

# #Northants Together

## Keeping you updated

27<sup>th</sup> July 2020

**Welcome to the Northants Together Partnership Update for colleagues working across the LRF and the wider community. This newsletter aims to keep you informed about how we are working together to support local people across Northamptonshire.**

Inside you will find lots of updates on things we have been working on together to support our Northamptonshire communities. There are great examples of how colleagues across our council services have been working together, both out and about in our communities and on coordinated projects to deliver the things our community needs.

In response to a rise in the number of COVID-19 cases in Northampton, additional mobile testing has been offered in the town and an action plan is being implemented to raise

local awareness, share important guidance with the public and encourage positive action throughout the community to control the spread of the virus. Read on to find out more about the action that's being taken.

**COVID-19 cases  
are rising in  
Northampton.**

**Avoid a local  
lockdown.**

**ACT NOW.**

**#NorthantsTogether**



Updates from colleagues including:



**Kettering**  
Borough Council





# **IN ACTION: OUR LATEST ACTIVITY**

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# Residents of Northampton urged to taken action as cases rise

**Latest figures show that the coronavirus infection rate in the borough of Northampton remains above the national and regional average.**

The rate of infection is increasing and the amount of positive tests are also increasing within the borough. This increase in the infection rate means that we need to take action now to prevent further spread of the virus and potential local lockdown measures. The increase does not appear to be related to one specific incident or a single method of transmission, therefore residents of Northampton are being asked to follow additional guidance to that being shared nationally, to protect the local community and reduce transmission rates.

Cllr Jonathan Nunn, Leader of Northampton Borough Council said: "We have been urging caution for a

number of weeks, but now we are asking for action from our local residents. If we follow the additional advice provided now, and if we are successful in reducing our rate of transmission, we can avoid having to introduce further restrictions."

## **Guidance for Northampton residents:**

- Limit contact with others outside of your household or bubble
- Work from home if you can
- Keep 2m from others at all times, use a face covering where you are less than 2m apart
- Avoid using public transport or car sharing, wear face coverings if you cannot avoid these
- If you have COVID-19 symptoms, stay at home, self-isolate and get a test
- Avoid meeting those outside of your household or bubble indoors
- Wash your hands regularly and thoroughly for 20 seconds
- Do not share items with others outside your household or bubble
- If you have COVID-19 symptoms, do not go to work, either work from home or report sick, self-isolate and get a test
- Even if you only have mild COVID-19 symptoms, get a test
- If you are contacted by test and trace and asked to self-isolate, stay at home for 14 days

**COVID-19 cases are rising in Northampton.**

**If you have COVID-19 Symptoms:**

**GET TESTED. STAY AT HOME.**

**#NorthantsTogether**

# Latest public health data report shows local infection increases

**A new report published by Public Health Northamptonshire on Friday 24 July confirms Northampton as a coronavirus hotspot – but also highlights Kettering and Corby as areas of concern.**

The local rates of infection per 100,000 people in Kettering and Corby have increased for the third week running.

Whilst the data shows that cases are also increasing in Daventry, the rate of infection per 100,000 is below the Northamptonshire average.

Kettering on the other hand is showing a decreased number of cases, but the rate of infection per 100,000 is a worrying sign.

Public health officials have explained that sometimes spikes in the data may be due to an outbreak in a specific establishment, but the current concerns in the borough of Northampton, show that the virus is spread out across the entire borough, with a higher incidence in the wards of Castle and Abington.

Identifying an exact cause of this rise in rates is difficult. Transmission can occur easily in indoor spaces such as workplaces, care homes and factories, but transmission in the community is likely to be playing a role in the increase as national restrictions have eased.

Lucy Wightman, Director of Public Health at Northamptonshire County Council, says: "We must now follow additional measures in Northampton borough to avoid facing a local lockdown. A lockdown could mean that non-essential shops and businesses are closed and there would be tight restrictions on travel and who people are able to meet with.



"We have also seen a change in the age range of those testing positive for COVID-19 with a larger proportion of positive cases aged in their 20s and 30s. As people in this age group tend to be more socially active, I am appealing to this section of our communities in particular to follow the additional guidance and help to protect those who are most vulnerable.

"No one wants to see those measures re introduced and therefore I urge the public to support us in following the additional measures, and avoiding a local lockdown situation. These additional measures are general good practice and I would urge residents in Corby and Kettering to also act with caution. The virus is not going away any time soon and we have to take these measures seriously."

"It is also essential that if you experience symptoms of Coronavirus (high temperature, continuous cough or loss of / change in sense of smell or taste), you book a test."

To view the latest data publication (week to 19 July) click [here](#).

# People urged to get tested for COVID-19 to protect others

**Further mobile testing has been drafted into Northampton in response to concerns over continuing high infection rates – and anyone experiencing even mild symptoms is being urged to book a test to curb the spread of the virus.**

Two testing centres have been in operation in the town centre in recent days – including a drive-through facility as well as walk-in only testing.

Mobile testing units were also deployed in Corby and Thrapston last week and in Wellingborough over the weekend, with further deployments set to be announced in the coming days as part of the county's coordinated coronavirus response.

People testing positive for COVID-19 must stay at home for at least seven days, and any other members of the same household who remain well must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the household became ill.

Those who test positive for COVID-19 will also be helped by the NHS test and trace service to identify the people they've recently been in contact with so they can be alerted. It's important to support the test and trace service by providing as much information as possible about recent contacts to help contain any further spread of the virus.

People who have had close recent contact with someone with coronavirus must then self-isolate for 14 days, if they are advised to do so by the NHS test and trace service, to help contain the spread of infection.

## CORONAVIRUS STAY ALERT TO THE SYMPTOMS

**HIGH TEMPERATURE  
OR NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH  
OR LOSS OF TASTE OR SMELL?**

No one in your household should leave home if any one person has symptoms.

Find out how to get a test, and how long to isolate, at [nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://nhs.uk/coronavirus)

### Booking a coronavirus test

Testing at mobile testing units is by appointment only. Tests can be booked online at [nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://nhs.uk/coronavirus) or by calling 119.

Local availability of testing is provided during the booking process and address details for the relevant testing centre are provided to individuals once booking has been completed.

Home testing kits can also be ordered, subject to availability.



# Police urge shoppers to wear face coverings

**Police are urging people to comply with the new rules making the use of face coverings mandatory in shops from Friday 24 July.**

Health Secretary Matt Hancock has announced that people visiting shops and supermarkets are now required to wear a face covering, or risk being issued with a £100 fine.

Assistant Chief Constable Simon Blatchly urged people to be sensible and follow the Government's advice.

He said: "The Government has made it clear that people visiting shops and supermarkets from this Friday must wear a face covering, as part of the drive to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

"The Government has suggested that police forces will be able to issue Fixed Penalty Notices of £100 to anyone who fails to wear a face covering in shops and supermarkets from Friday. We will not be patrolling every outlet in Northamptonshire and so are relying on people following the rules. If people have concerns about shoppers not wearing face

coverings, we ask they report the incident online, rather than contact our control room, to allow our call handlers to answer emergency calls."

The government has confirmed that some people are exempt from wearing face coverings in shops and supermarkets. [Click here for further information.](#)



## Silverstone preparations

As Silverstone prepares to host two rounds of a unique F1 the police have a robust and detailed plan in place to ensure the safety of event personnel, staff and the local community.

The circuit is due to host the Formula 1 Pirelli British Grand Prix from July 31 to August 2 and the Emirates Formula 1 70th anniversary Grand Prix on August 7 – 9. Both of these events will take place behind closed doors in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19. More [here](#).



# SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

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## Changes to parking arrangements in residential areas

**Relaxed parking enforcement introduced during the COVID-19 lockdown is set to revert to normal from Monday 3 August 2020.**

Parking enforcement in both resident permit zones and high density residential areas across Northamptonshire was relaxed during the lockdown due to the government's advice to work from home where possible resulting in more residents needing to park.

As more people return to work and even more businesses re-open, parking in these areas on single yellow lines or without a time limit in time-limited bays will no longer be permitted from 3<sup>rd</sup> August and normal enforcement will resume. Permit holders and residents will therefore need to park in accordance with the restrictions in place, as indicated on the signs and lines.

Northamptonshire County Council cabinet member for environment and place Councillor Jason Smithers said: "During the COVID-19 lockdown, parking enforcement was focused on supporting keyworkers to carry out their essential duties, as well as helping people to follow the government guidance to stay at home.

"As more people have returned to their place of work residential areas have returned to normal capacity and so it's no longer necessary to relax these restrictions. Therefore we will be reverting to the normal enforcement from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August, to keep the county moving, maintain traffic flow and ensure safe routes for all road users."





# Libraries set for second phase of reopening

**Northamptonshire Libraries has announced its second phase of re-openings across the county, following official guidance from central government.**



From 3 August, more of the county’s libraries will reopen to ensure accessibility for the maximum number of customers. The libraries to reopen are Brixworth, Corby, Duston, Hunsbury, Rushden, Towcester, and Central library.

This second phase follows an earlier series of re-openings that took place in July, where Wellingborough, Irthlingborough, Brackley, Kettering, Weston Favell, Daventry and Oundle became accessible to the public again.

Opening Time	Libraries open
<b>Monday</b> 10am – 4pm	Wellingborough. Corby, Daventry, Oundle, Kettering, Rusden, Weston Favell, Central & Brackley
<b>Tuesday</b> 10am – 4pm	Towcester
<b>Wednesday</b> 10am – 4pm	Wellingborough. Corby, Daventry, Oundle, Kettering, Rusden, Weston Favell, Central & Brackley
<b>Thursday</b> 10am – 4pm	Brixworth, Irthlingborough, Hunsbury, Duston & Towcester
<b>Friday</b> 10am – 4pm	Wellingborough. Corby, Daventry, Oundle, Kettering, Rusden, Weston Favell, Central & Brackley
<b>Saturday</b> 10am – 2pm	Wellingborough. Corby, Oundle, Kettering, Rusden, Weston Favell, Central & Brackley, Brixworth, Irthlingborough, Hunsbury & Duston

# A SPOTLIGHT ON...

## Lecturer's return to the nursing family after 25 years to support the NHS

Having to work 12 hour shifts after a professional gap of a quarter of a century didn't stop one University of Northampton lecturer from returning to her former profession as she stepped up to support the NHS in a time of crisis.



Sharon Smith is a Senior Lecturer in Early Years at UoN, a position she has held for 15 years. But in a former life Sharon 'walked the wards' as a staff nurse at St. Thomas' Hospital, London before working as a Health Visitor.

In March this year, the government called for retired or out of practice nurses to return to professional practice as part of the Emergency Volunteering Leave scheme, allowing them to volunteer for a specified time while keeping their day job secure to return to.

She explains: "I returned to the nursing family after 25 years, which was terrifying but hugely rewarding. The 12 hour shifts and wearing PPE have been exhausting, but worth it to be able to make a positive difference in a time of crisis.

"The energy and teamwork on the wards has been incredible to witness, and the opportunity to work alongside our fantastic nursing students has been amazing – I feel so proud of them!"

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# IN THE NEWS...

There has been considerable media interest over the last week on local infection rates and the action being taken to control the spread of the virus in Northampton. As part of the outbreak prevention and control communications plan, significant proactive media activity has taken place to raise public awareness of this issue, increase access to COVID-19 testing and encourage local action to reduce infection rates.

## MEDIA THIS WEEK

- [Northampton could be in different position to rest of England by next week, warns council leader](#)
- [Health chiefs draft in second mobile testing unit into town centre in response to Northampton's COVID-19 spike](#)
- [Follow today's COVID-19 press conference in Northampton here](#)
- [The exact places in Northampton and the county where coronavirus cases are highest](#)
- [From 'no cause for alarm' to local lockdown warning: How Northampton's COVID-19 problem worsened](#)
- [Northampton could be in different position to rest of England by next week, warns council leader](#)
- [COVID-19 test unit is coming to Thrapston](#)
- [Pre-booking to become the norm as Daventry Leisure Centre looks forward to reopening](#)
- [Customers threatened to cough on supermarket staff to 'give them coronavirus'](#)
- [Northamptonshire stocked up with PPE during pandemic](#)
- [Health officials keeping a close eye on Northampton's COVID-19 cases after 35% rise in the last week](#)
- [Public health officials release latest Northamptonshire data and Local Learning to date](#)
- [Official figures reveal biggest increase in two weeks in COVID-19 cases in Northampton and Kettering](#)
- [Race fans warned to stay well clear of Silverstone during GP weekends or risk wrecking the F1 season](#)
- [Car sharing identified as contributing factor to spread of coronavirus](#)
- [Coronavirus: Thirty-six at Desborough home with COVID 'recovering'](#)

# ON TWITTER

15 JULY TO 22 JULY

# #Northants Together

Please note these statistics refer to Twitter only. This campaign has also been shared across Facebook / Instagram and YouTube too.

## Total Mentions

(of the hashtag across Twitter including retweets and replies)

**634**

## Total Reach

(Total number of people who have seen the hashtag)

**224,016**

## Total Impressions

(Total number of times the hashtag appeared on a user's screen)

**3.73m**

## Engagement Rate

(Percentage of people who interacted with posts)

**77.68%**

 **Age UK Northants** @AgeUKNorthants · Jul 20  
Your donation are important to us, please see how you can donate at our Kingsthorpe #charity shop.  
👉👉👉👉  
[bit.ly/3fpPLk7](https://bit.ly/3fpPLk7)  
#Northamptonshire #NorthantsTogether



**Northamptonshire ageUK**

**Your donations are important to us**

Our Kingsthorpe shop is still in need of your donations!

Please note that we can only accept your donations between 10am and 3pm

Please call our store on 01604 714568 to check they can accept donations on the day you wish to visit.

4 retweets, 3 likes

 **HealthwatchNorthants** @HWatchNorthants · Jul 21  
Take care if you car share and share the transport with the same people each time #NorthantsTogether



**Take care if you car share**

Share the transport with the same people each time

3 retweets, 2 likes

 **Safer Corby Team** @CorbyCsp · Jul 20  
Some more stenciling completed, I have certainly kept the wardens busy today. #NorthantsTogether #keepyourdistance



**KEEP YOUR DISTANCE**

#NorthantsTogether

2 retweets, 1 like



# PHONE NUMBERS AND WHERE TO GET INFORMATION

## **Northamptonshire volunteer support line**

Tel: **0300 126 1000** and select Option 5 (8am to 6pm)

Email: [customerservices@northamptonshire.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@northamptonshire.gov.uk)

## **Corby Voluntary Community Service (CVCS)**

Email: [accesscorby@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:accesscorby@yahoo.co.uk)

Mobile - **07758 383186**

## **Daventry Volunteer Centre (DVC) -**

[www.daventryvolunteers.org.uk](http://www.daventryvolunteers.org.uk)

Tel: **01327 300614** or Mob: **07793 011491**

## **Kettering Voluntary Network (KVN)**

Mobile: **07912480537**

[sean.silver@groundwork.org.uk](mailto:sean.silver@groundwork.org.uk)

## **Nene Valley Community Action (NVCA)** (covering Wellingborough) - [www.nvca.org.uk](http://www.nvca.org.uk)

Telephone: **01933 313526** or email: [info@nvca.org.uk](mailto:info@nvca.org.uk)

## **South Northants Volunteer Bureau (snvb) -**

[www.snvb.org.uk](http://www.snvb.org.uk)

Telephone: **01327 358264** or email [info@snvb.org.uk](mailto:info@snvb.org.uk)

## **Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire (VIN)**

Telephone: **01604 637522** or email:

[Info@voluntaryimpact.org.uk](mailto:Info@voluntaryimpact.org.uk)

## **Useful links**

### **UK government**

[www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

### **NHS**

[www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)

**Questions about this newsletter?**

Contact us at  
[nccg.urgentresponsecomms@nhs.net](mailto:nccg.urgentresponsecomms@nhs.net)

# **#Northants Together**



**...AND  
FINALLY**

**#Northants  
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# KGH says thank you for more than a quarter of a million donations

**Kettering General Hospital is saying a sincere and heart-felt thank you to members of the public, companies and charitable organisations that have supported us during the coronavirus pandemic.**



Since March the hospital has received a staggering 292,196 gifts from more than 100 individual sources – many giving multiple gifts and regular donations.

This month (July) the Trust received its final donation of meals from the Salute the NHS food-pack charity and has wound-down its internal storage facilities for gifts in its recreation hall.

As lockdown has eased - and people have returned to work - we have understandably seen the numbers of donations to KGH reducing. Hence our internal We Care team staff and volunteers – who distributed the donations - have, in most cases, returned to their normal jobs.

Kettering General Hospital's Chief Executive, Simon Weldon, said: "The outpouring of public support for the NHS during the coronavirus pandemic has touched all of us who work within it. Donations have ranged from the small – food and drink, knitted hearts, home-made personal protective equipment - right up to very large donations of thousands of items from big businesses.

"The ages of those involved has included very young children right up to pensioners in their 90s. We want to say a heart-felt thank you to each and every person who has supported us through gifts, by sending us messages, or by taking the time each week to clap for us."

**Share your stories  
using**

**#Northants  
Together**

