

Key messages

Gloucestershire updates

- [Nearly 4000 families benefit from Free School Meals over Easter holidays](#)
- [In light of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, the county council is giving residents extra time to feedback on the next stage of the West Cheltenham Transport Improvement Scheme.](#)
- We are in regular contact with all six hospice providers in the county in terms of their quantities of PPE and any risks or issues. To date any shortages have been resolved through a mixture of CCG support and providers are taking their own steps to source what is needed.

National updates

- [Guidance for consumers on coronavirus and food](#)
- [Government to extend testing for coronavirus to more frontline workers](#) - Access to testing for those with symptoms of coronavirus will be extended across England to include additional frontline workers and members of their household with symptoms.
- [Funding and financial support available for education, early years and children's social care organisations.](#)
- [Statutory guidance for local authorities in England](#) on Schedule 28 of the Coronavirus Act, which provides powers to support local and national death management.
- [Letter to local authorities to work with](#)

Daily stats

Total UK Tests - **482,063**

Total UK Cases - **120,067**

Total UK Deaths - **16,060**

Total Confirmed Cases in South West - **4,669**

Total Confirmed Cases in Gloucestershire* - **904**

Total Deaths in Gloucestershire** - **130**

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

**The above data reflects nationally published NHS data [available here](#).

Help hub stats

- I can offer help – **3052**
- I need help – **2158**
- Someone I know needs help – **791**
- My business can help – **248**

Key links

[National Guidance](#)

[General NHS advice](#)

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

[Gloucestershire's Community Help Hub](#)

[faith groups and funeral directors to develop safe, sensitive and innovative ways for funerals to take place](#)

- [COVID-19: how to work safely in care homes](#)
- [Government pledges extra £1.6 billion for councils](#)
- [Coronavirus letter from the Secretary of State to the local government workforce](#)
- [Guidance updated to support the safe management of funerals](#)
- [Coronavirus SEND risk assessment guidance](#) - Guidance for special schools, specialist colleges, local authorities and any other settings managing children and young people with complex special educational needs and disability.

[Council service updates](#)

[Make an adult social care referral](#)

[Business advice and support](#)

[Looking after your wellbeing](#)

[Support for children and families during Covid-19](#)

Your questions answered

Is there a risk that independent or small care providers to vulnerable people in their own homes might, at this point in the continuing crisis, collapse at short notice? Is this a major risk in Gloucestershire and are we in a position to ensure continuity of service to house-bound vulnerable people?

We're checking with every provider each week that they have the PPE they need and our mutual aid system with health colleagues is working well. The CCG has been very generous and we have passed that on to those who need it.

We have a good relationship with the Gloucestershire Care Providers Association and they would alert us to any concerns from their members. We have modelled demand and our reablement staff are working closely with the brokerage team to support domiciliary care. Some families have declined domiciliary care because of the risk of having visitors in their home, so there has not been a significant rise in demand.

We are prepared for increased levels of frailty for those people who recover from the virus. From the regional and national calls we are part of, we're better placed than many and our long established relationship with the CCG is a benefit at times like these.

What is the 'usual' weekly and daily figure for deaths in Gloucestershire and how does that compare to the current totals?

We have access to the Public Health Mortality Database which shows that according to the past three years of GP registration data, there are 105 -115 deaths per week in March – June in Gloucestershire. It is difficult to produce a true estimate of excess deaths in comparison to current figures, as there is a lag in reported deaths. The ones we know about now will be recorded however this is not all of them yet. We have current information on the deaths due to Covid-19 in hospitals, but there is a lag in the number of deaths reported from the community (all causes) which means we don't have an accurate figure of current deaths to compare to.

How are mental health services being "ramped up" or innovated during this challenging time? Especially (but not exclusively) those supporting children and adolescents.

Public Mental Health has been recognised as a priority in our response to Covid-19.

A multi-agency group has been established (chaired by Public Health) to take forward the necessary action across the system, to provide people with information and support to enable them to look after their mental health and emotional wellbeing during both the outbreak and the recovery phase.

We are working with colleagues in the Clinical Commissioning Group to ensure we have the necessary capacity within the system to respond. This includes looking at how we can enhance our current mental health services for children and young people.

We are taking forward a number of options with providers, including a new local helpline for children and young people who are struggling with their mental health (working alongside existing online counselling services for CYP in the county); and targeted support from trained mental health youth workers for those young people likely to be the most vulnerable to poor mental health, such as care leavers and young carers. We hope to be able to confirm further details on these services shortly.

The School Nursing Service has partially suspended services e.g. school drop in clinics and 'parent hub' group sessions.

We are now offering all:

- safeguarding work including information for Single Assessments, strategy discussions, conferences, core groups, CIN mtgs, Health assessments and resulting interventions for children on a plan;
- A&E follow-ups where possible risk;
- thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH) screening for children with Downs;
- follow-ups for children currently taking desmopressin for continence.

We have also increased the capacity of the Chat Health service – where young people can text a question relating to a wide range of health and wellbeing issues including: relationships, bullying, including cyber-bullying, healthy lifestyle, anxiety, drugs, smoking, stress, body worries, alcohol, self-harm and sexual health, to a phone number and a school nurse will reply.

[More information on support available for children and families is available online.](#)

When will you start reporting the community numbers in the daily bulletins?

Unlike cases in hospitals, details around cases in care homes have not yet been published but the Office of National Statistics (ONS) is expect to start reporting community deaths in the very near future, which will include those in care homes, by local authority area.

To respect residents and their families it is not appropriate to provide specific details relating to individuals and whether or not they have suspected or confirmed Covid-19 symptoms.

The county council will soon be able to report the position in relation to cases of Covid-19 that the council has been notified of in settings in which they have customers. These figures will form part of future data that will be published by the ONS, they are not additional. More detailed in relations to cases or locations will not be provided.