

## Headlines

### Updates in Gloucestershire

- **REMINDER:** Benches are useful for someone who needs to take a rest during their daily exercise and none have not been “closed” by the county council. Any signs saying a bench has been closed with regards to COVID-19 should be removed. Following social distancing guidance, it is fine for two people from the same household to sit on a bench. Or one person to sit on a bench and speak to one another from a different household for a short period of time as long as they are a minimum of two metres apart.
- [The county council has been working with schools, nurseries and partners in the NHS to make sure that essential frontline staff can continue to go to work.](#)
- [Three hubs have been set up in the county to quickly assess and support vulnerable adults during the pandemic.](#)
- Reminder: the community help hub helpline is open 8am-8pm on weekdays and 9am-4pm on weekends or visit: [www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gloucestershires-community-help-hub](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gloucestershires-community-help-hub)

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## National updates

[Letter to councils about local authority meetings and postponement of elections](#)

[Guidance for residential care, supported living and home care](#) - Added link to guidance on admission and care of people in care homes, and marked guidance on residential care provision as withdrawn

[Procurement Policy Note 02/20: Supplier relief due to COVID-19](#) - Addition of further guidance, FAQs and model terms for construction.

[Apprenticeship programme response](#) - Updated with new information on continuing training and end point assessment for furloughed apprentices, and pausing

## Daily stats

Total UK Tests -  
**208,837**

Total UK Cases - **51,608**

Total UK Deaths - **5,373**

Total Confirmed Cases  
in South West - **1,827**

Total Confirmed Cases  
in Gloucestershire - **306**

Total Deaths in  
Gloucestershire – **39**

The testing data reflects nationally published data [available here](#).

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## Help hub stats

The helpline is now open 8am-8pm on weekdays and 9am-4pm on weekends.

- I can offer help – **2574**
  - I need help – **1629**
  - Someone I know needs help – **562**
  - My business can help – **205**
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new funding audits.

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## Key links

[National Guidance](#)

[General NHS advice](#)

[Latest advice and developments from Gloucestershire NHS](#)

[Gloucestershire's Community Help Hub](#)

[Council service updates](#)

[Make an adult social care referral](#)

[Business advice and support](#)

Our '[Looking after your wellbeing](#)' webpages are being updated regularly to support people to look after their physical and mental health

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## Your questions answered

### Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) supply

Maintaining sufficient stocks of all necessary PPE for the county remains the top priority for all partners in Gloucestershire and we are working together, through the LRF, to do all we can to ensure staff in the county continue to have all they need. We currently have enough PPE and further supplies are expected in the coming days but, as with elsewhere in the country, the volume being used has increased significantly and therefore we require ongoing deliveries to ensure staff can continue to deliver services safely.

As a county council, we have carried out a preliminary assessment of requirements in Adult's and Children's Social Care. We have pooled our available stocks to make sure we can prioritise distribution to frontline staff in children and adult services and have taken steps to centralise distribution to those services. Further orders have been placed, including a large order by GFRS on behalf of GCC as a whole, against the existing estimated requirements. Work is underway to explore the requirements of the county's schools.

At this time we are not asking you to proactively ask people if they have stocks of PPE but we are contacting specific trade sectors to see if they can help. However,

if you do get sent offers, please send them to [Tina Reid](#) so they can be followed up.

**Please clarify what is meant by “volunteers will no longer collecting medicines as they are not DBS checked”?**

NHS Responder volunteers are a resource to complement the activity already happening in our communities and fill any gaps. This means that community groups who have already set up a process with their local pharmacy to deliver prescriptions to their vulnerable residents can carry on with their activity. If they need extra capacity they can call upon the NHS Responders Volunteers.

[The letter from the MHCLG confirms this.](#)