

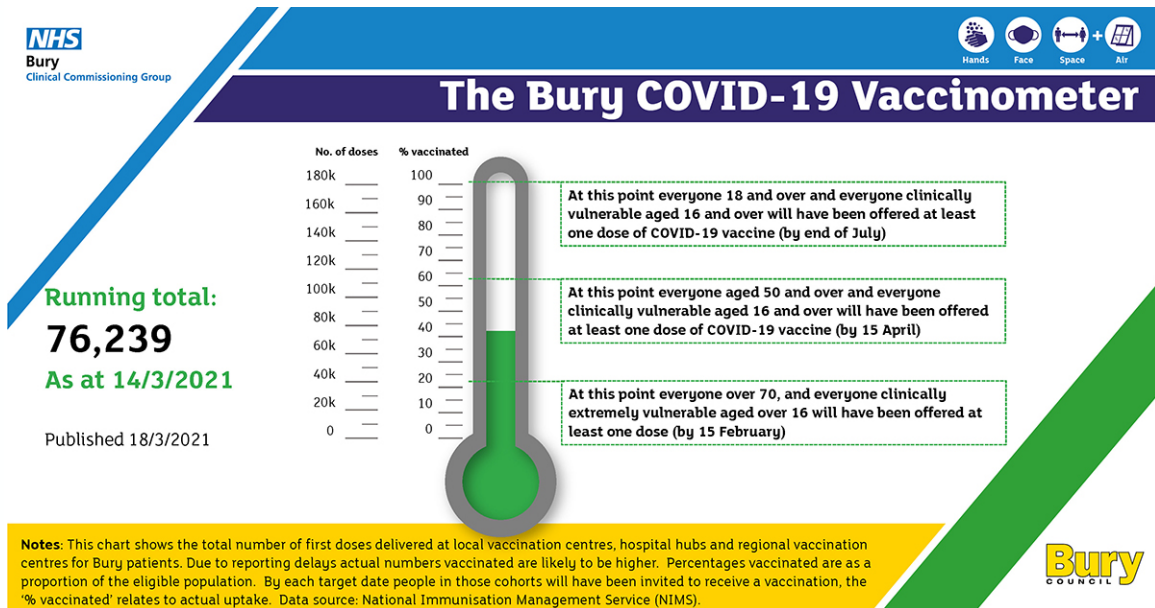
BURY

Update

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

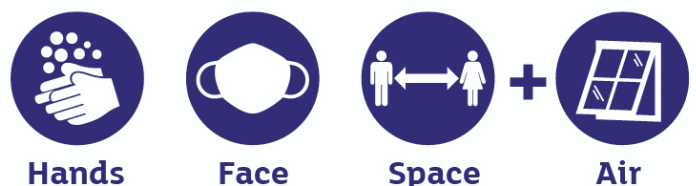
Bury vaccinations now top 76k

A total of 76,239 people registered with a Bury GP have now been vaccinated against coronavirus.



This means that 42% of the eligible population (182,100) have been given at least one of the two jabs necessary to protect against the potentially fatal illness.

Everyone aged 50+ or who is in a vulnerable/priority group is being urged to book their vaccination as soon as they receive their invitation.



Bury's jabs are being carried out by medical staff at four vaccination centres run by the Primary Care Networks: the Elizabethan Suite in Bury, Bealey's in Radcliffe, Ramsbottom Civic Hall, and Prestwich Walk-in Centre.

The figures also include Bury residents who are vaccinated at hospital and mass vaccination centres outside Bury such as the Etihad.

Vaccination targets:

- By 15 Feb: everyone aged 70+ and clinically extremely vulnerable people over 16 = 39,400 people. *Completed.*
- By 15 April: everyone aged 50+ and clinically vulnerable people over 16 = a further 72,700 people.
- By end July: everyone 18+ and clinically vulnerable people aged 16 and 17 = the remaining 70,000 people.
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Frontline health and social care staff are also being vaccinated as priority groups.

Remember:

- Vaccinations are given to people in the priority order set by the Government
- Vaccination is by invitation only and you will be contacted when it is your turn. Depending on the priority group you are in, you may be contacted by your GP practice (by letter, phone or text message which will include a link to book an appointment) or you may receive a letter from the NHS.
- If you receive a letter from the NHS inviting you to one of the national vaccination centres, but would prefer to receive your vaccination locally, you can choose to wait and your GP practice will be in touch.
- The second dose of the vaccine is given around 11 weeks after the first dose, and you will be contacted by letter, phone or text message to book an appointment when the time is right. If you haven't been contacted by week 10 after your first dose, please contact your GP practice.
- You must still follow the Covid-safe rules even if you have been vaccinated – it takes several weeks for the vaccine to work, and you may still be able to catch the virus and pass it on.

Find out more about getting the vaccine in Bury at www.bury.gov.uk/coronavirus-vaccine

Case rates in Bury keep falling

The number of new cases of Covid-19 continued to fall in the week up to 13 March 2021, when the weekly rate of new cases was 70.7 per 100,000. Bury had the second lowest rate of new cases in Greater Manchester and was 12th out of 23 areas in the North West.

Case numbers fell across most age groups, although numbers increased slightly in people aged under 20. The number of people in local hospitals with Covid-19 is falling, but slowly. The weekly number of deaths registered in Bury with Covid-19 on the death certificate fell slightly.

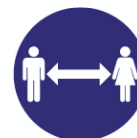
LFT (Lateral Flow Antigen Testing) rapid tests for asymptomatic people are now being added to the weekly case total.



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Week ending 13 March: infection rate (including LFT) 70.7 (135 new cases)
Week ending 6 March: infection rate (including LFT) 84.3 (161 new cases)
Week ending 27 February: infection rate (including LFT) 155 (296 new cases)
Week ending 20 February: infection rate (including LFT) 234.6 (448 new cases)

Got Covid-19 symptoms? Here's how to get 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.

By appointment 8am-12noon 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 is open by appointment only.

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

Rapid community coronavirus testing for people who can't work at home

In Bury we are operating a targeted community testing programme which offers rapid testing to people who can't work from home, and who do not have coronavirus symptoms but may have the infection and therefore could pass the virus on to others without knowing it.

The lateral flow test takes approximately five minutes at one of our testing facilities. The results are available in around 30 minutes and are sent directly by email or SMS to the person's mobile device. There is no need to wait at the testing site for the result.

At the borough's two targeted testing sites (Waterfold Business Park and Mosses Community Centre) there is capacity to carry out around 200 tests per day. Access to targeted community testing is by



appointment only for anyone who can't work from home, and you can book via this link: <https://nhsburyccg.simplybook.cc/v2/>

Covid-19 testing support for business

The Government is offering businesses a supply of lateral flow test devices to do rapid Covid-19 tests at their premises. As described above, the results of these tests are known within 30 minutes.

This programme is open to businesses where some or all of their workers can't work from home. It's critical that businesses take part in this programme as it will help to identify outbreaks earlier, reducing the number of people who could come into contact with the virus and limit the impact on the wider economy.

If your business is interested in taking part in testing you must sign up by the end of March 2021; you can get further information at <https://www.gov.uk/get-workplace-coronavirus-tests> or by contacting buccg.covid19testing@nhs.net.

For those businesses where it is not practical to set up a Covid-19 testing service, their workforce can use the test centres at Waterfold and Mosses as described above, using the following link <https://nhsburyccg.simplybook.cc/v2/>

Rapid testing in schools and early years going well

Teachers and support staff at Bury's schools have been continuing their return to lessons this week with extensive use of rapid testing.

Schools last week conducted 17,000 lateral flow tests, which give results in around 30 minutes. Of these, only 22 were confirmed as positive.

Secondary school and further education students are being offered three lateral flow tests in their first two weeks back, supported by their teachers and other volunteers.

Schools in Bury have been staggering the return to school over the last couple of weeks in order to manage the testing arrangements.

From next week students and those who live in their households will be able to continue the rapid tests at home.

Students will be provided with testing kits at schools, while their families, carers and support bubbles are able to collect kits from the five Department of Health and Social Care testing sites in Bury [see <https://www.bury.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=15451>) between 1.30pm and 7pm.

They will be provided as two packs of seven and are free of charge.



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Free rapid tests are also now available to adults who work in early years settings such as nursery schools.

About a third of individuals with coronavirus show no symptoms and can potentially spread it without knowing. This targeted, regular testing will mean more positive cases within households are found – meaning positive cases can self-isolate immediately.

This can make the difference between children being able to stay in school, or a class being sent home due to an outbreak.

Helping people through the toughest time

Support in the community

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

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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Community Champions are here!

Want to stay up to date with the latest on coronavirus, and willing to pass on that information to your community? Then find out more about becoming a Bury Community Champion.

Bury Council has launched its Covid-19 Community Champions network, and we're aiming to sign up hundreds of residents across the borough.

Those who get involved will receive regular updates on the latest advice and guidance as well as live fortnightly webinars where they can put questions to the council's Director of Public Health.

The Champions will also be able to raise issues and concerns from their local communities and identify barriers to accessing accurate information. They will be invited to Teams meetings with the public health team to discuss issues and ideas.

Want to know more? Please visit: www.bury.gov.uk/communitychampions

Tackling false information online

When false information is shared, it can take on a life of its own and have serious consequences, and recently there has been a lot of false information about the Covid-19 vaccine.

Check out the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport's community-led social media toolkit for short and shareable posts, with simple tips that will empower communities with the resources they need to help stop the spread of misinformation.

The [toolkit](#) includes videos, animations and quotes encouraging people to fact-check information before sharing online. The NHS is the best source of info about the Covid vaccine - find more information [here](#)

Grant payments reaching businesses in need

Grant payments from multiple funding pots continue to be made to Bury businesses coping with the financial effects of the coronavirus lockdown.



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The council's economic development team has worked with local businesses to develop grant support packages aimed at helping companies of different sizes and types whose survival is crucial to Bury's economy and local jobs, and at those who have not received help so far.

Information on the various grants and other support available is on the Bury Means Business website [here](#) and help and advice is available by emailing Investin@bury.gov.uk

Don't forget - Census 2021

The national census, which takes place on 21 March 2021, will help the country ensure that the big decisions following the coronavirus pandemic and EU exit are based on the best information possible.

And, for those who cannot get online easily to answer the questions, help is at hand.

A local support centre has been set up in East Bury to assist those having difficulties, whether that's because they don't have access to computers or the internet or have any other problems.

The centre is at The Attic Project at 3 Russell Street, Bury and is open every day (except Sundays and Bank Holidays) for appointments.

The Census, carried out every ten years by the Office for National Statistics, is being conducted online this time due to the coronavirus restrictions. Residents across the country are receiving letters asking them to log in using a special code and fill out the forms.

Michelle Delaney-Fargher said: "There are still a considerable number of people who are not confident online, or don't have access to a computer, smartphone or tablet. Don't worry – our friendly and experienced advisors are here to help!"

The Attic Project Census Support Centre in Bury is open every week until 4 May as follows:

- Monday from 10am until 2pm
- Tuesday from 10am until 2pm
- Wednesday from 4pm until 8pm
- Thursday from 4pm until 8pm
- Friday from 4pm until 8pm
- Saturday from 9am until 1pm

Appointments must be booked, due to the need to follow coronavirus social distancing requirements.

To book an appointment:

- Ring **0161 285 6145**.
- If you would prefer to use our messaging service and we will arrange for someone to call you back, call **07733 655396**
- Email info@atticprojectbury.com



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For more information and advice visit www.census.gov.uk

Next update due Friday 26 March, 2021.

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



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