice receptionist about being added to the Learning Disability Register.

Your GP practice will send an appointment for your Annual Health Check.

At your health check, a Doctor or a Nurse will talk to you about staying healthy and you will have time to talk about anything that is worrying you.

Ask if you need extra support; like having more time, or easy read information. These are called reasonable adjustments.

You can find out more about having an Annual Health Check - [Easy Read Guide \(click here\)](#)

Look out for the Thumbs Up sign in Sussex GP Practices, which shows they are Learning Disability friendly.

If you or someone you care for has a learning disability, telephone your local doctor's surgery to find out more about Annual Health Checks.

(5) NHS Volunteer Responder programme is looking for new volunteers in Brighton and Hove



The @NHSVolResponder programme is looking for new volunteers in Brighton and Hove to support the local community and protect the NHS as we approach our first COVID-19 winter.

Register today: <https://nhsvolunteerresponders.org.uk/i-want-to-volunteer>

The volunteers support people who are vulnerable because of COVID-19, and anyone who needs to self-isolate as a result of the virus. You can read more about the voluntary roles below:

- **Community Response Volunteer:** volunteers to collect and deliver shopping, medication or other essential supplies.
- **Community Response Plus Volunteer:** volunteers to collect and deliver shopping, medication or other essential supplies for patients with cognitive impairments and or significant vulnerabilities who are shielding.
- **Patient Transport Volunteer:** Providing transport to patients who are medically fit to attend routine medical appointments.
- **NHS Transport Volunteer:** volunteers to transport equipment, supplies and/or medication between NHS services and sites. It may also involve assisting pharmacies with medication delivery. This role can also help Local Resilience Networks with transportation and delivery of items such as food parcels

C. LOCAL COVID NEWS

If you need support or advice the [Brighton and Hove City Council](#) website has more information

Support available in Brighton & Hove

Emergency help with food, energy bills and other essentials

Local Discretionary Social Fund
www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/emergency-help-with-bills 01273 293117 (option 1).

Debt advice if you are facing financial difficulties

www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/debt-advice
Citizens Advice 0300 330 9033
Money Advice Plus 0800 988 7037.

Food, shopping and meal deliveries Brighton & Hove Food Partnership www.bhfood.org.uk/coronavirus-update.

Mental health Sussex Mental Healthline 0300 5000 101 (freephone).

Wellbeing Healthy Lifestyles team www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/healthylifestyles 01273 294589.

Carers The Carers Hub www.carershubs.co.uk 01273 977000 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm).

Loneliness Together Co www.togetherco.org.uk 01273 775888.

Older people Ageing Well www.ageingwellbh.org 07770 061072 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm) or call The Silver Line 0800 470 8090.

Domestic abuse The Portal www.theportal.org.uk 0300 323 9985.

Bereavement Cruse Bereavement Care www.cruse.org.uk 0808 808 1677.

Digital support and resources Digital Brighton & Hove www.digitalbrightonandhove.org.uk 07475 946084.

Adult social care Access Point www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/adult-social-care 01273 295555 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 4.30pm).

Children or families Front Door for Families www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/front-door-families 01273 290400 (Monday to Thursday, 9am to 5pm, Friday until 4.30pm).
If you still need extra support and don't have anyone to help you at the moment, contact our community advice and support hub.
www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/coronavirus-help
If you can't get online, call 01273 293117 (option 2) Monday to Friday, 10am to 4.30pm.

Do not leave home if you or someone you live with has any of the following:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

Self-isolate immediately and get a test.
Go to [nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus) or call 119.

(1) COVID cases are increasing in our city

Brighton and Hove City Council have introduced an escalation framework, using a traffic light system - from green to yellow, amber and red - to keep everyone in the city up to date about the current rate of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Brighton & Hove and how they can help to prevent the spread of infection.

Starting this week the city's status will be updated weekly on a new [Current Alert Level and Guidance](#) web page.

The web page will also highlight groups and settings that are particularly affected so people can make extra efforts to reduce their risk.

The current alert level in Brighton & Hove is yellow. This means, confirmed cases are increasing. See the 'Local Data' section below for more information.

The Council are asking everyone to play their part and follow the guidance. To slow the virus, we all need to step up physical distancing, wear face coverings where advised, limit contact between households and follow the 'rule of six'. Businesses also have a vital role to play by ensuring they are helping their customers to stay safe.



Alistair Hill, Director of Public Health, said:

"The recent increase has been greatest amongst young people, particularly those aged 16-24. This isn't a 'blame game', this group of people have had a really unsettling time over the past six months but, we do think that most 16-24 year olds who have caught the virus did so when they were visiting friends' houses and at parties.

"It's really important everyone plays their part and follows the guidance to reduce the risk of passing on COVID to others.

"We are renowned in Brighton & Hove for our care for one another and I know this includes young people. Please, everyone, make sure you continue to wash your hands regularly, wear face coverings where advised, maintain a safe distance, limit contact between households and follow the 'rule of six'".

(2) How and where to get a COVID test

[The council has updated their advice about obtaining a test for COVID-19](#)

Click here to [get a coronavirus test](#). If you don't have access to the internet, you can call 119 to book or order a test.

A test for suspected COVID-19 is free and NHS treatment for COVID-19 is free for all, including overseas visitors who are not usually entitled to free treatment from the NHS

Symptoms

Anyone with [symptoms](#) can get a coronavirus test, whatever their age.

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- **a high temperature** - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** - this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

These websites contain all of the information you need:

[Brighton and Hove City Council](#) (including links to translated materials, **getting an advocate, proxy or interpreter to help you book a test**

[Government](#)

[Coronavirus in children](#)

Advice from our Clinical Commissioning Group

You may be aware from recent media reports that the national COVID-19 testing system's laboratories are facing very high demand. As a result, local test bookings may be unavailable at busy times and people are being directed to the nearest site with available slots. In addition, home testing kits are made available in batches and so may also be unavailable at busy times.

Work is ongoing nationally to address the issue and national laboratory capacity continues to expand. However, the government has said that laboratory capacity may be constrained for some weeks.

The current challenges are with national laboratory capacity rather than the availability or capacity of testing stations. There is a wide availability of testing sites across Sussex, including at Gatwick, Tangmere and Bexhill. There are also mobile testing units rotating around the county, one of which will remain in Brighton and Hove until a new permanent testing site for the city is established.

While these sites may not appear busy, the number of tests they can carry out is determined by the laboratory capacity available to process tests. You are advised not to attend a testing site without an appointment.

The latest guidance is that you should only apply for a COVID-19 test if you have symptoms

In the event that people with symptoms are unable to obtain a local test, it is not recommended that they travel long distances. Government advice is to try booking again in a few hours. A good time to try is 8.30pm when new slots are made available.

Locally, NHS hospital laboratories carry out tests for patients. Where there is spare capacity, we are putting tests for health and care staff through our in-house laboratories in order to free up as many bookings as possible for the local public.



How far have you travelled to have a COVID-19 test? Or where have you been told you need to travel to?

We want to understand the impacts on local people of testing limitations.

Please email us at: office@healthwatchbrightonandhove.co.uk

On 9 and 10 September, the Prime Minister, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, and the Secretary of State for Transport [quoted](#) that:

- the average distance people travelled for a coronavirus test is 6.4 miles
- 90% of people who booked a test travelled 22 miles or less
- the majority of people travelled less than 10 miles

Healthwatch does not believe that this data shows the whole story and has asked the Public Health team for local data.

(3) Visiting loved ones in hospital

Visiting someone in hospital

Keeping patients and staff safe is a top priority during the COVID-19 pandemic.

That is why hospitals in Sussex continue to recommend that friends and family use digital services such as Facetime, Skype, Zoom and WhatsApp to stay in touch with loved ones during their hospital stay, to minimise the risk of spreading or contracting the virus. iPads are also available on most hospital wards for use by patients who do not have a smartphone or other mobile device.

While the specific rules on visiting will differ between hospitals - and also between wards - the following principles are being adopted by most hospitals in Sussex:

- One visitor per day for a one hour maximum
- Visitors must have booked in advance
- Visitors must wear face coverings
- Visitors must wear any additional PPE provided by the hospital.
- Visitors must adhere to the 2m distancing guidance.
- Washing your hands is one of the most important ways of reducing the spread of the virus.

Please check with your local hospital in the first instance about visiting restrictions:

- [Brighton and Sussex University Hospital NHS Trust](#)
- [East Sussex Healthcare Trust](#)
- [Queen Victoria Hospital NHS Foundation Trust](#)
- [Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust](#)
- [Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust](#)
- [Surrey and Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust](#)
- [Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust](#)

Local COVID data

(1) Local data on COVID and statistics published by the Council

COVID-19 - key statistics for Brighton & Hove

You can find key local data showing confirmed cases of COVID-19 and deaths related to COVID-19 on the [Brighton and Hove Council website](#). We have reproduced some data below. The Council also provides links to other available data which can be accessed [here](#)

Healthwatch has been monitoring the numbers of positive COVID cases in the city

The number of confirmed cases as of 16 September is 1,000. This has increased from 821 on 4 September, the date of our last Healthwatch bulletin.

In the seven days up to 13 September we have seen 67 new cases

As of 17 September, the rate is equivalent to 343.8 cases per 100,000 residents. This number has crept up from 287 on 7 August.

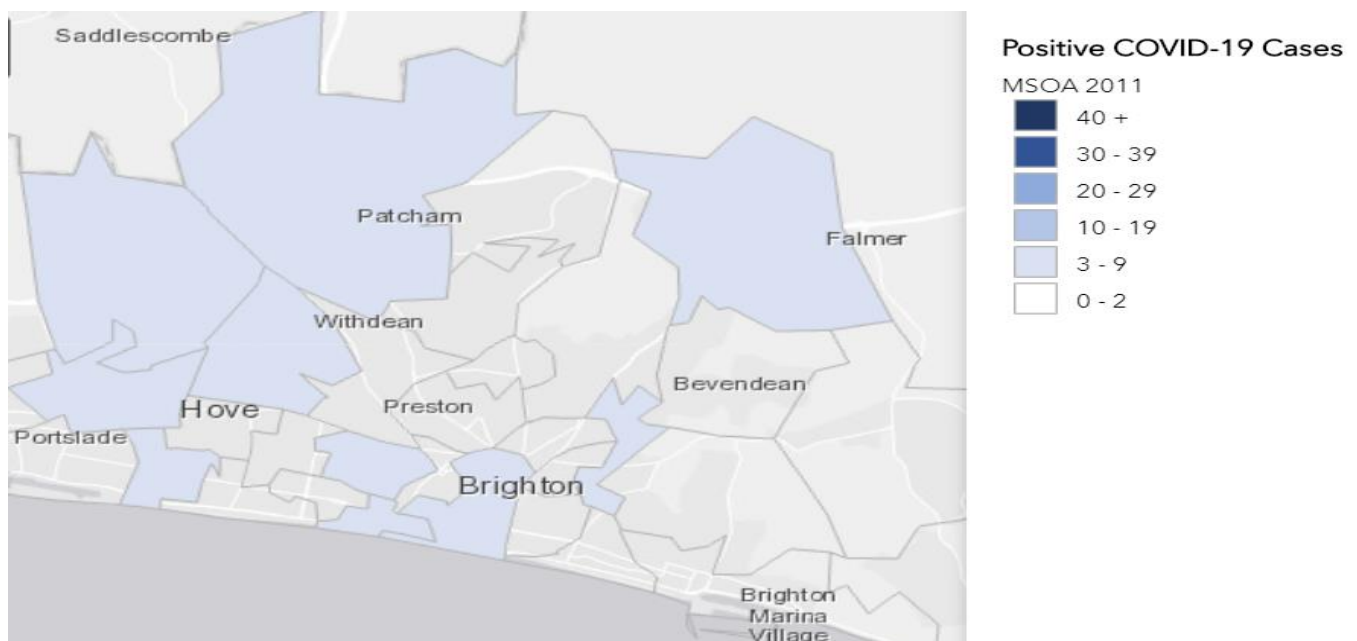
These rates are still lower than the national average of 584.9 and the South East average of 441.2.

The increase has been greatest in young people, particularly those aged 16-24. We know that many have caught the virus when visiting friend's houses and at parties.

Fortunately, these numbers are not translating into an increase in death rates, which remains at 166

The graphs below provide more detail.

[A Government interactive map shows cases by local area in England](#)



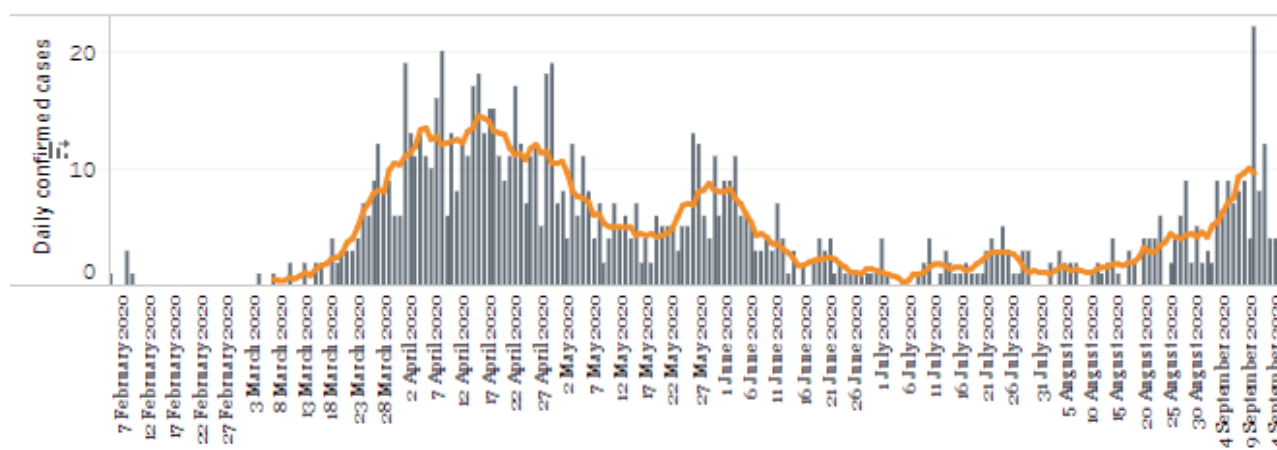
Government data showing number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Brighton and Hove

Date	No of confirmed cases	Total number of confirmed cases
16.9.20	0	1,000
15.9.20	2	1,000
14.9.20	4	998
13.9.20	4	994
12.9.20	12	990
11.9.20	8	978
10.9.20	22	970
9.9.20	4	948
8.9.20	9	944
7.9.20	8	935
6.9.20	7	927
5.9.20	9	920
4.9.20	6	911
3.9.20	9	905
2.9.20	2	896
1.9.20	3	894
19.8.20	0	842

COVID-10 confirmed cases following a test conducted within the those carried out by commercial laboratories.



Confirmed COVID-19 cases in Brighton & Hove



Key

- 7 day daily average
- Daily confirmed cases

Confirmed cases up to 16 September 2020:
1,000

Confirmed cases (rate per 100,000 population) up to 16 September 2020:
343.8

Confirmed cases in the 7 days up to 13 September 2020:
67

Confirmed cases (rate per 100,000 population) in 7 days up to 13 September 2020:
23.0

Most recent days subject to reporting delay. Last available data: 16 September 2020

Deaths related to COVID-19 in the city

Deaths recorded by NHS Trusts

Brighton and Hove University Hospitals NHS Trust's total number of deaths recorded by **Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust** since the beginning of the outbreak is 149. This data is published by [NHS England](#) and is available here: [COVID 19 total announced deaths 17 September 2020](#)

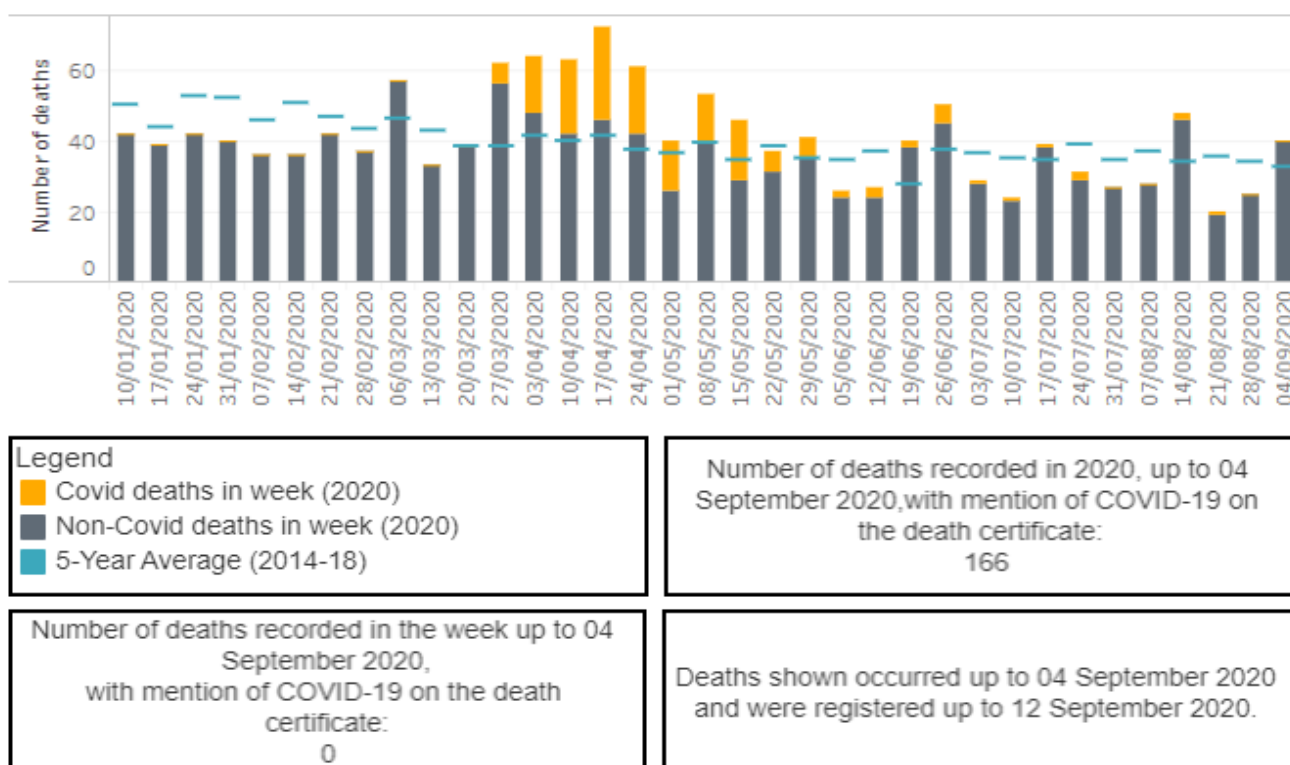
For interest (comparisons are not appropriate) other Sussex Trusts have recorded the following numbers of deaths:

Brighton and Sussex University NHS Trust 149
East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust100
Surrey and Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust260
Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust 18
Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust 115

The number of deaths of Brighton & Hove residents where Covid-19 was recorded on the death certificate (yellow)



Deaths in Brighton & Hove in 2020



Deaths recorded across the city

The Office for National Statistics has published an up-to-date [interactive map](#) which shows the number of deaths occurring in the period 1 March 2020 and 31 July 2020 and registered by 15 August 2020, where COVID-19 was mentioned as a cause on the death certificate. The results continue to show that the highest number of deaths has been recorded in the Woodingdean area of the city, with 16 deaths. In July, four areas of the city recorded a single death each.

(2) Data on COVID deaths in care homes

The Office for National Statistics began publishing data on deaths in care homes in late July. The latest data was updated on 14th August and shows the 'Number of deaths in care homes involving COVID-19 by date of notification to the Care Quality Commission, Local Authorities in England'.

For Brighton and Hove the number, as of 11 September, stood at 60 - this number has not increased. This is against a total of 166 COVID-related deaths in the city which were recorded up to 4 September and registered by 12 September. [This data is available on the Brighton and Hove website.](#)

D. NATIONAL COVID NEWS

(1) Government winter campaign



[New campaign to prevent spread of coronavirus indoors this winter](#)

The 'Hands. Face. Space' public information campaign urges the public to continue to wash their hands, cover their face and make space to control infection rates and avoid a second peak.

(2) Government announces changes from 9 September



[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): What has changed - 9 September](#) The government has announced new measures to suppress the virus and keep the number of infections down

[Coronavirus outbreak FAQs:](#) Frequently asked questions on what you can and cannot do during the coronavirus outbreak

[Making a support bubble with another household](#) How you can safely expand the group of people you have close contact with during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

[Staying alert and safe \(social distancing\)](#)

[Stay alert and safe: social distancing guidance for young people](#)

The most important thing we can do is to stay alert, control the virus, and in doing so, save lives.

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): Meeting with others safely \(social distancing\)](#) Information on meeting with others safely

(3) Wider impacts of COVID-19

[COVID-19: impacts on health - reports and tools](#)

National reports and tool to support the monitoring of the direct and indirect impacts of COVID-19 on the population.

[COVID-19: mental health and wellbeing surveillance report](#)

This report compiles routinely updated indicators from multiple sources and summarises important findings from ongoing surveys.

[COVID-19 mental health and wellbeing surveillance: Spotlights](#)

These Spotlights describe variation in the mental health and wellbeing of the population by a particular characteristic, such as age or gender.

Mental health and wellbeing in the time of coronavirus - tracking the impact

Public Health England has produced a blog which, rather helpfully, supports some [recently-released information](#).

It makes interesting reading as it tracks changes over the period of the pandemic. It also looks at the disproportionate impact on different groups.

The information draws on a number of sources and provides a good summary. A lot of the headline information won't come as a surprise, but it's useful to see it brought together in this way. It also highlights that different reports may suggest different conclusions - for example, about experiences in rural and urban areas.

[Read more here](#)

Government COVID data

(1) COVID-19 data

National COVID-19 surveillance reports

These reports provide a [weekly summary](#) of findings monitored through various COVID-19 surveillance systems. They display the following data:

- National and regional rates of infection
- Recorded death rates within 28, and 60 days
- Deaths by ethnicity
- Testing levels and results
- Hospital admissions

Excess mortality in England: weekly reports

[Weekly excess mortality in England](#) broken down by age, sex, region, ethnic group, level of deprivation, cause of death and place of death.

In the South East, from 20th March up to 4 September, there were 7,837 excess deaths recorded 7,396 (94%) of which were attributed to COVID-19

Death rates

There are 2 definitions of a death in a person with COVID-19 in England, one broader measure and one measure reflecting current trends:

- 1) A death in a person with a laboratory-confirmed positive COVID-19 test and died within (equal to or less than) 28 days of the first positive specimen date.
- 2) A death in a person with a laboratory-confirmed positive COVID-19 and either: died within 60 days of the first specimen date or died more than 60 days after the first specimen date, only if COVID-19 is mentioned on the death certificate

Coronavirus deaths and cases give a sense of the spread of the epidemic. Deaths are counted where a lab-confirmed positive coronavirus test result is reported in any setting. This means that not all deaths reported here are caused by coronavirus.

In England, as of 17 September, the number of deaths of people who had had a positive test result for COVID-19 and died within 28 days of the first positive test stood at 41,705 (the rate per 100,000 people was 65.8)

Data on death rates are published on the [daily dashboard](#).

Additional data is available here: [Coronavirus cases in the UK: daily updated statistics](#)

(a) Infection levels

For up-to-date numbers of coronavirus (COVID-19) cases and risk in the UK, click [here](#). You can also view the [coronavirus dashboard](#) which is updated daily. The data reveals that as of 17 September the total number of lab-confirmed UK cases of COVID-19 stood at 381,614. This is the total number of people who have had a positive test result. This number has been steadily increasing since July.

(b) R-number and growth rates

[Last updated on Friday 18th September 2020](#)

The latest R estimate for the UK is between 1.1 - 1.4 and the growth rate for the whole of the UK is between +2% to +7%.

An R number between 1.1 and 1.4 means that on average every 10 people infected will infect between 11 and 14 other people.

A growth rate between +2% and +7% means the number of new infections is growing by 2% to 7% every day.

The UK estimates of R and growth rate are averages over very different epidemiological situations and should be regarded as a guide to the general trend rather than a description of the epidemic state.

For the South East, the latest R number range is 1.1 - 1.4, whilst the latest growth rate range for the South East is +3% to +7%. Data is not available at Local Authority level.

What do these numbers mean?

The reproduction number (R) is the average number of people one person who is infected with COVID-19 may go on to infect. A high R number implies the transmission rate from person to person is increasing, a low number means it is declining. The R number range for the UK implies the transmission rate is increasing (for up-to-date numbers of coronavirus (COVID-19) cases and risk in the UK, click [here](#)). Brighton and Hove Council has previously confirmed that it is not possible to calculate meaningful R values at a very local level.

The growth rate reflects how quickly the number of infections is changing day-by-day. If the growth rate is greater than zero (+ positive), then the disease will grow, and if the growth rate is less than zero then the disease will shrink. The size of the growth rate indicates the speed of change. A growth rate of +5% will grow faster than one with a growth rate of +1%. Likewise, a disease with a growth rate of -4% will be shrinking faster than a disease with growth rate of -1%. The current growth rate for the UK implies that infection rates are increasing.

(c) Test and trace

You can access data here from the [NHS Test and Trace \(England\) and coronavirus testing \(UK\) statistics: 3 September to 9 September 2020](#)

NHS test and trace statistics (England) weekly reports are also available [here](#).

- Since NHS Test and Trace launched (28th May - 9th September):
- 18,371 new people tested positive for COVID-19 in England between 3 September and 9 September, a substantial increase of 167% compared to the end of August. Positive cases have been rising since the start of July and are now double the number recorded when Test and Trace launched.
- The number of people newly tested had a notable increase of 27% in the most recent week compared to the previous week, after remaining at consistent numbers between the end of July and the end of August.
- Turnaround times for pillar 2 (swab testing for the wide population) have become longer for in-person tests compared to the previous week. In the most recent week, 64.7% of in-person tests results were received the next day after the test was taken. Turnaround times for satellite/home tests also continued to get longer overall.
- 15,526 people were transferred to the contract tracing system between 3 September and 9 September, a substantial increase of 74% compared to the previous week. The number of people transferred has been notably increasing since the beginning of August with over three times as many people being transferred in the most recent week compared to the beginning of August
- Of those transferred to the contact tracing system between 3 September and 9 September, 82.6% were reached and asked to provide information about their contacts. This proportion is similar to the previous two weeks but an increase from 73.4% in the week Test and Trace launched
- 61,790 people were identified as coming into close contact with someone who had tested positive between 03 September and 09 September. The number of contacts identified has substantially increased by 255% since the beginning of August. For those where communication details were available, 83.9% were reached and asked to self-isolate. Taking into account all contacts identified, 73.9% were reached. The percentage reached for both complex and non-complex contacts has stayed roughly the same since mid-July

(d) Testing for COVID-19

This link to the [government website](#) explains all you need to know about how to get a test. More information explaining how Test and Trace works can be found [here](#)

[The council has updated their advice about obtaining a test for COVID-19](#)

(2) Government announcements

The current situation means that new guidance is being issued daily. Below we have provided links to some announcements which may be of interest.

[Coronavirus outbreak FAQs](#): Frequently asked questions on what you can and cannot do during the coronavirus outbreak.

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): What has changed - 9 September](#) The government has announced new measures to suppress the virus and keep the number of infections down

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): travel corridors](#) List of countries and territories from where you can travel to England and may not have to self-isolate.
[Portugal, Hungary, French Polynesia and Réunion to be removed from travel corridors list](#)

[COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection](#)

[Guidance for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection who do not live with the person](#)

[Update on new social distancing rules](#)

E. Resources, advice, and information

(1) Mental health

[Public Health England launches new Every Mind Matters campaign](#)

Mental health campaign supports the wellbeing of children, young people and their parents.

(2) Young People

The Livestock logo, featuring the word "LIVESTOCK" in a bold, red, sans-serif font. The letter "L" is significantly larger and more stylized than the other letters, which are in a smaller, more standard font weight.

The Teen Years - Peer Support Group by Livestock

*'I expected that I would be absolutely prepared, unshockable, understanding - and that they wouldn't do anything that I did when I was their age.
I still love them like it actually hurts, but the truth is I don't like a lot of what I see or hear of their adolescence.'*

A non-judgemental, honest, peer support group for parents and carers of teenage children. A chance to share the triumphs and challenges of this time and acknowledge the transition of your role as centre stage in your children's lives to somewhere in the wings.

Wednesday 7th, 14th, 21st October. 11.00am - 12.30pm - on Zoom
£5 per session, or £10 for all three. FREE places available.

Contact admin@livestock.org.uk or 07907 492992 to register

F. Healthwatch Brighton and Hove information and advice

The following Healthwatch COVID-19 guides are available (these are being regularly updated):

[Guide to local health and social care services](#)

[Answers to Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Dedicated COVID-19 webpage](#)

[Maternity and pregnancy advice and information](#)

Top tips for [staying active and looking after your mental health](#).

Guides which provide information about:

- visiting a [dentist](#)
- [seeing a GP](#)
- [collection of prescriptions](#)

Plus, accessibility resources to help you communicate about COVID-19

- **NEW:** [Beyond Words is providing free picture stories and illustrated guides to support people with learning disabilities and autism through the coronavirus pandemic](#)
- A series of videos aimed at encouraging people to continue to use health services if they are unwell. They are available in [English](#), [Arabic](#), [Farsi](#), [Kurdish](#) and [Sylheti](#).
- [Resources from Learning Disability England](#)
- [Signhealth has made their InterpreterNow remote BSL interpretation service available for free across all healthcare services](#)
- [Signhealth is providing a video of summaries of key coronavirus guidance in BSL](#)
- [Signhealth advice for testing](#)
- [Public Health England stay at home guidance](#), translated and in easy read
- [NHS guidelines translated into up to 50 languages by Doctors of the World](#) and find video advice [here](#)
- [Easy read information on COVID-19](#) from Mencap
[About the NHS Test and Trace scheme](#)
[What to do if you are contacted by NHS Test and Trace](#)
The NHS have also created [easy read posters like this](#) so people know when and how to get a test for coronavirus.
- [Public Health England resources](#) in accessible formats
- [COVID-19 guidance for providers of services for people experiencing rough sleeping](#)
- The [handwashing rap](#), produced to help people who have a learning disability



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Volunteer for us



If you would you like to get involved and help make a positive difference, then we offer a variety of roles. And you do not have to stick to one, some of our volunteers do more than one. You do not

need a background in health or social care, just a keen interest in improving services for everyone. For more information [click here](#).