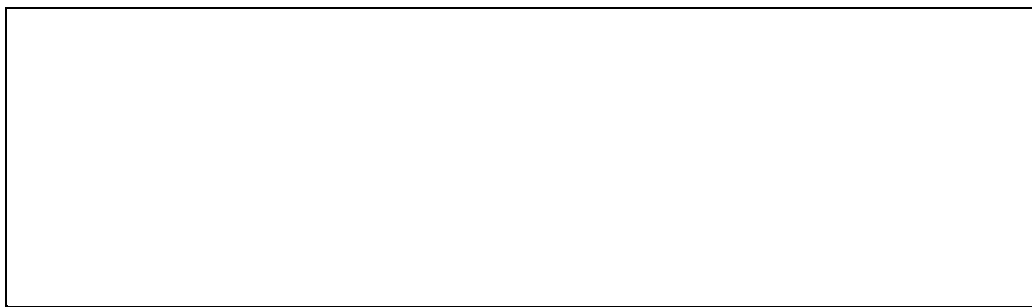




This briefing focuses on the announcements made at the most recent press conference and includes information and updates on the Adult Social Care Infection Control Fund, new powers to ensure the safety of cyclists, domestic abuse, business support, grant funding, visas, social mobility, ONS figures and the electoral canvass.

The briefing also provides an update on local issues including carer's week, university rankings, Solent LEAs new fund and the regional industrial market.

Members are kindly reminded to direct any coronavirus related queries and comments to the dedicated inbox - coronavirus.memberqueries@hants.gov.uk

[View in browser](#)

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10 June 2020

Government press conference - 9 June

The [press conference](#) was chaired by the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, Alok Sharma.

The Government [confirmed that retail outlets](#) selling non-essential goods, will be able to open from Monday 15 June, providing they comply with the Covid-secure guidelines. Further safer working guidance will be issued for restaurants, pubs and bars, as well as hairdressers, barbers, nail bars and related services – with the aim of reopening these sectors from 4 July, at the earliest.

The press conference slides and datasets are available to [view online](#).

As of 4pm on 9 June, the total number of lab-confirmed cases was **289,140**. The daily number of lab-confirmed cases was **1,387**. The total number of Covid-19 associated deaths was **40,883**, with **286** new deaths reported on the day. The data is available to [view online](#).

National context

Adult Social Care Infection Control Fund

The Department of Health and Social Care has [issued](#) guidance on the £600m Adult Social Care Infection Control Fund. It sets out the measures that the fund will support and contains information on the distribution of funds and the reporting requirements. The main purpose of this fund is to support adult social care providers to reduce the rate of Covid-19 transmission in and between care homes. Hampshire County Council has been allocated £18,403,841 based on having 13,876 registered care home beds.

Safety of cyclists

The Department for Transport has [announced](#) that local authorities will have new powers to ensure the safety of cyclists. New laws coming into force on 22 June will allow local authorities to use CCTV to issue penalty charge notices to drivers who park or load illegally in mandatory cycle lanes.

Domestic abuse

The Business Minister Paul Scully, has [launched](#) a review of employment rights for survivors of domestic abuse to look at what more could be done to help them in the workplace. Written submissions are being accepted until 9 September - [more information](#).

Looking after people who lack mental capacity

The Department of Health and Social Care has [updated](#) the guidance for health and social care staff who are caring for, or treating, a person who lacks the relevant mental capacity. A new section has been added - 'The right to appeal if someone is subject to emergency health powers and lacks the relevant mental capacity'.

Support for businesses

HMRC has [updated](#) the help and support guidance for businesses affected by Covid-19. They have updated the *YouTube* video on how to calculate a claim through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme.

Business security

The Centre for the Protection of National Infrastructure has [produced](#) guidance for businesses and insolvency office holders on managing security risks during the pandemic.

Parents returning to work after extended leave

The Treasury has [announced](#) that people on paternity and maternity leave who return to work in the coming months will be eligible for the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (furlough). This will only apply where they work for an employer who has previously furloughed employees. More details of the change will be included in updated guidance, published on 12 June.

Procurement Policy Note

The Government has [issued](#) a new Procurement Policy Note: Recovery and Transition from Covid-19. It sets out information and guidance for public bodies on payment of their suppliers to ensure service continuity during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Coronavirus grant funding

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy has [published](#) updated data on the local authority grant payments to small and medium sized businesses as of 7 June.

London's Covid-19 Transition Board

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government has [confirmed](#) that the London Transition Board, to coordinate London's transition from lockdown to recovery from Covid-19, met for the first time yesterday (9 June). Discussion focused on infection control and testing. Key themes the Board will focus on were agreed, including the safe reopening of businesses, transport and the use of public space, and the challenges faced in health and social care.

Visas

The Home Office has [updated](#) the advice for UK visa applicants and temporary UK residents with a new section on temporary concessions if an individual is applying to enter the UK or to remain on the basis of family or private life.

Social mobility

The Social Mobility Commission has [published](#) a report which audits government action on its key social mobility recommendations from 2013 to 2020. The Commission calls for a new joined-up approach to promoting social mobility and argues that as Covid-19 has had a devastating impact on the poorest groups it is imperative to tackle social inequality more effectively.

NHS Test and Trace

Council chief executives have received a letter from Tom Riordan and Sarah-Jane Marsh, providing details of an interactive data dashboard for local government and Clinical Commissioning Groups. It combines three data sources: NHS Digital's COVID-19 National Testing Programme database, the consolidated data covering the National Testing Programme and 111/999 data about the rate of calls relating to COVID-19. It is understood that the dashboard will be further enhanced to also include care home data, 111 online data and potentially information at the level of 'Super Output Areas'.

Covid-19 ONS figures

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) has [updated](#) the data on coronavirus deaths. This shows that deaths involving Covid-19 as a percentage of all deaths in care homes decreased to 28.2% in the week to 29 May, compared with 32.5% in the previous week.

Electoral canvass

The Government has [announced](#) new measures to help address the challenges posed by Covid-19 for year's annual electoral canvass. The measures include amending the final date for this year's revised registers to be published, extending it from 1 December 2020 to February 2021. In addition, the Government will amend its Parliamentary Constituencies Bill to allow for the upcoming, independent boundary review to be based on data from a verified version of electoral registers from March 2020.

Deaths across children's services

The Department for Education (DfE) has [published](#) guidance on how employers and providers can tell DfE about the death of a carer or colleague across children's services.

Local context

Carers' Week

In Carers' Week (8-14 June 2020), Hampshire County Council is [reaching out](#) to potential foster carers through the start of a programme of virtual drop-in and information sessions. More information is available on the [fostering webpage](#).

The Executive Lead Member for Children's Services and Young People, Councillor Patricia Stallard, has [praised](#) all Hampshire carers who have continued to support others throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. She highlights the positive stories she has heard of how carers and families have used lockdown as an opportunity to strengthen bonds with the children and young people they look after.

Southern Health - making caring visible

During Carers' Week, Southern Health hosted a 'Carers Week Virtual Catch-up' connecting carers to allow them to listen, support and learn from one another online. Additionally, local carers are leading weekly Zoom meetings to support each other virtually during the Covid-19 pandemic. For more information on the weekly sessions for carers, please email: Niamh.Dalziel@southernhealth.nhs.uk or call 07468700507.

Regional industrial market

[CBRE](#) hosted a regional market update, to provide local business an overview of current market conditions across the South Coast. They highlighted that the market is proving resilient as demand continues to outweigh supply for good quality units and industrial space. Demand is expected to continue and especially from online retail, as this sector has been stretched by increased use. More information available from [Business Hampshire](#). In addition, [watch episode four](#) of the *Hampshire is Great* series to hear CBRE's Managing Director talk about the impact of Covid-19 on the property market.

Universities

The region's universities have had to respond to the Covid-19 crisis, but the new rankings show that they continue to perform highly. University of Southampton has been placed in the top 20 of the [2021 Complete University Guide](#), published online. The university is placed 17th overall out of 130 universities listed in the Guide's annual league table – a rise of three places making it the highest climber of any university within the top 20 this year. Other universities in and around Hampshire also perform very well, with the University of Portsmouth ranked 61st; Solent University, Southampton, moving up 5 places to be placed 100th and; the University of Winchester ranked 105th.

Solent LEP's new loan fund

Solent LEP has [announced](#) that they are launching a loan fund to help Solent businesses. The [Covid-19 Restart, Restore, and Recover Loan](#) is designed to support

businesses providing essential and economic lifeline services for the economy through the Covid-19 pandemic and also businesses that have been unable to access other Covid-19 support initiatives. To read full details about Covid-19 Restart, Restore, and Recover Loan [see here](#).

Additional links

- Hampshire County Council webpages on coronavirus (including links to press releases): <https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/coronavirus>
- Latest information on coronavirus: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>
- NHS information on coronavirus: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>
- Guidance for local government: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-local-government>
- County Councils Network (CCN) coronavirus information pages: <https://www.countycouncilsnetwork.org.uk/coronavirus-information-for-local-authorities/>
- Local Government Association (LGA) councillor guidance: <https://www.local.gov.uk/covid-19-outbreak-councillor-guidance>