

# Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19): Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland stakeholder bulletin #12

Issued on behalf of the NHS in LLR

Date of issue: 13th May 2020



Through these bulletins we will keep you updated on the NHS response to Coronavirus in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

We will try to ensure you have the latest information, but as you are aware the situation is rapidly changing. If you have any questions or would like to ask about a topic please email us at: [PressOfficeLLRCCGs@leicestershire.nhs.uk](mailto:PressOfficeLLRCCGs@leicestershire.nhs.uk)

Please continue to support the message on staying at home and in particular help us to tackle misinformation by promoting the official sources of information: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>.

## Coronavirus cases in LLR

As at 13 May there were 1888 (at 4.00pm) lab confirmed cases in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) 295 people who tested positive with coronavirus have sadly died in Leicestershire's hospitals (University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust and Leicestershire Partnerships NHS Trust).

## Celebrating local nurses

Yesterday was International Nurses Day and an opportunity to thank local nurses for their hard work and commitment.

The three Chief nurses in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) - Caroline Trevithick (Executive Director of Nursing, Quality and Performance for the local clinical commissioning groups), Carolyn Fox OBE (Chief Nurse at Leicester's Hospitals) and Dr Anne Scott (Interim Director of Nursing, Allied Health Professionals and Quality at Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust) - led the praise for their professional colleagues.

In a joint statement they said: "There are over 9700 highly skilled nurses in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. You all thoroughly deserve to be congratulated for the contribution you make to our local health service."

People can share their thanks on social media using #InternationalNursesDay.



## Cancer Research UK resources and support

Previous bulletins have highlighted the need for people to continue to seek treatment for non-COVID -19 health concerns.

Those living with cancer and their families might feel especially worried about the coronavirus virus outbreak. Cancer and its treatment can lower the body's ability to fight infection – meaning they are among those at higher risk of complications.

If you are in this group you might be worried about how the coronavirus outbreak will affect your cancer treatment, care, and support. Similarly, if you are worried you have cancer, you should still contact your GP and go for any tests you need.

Cancer Research UK has also developed a short film reminding patients to see a GP should they show symptoms.

For more information, please visit <https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/about-cancer/cancer-in-general/coronavirus>

## Coronavirus: your experiences of NHS services

In bulletin 11 we told you about an online survey we are carrying out to find out about people's experiences of NHS services during the coronavirus outbreak. We have had a fantastic response – 331 at last count – and some very helpful feedback.

People have told us about their experience of using GP and pharmacy services, the impact on their mental health and wellbeing and the availability of information and advice. We are picking-up what has gone well and, of course, where more help and support is needed.

It has been interesting to see that many patients are positive about the new arrangements put in place to ensure GP services can be provided safely to them, including online and telephone-based consultations. It has also been important to hear from people about why they feel they have not been able to use health services they've needed over the last few weeks.

Some patients have, for example, said that they are concerned about how safe it is and that they do not want to overburden busy health services. This is very important feedback and will help us to focus our communications going forward to reassure and encourage people to access health services when they need them.

Thank you to everyone who has taken part so far. **It's not too late provide feedback, so please do take part in the survey by visiting [bit.ly/LLRCovid19](https://bit.ly/LLRCovid19) or calling 07917 722 708**

## Mobile testing units

In response to the Government's expanded testing programme, a mobile testing unit will open in Hinckley from 13th May to provide coronavirus tests to people in the local area.

The unit will be deployed for three days and will **operate on an appointment only basis**. Those eligible for tests including symptomatic over 65s and their families, staff having to leave home for work, and social care and NHS staff are encouraged to book an appointment online. <https://www.gov.uk/apply-coronavirus-test>

Mobile Testing Units are increasing access to coronavirus testing in local communities, including for care homes, police stations and prisons particularly in areas of high demand or where there is difficulty in accessing regional drive-through sites.

- Guidance on coronavirus testing for frontline workers who are self-isolating: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested#arrange-a-test>
- On 28 April the government announced further expansion of access to coronavirus testing helps protect the most vulnerable: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/further-expansion-of-access-to-coronavirus-testing-helps-protect-the-most-vulnerable>
- Link to 'Coronavirus (COVID-19): scaling up testing programmes' strategy: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-scaling-up-testing-programmes>

## Translated information for testing and treatment for overseas visitors

Information about NHS entitlements in relation to COVID-19 for overseas visitors, including anyone living in the UK without permission, has been translated into 40 languages. There is also translated advice and guidance on social distancing and shielding. You can find them online: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-entitlements-migrant-health-guide#main-messages>

## Government Recovery strategy

Further details of the recovery strategy have been published. You can find these here: <https://bit.ly/CV19RecoveryStrategy>. New guidance has also been published on social distancing <https://bit.ly/CV19StayAlert>

The Government strategy describes how the UK will need to adapt to living in a world with coronavirus until a vaccine or drug treatment is developed. Ensuring the NHS has the capacity to respond to rises in coronavirus cases if and when they arise is essential alongside the need to provide care in safe environment that protects patients and staff.

The NHS will need to retain some of the changes made to provide care, for example, this may mean more use of technology to support patients through tele-medicine and remote monitoring.

The Government will also look at investment in preventative health in response to the risk factors for coronavirus.

## Useful information

One Prepared is a local source of information for help and services in LLR <https://www.llrprepared.org.uk/one-prepared/>.

National information is available at <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

For health advice on coronavirus please visit: <https://www.nhs.uk/>

For local NHS information see <https://www.leicestercityccg.nhs.uk/my-health/coronavirus-advice/>