

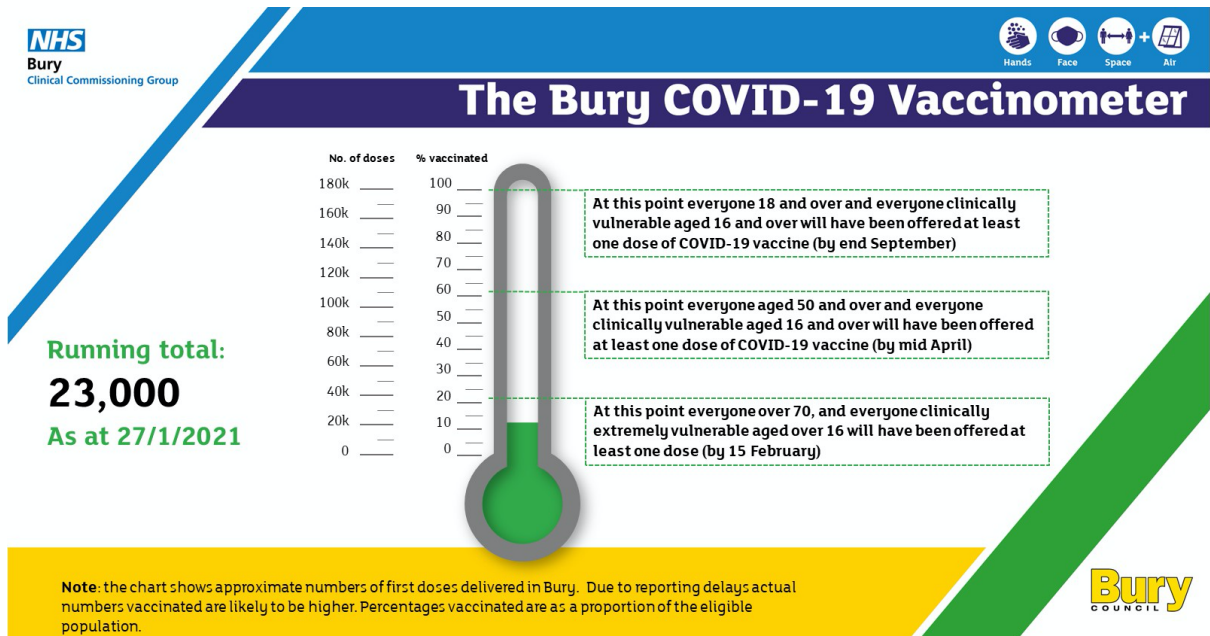
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Update

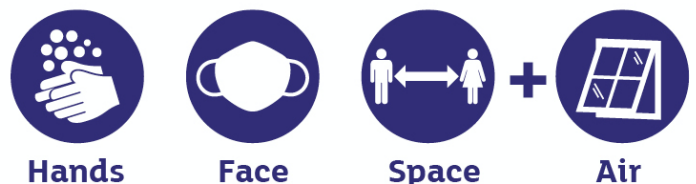
Latest Covid-19 advice for the borough of Bury – 28 January, 2021

GPs supported by Community Pharmacy teams deliver 23k vaccine doses – and counting!

As of yesterday 23,000 doses of the Covid-19 vaccine will have been given across Bury’s four community vaccination centres.



Run by General Practice and Community Pharmacy teams and supported by many, many volunteers, the centres are in Prestwich, Radcliffe, Bury Town Hall’s Elizabethan Suite and Ramsbottom. They continue to offer vaccinations to those people who have been prioritised by scientists and the Government.



The centres are focussing on offering the first dose of the vaccination to people in the top four priority groups, that have been decided nationally, by mid-February. These include people living and working in older people's care homes; everyone aged over 70 and clinically extremely vulnerable individuals. General Practice teams are also in the process of contacting housebound patients who are in one of the first four priority groups to arrange their vaccination at home, again by mid-February.

Residents who are eligible for a vaccination will be contacted by their GP when it is their turn, and people are asked not to access the online booking system or contact their GP practice about the vaccine before then.

Keep up to speed on the vaccination rollout in Bury, including information about how many people in Bury have been vaccinated, at: <https://www.bury.gov.uk/coronavirus-vaccine>

Case rates continue to fall – thank you for doing your bit

Numbers of new cases of Covid-19 have continued to fall in the week to 23 January, although the overall rate remains high at 285.9 per 100,000 people.

New cases are now falling across all age groups. Bury's rate was the 9th highest in Greater Manchester, and 21st out of 23 areas in the North West. The number of people with Covid-19 in local hospitals is starting to fall, although the number on oxygen or in intensive care is not, and the number of deaths registered in Bury has increased. This picture is consistent with the known lags between infections, hospital admissions and deaths.

Week ending 23 January: infection rate 285.9 (546 new cases)

Week ending 16 January: infection rate 392.7 (750 new cases)

Week ending 9 January: infection rate 463.4 (885 new cases)

Week ending 2 January: infection rate 388.5 (742 new cases)

The fall in cases can be attributed to ongoing lockdown measures. Thank you for continuing to 'stay home, save lives and protect the NHS'.

Getting tested in Bury

If you have any of the three most common symptoms of coronavirus - a high temperature, a new continuous cough, or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste - we urge you to get tested to protect yourself and the people around you. Please get tested within the first 3-5 days of symptoms.

A range of testing options is available right across the borough:

No appointment needed at Bury's walk-through testing centre, open 10am-3pm, Monday - Friday: Chesham Fold, 95 Chesham Fold Road, Bury BL9 6JZ.



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By appointment 8am-8pm, with some locations open seven days a week, at Department for Health & Social Care testing centres:

- The former Radcliffe Pool car park, Blackburn Street, Radcliffe
- Whitefield Library, Pinfold Lane, Whitefield
- The Metro Christian Centre, 13 Parkhills Road, Bury
- Longfield Centre car park (via Rectory Lane), Prestwich
- Great Eaves Road test site, Great Eaves Road, Ramsbottom

Bury's drive-through testing site at Waterfold Business Park will re-open today and is by appointment only.

For the latest information about testing and availability visit www.bury.gov.uk/coronavirus-testing or call 0161 253 5515.

Helping people through the toughest time

Support in the community

Support for clinically extremely vulnerable residents who have been asked to shield, other vulnerable residents and residents who need to self-isolate continues through the Bury Community Hubs.

The hubs can help with food shopping and collecting prescriptions as well as telephone befriending and support to get online for things like priority supermarket delivery slots.

The Community Hubs are working with partners in mental health, Bury VCFA, Citizen's Advice Bureau, Age UK and Bury Community Support Network which includes access to foodbanks in Bury. We have a network of individual volunteers in every part of Bury who we can 'buddy' you up with for regular chats, support to get online, help to collect your prescriptions and medication, and they can help with your shopping too.

Call 0161 253 5353 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm) for information or to talk to us about what support you might need.

Mental health support

As the coronavirus pandemic continues, life has changed for all of us and it's natural that this may cause you to feel worried or anxious, lonely or frustrated. If you feel you need some extra support, Bury's Getting Help Line is a confidential telephone service run by the voluntary sector for people of all ages who are experiencing difficulties with their mental wellbeing.

You can access advice, guidance and signposting to local services by calling the Getting Help Line on 0161 464 3679. Find out about other mental wellbeing support at www.bury.gov.uk/mentalwellbeing



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Market traders, taxi drivers and hairdressers among targets of new business scheme

Three new grant schemes have been approved to help Bury businesses cope with the financial effects of the coronavirus lockdown.

Developed with local businesses, these funding streams are aimed at supporting companies whose survival is crucial to Bury's economy and local jobs, and at those who have not received help so far. Several million pounds is being distributed through the latest tranche of Additional Grant money, at the following three areas:

1. Key strategic businesses which if they were to close would harm the borough's economic capacity, such as manufacturers and producers affected by restrictions affecting national and international markets.

Payouts of between £10,000 and £25,000 can be made, depending on the company's rateable value.

2. Key employment generators, particularly in manufacturing, logistics, creative and digital industries, and business, professional and financial services, employing 10 or more people.

Multi-national outfits would not qualify and companies must be based in Bury. The cap for this fund is £1m and applicants would need to demonstrate what effect lockdown has had on their prospects.

3. Small and micro businesses who have not previously benefitted from support programmes. This will extend support to many self-employed people who can demonstrate they have a trading business.

This fund is to support businesses that do not have monthly commercial property costs but can provide evidence of monthly fixed asset costs that is fundamental to the operating of the business. These could be: company vehicles, storage space, specialist equipment or the rent of a chair or table in a health or beauty business.

The fund will be open to licensed taxi drivers who can demonstrate they own or lease a vehicle. Support will also be extended to daily licence traders on Bury Market, following previous grants to traders with permanent leases.

And a 'special cases' panel has been set up to distribute grants to applicants who have a worthy claim but are not eligible under government criteria for help.

There are estimated 7,755 enterprises in Bury, employing from zero to nine people, who could benefit on application. Payments could be either £677 or £1,334 depending on the rateable status of the company, paid every 28 days until restrictions are lifted.

Information on the various grants and other support available is on the Bury Means Business website: <https://burymeansbusiness.bury.gov.uk/> and help and advice is available by e-mailing Investin@bury.gov.uk



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Next update due Thursday 4 February, 2021.

Find up-to-date information at bury.gov.uk/coronavirus



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