

# Public health briefing for the borough of Bury – 22 October, 2021

## Covid-19 cases steady, but remain very high

This week (up to 16 October) the rate of new cases of COVID-19 in Bury stayed steady but still very high at 363.4 per 100,000.

Rates are mainly being driven by high numbers of cases in school-aged children, although rates of new cases have increased across most age groups.

The number of inpatients in local hospital is increasing, linked to the increase in case numbers in older adults and cases among those who are not fully vaccinated. We continue to see deaths from Covid-19 in Bury.

Although the rate of deaths appears to have slowed recently, it is expected to increase again as increases in case numbers, particularly in older adults, feed through into hospitalisations and deaths in the coming weeks.

We must try and stop the spread of Covid-19 in our communities. Remember:

- Please keep wearing face coverings in crowded areas such as public transport
- Meet outside as much as possible, and keep indoor spaces ventilated
- Minimise the number, nearness and duration of social contacts
- Continue to wash or clean your hands frequently.

Also: please continue to test, to isolate if positive or if asked to by NHS Test and Trace, and make sure that you and your family members go for your first and second vaccinations at the earliest opportunity. Most people have had their vaccinations already and the jabs are working: but please get protected ahead of winter and, if eligible, take up your booster jab offer when invited.

It all helps, and we thank everyone in Bury for remaining cautious, being considerate and, above all, staying safe.



### 7-day case figures:

Week ending 16 October: infection rate per 100,000 – 363.4 (693 new cases).  
Week ending 9 October: infection rate per 100,000 – 355 (677 new cases).  
Week ending 2 October: infection rate per 100,000 – 285.3 (544 new cases).  
Week ending 25 September: infection rate per 100,000 – 257.5 (491 new cases).

## Why wait, vaccinate!

Bury's vaccination programme continues at pace. Booster doses for double jabbed people are now being administered, first and second doses are also still being offered, and the vaccination programme for 12 to 15-year-olds in schools is well under way and will continue after half-term.

Bury has four GP-led clinics offering Covid-19 vaccinations to over-16s. There's a new Radcliffe clinic, based in Radcliffe United Reformed Church in Blackburn Street, plus the established clinics at the Elizabethan Suite in Bury, Prestwich Walk-in Centre and Ramsbottom Civic Hall.

If you're still due a first or second dose of Covid-19 vaccine you can book an appointment at one of the local centres [here](#) or just walk in at one of several special 'no appointment needed' sessions: see details below.

It is also possible to book an appointment at alternative locations including certain pharmacies and the Etihad Tennis Centre (open seven days a week) using the national booking system [here](#), or by dialling 119.

Please note that those aged 16 and 17 will be offered a single vaccine in line with current guidance.

Covid boosters will be offered to residents who had their second dose of the vaccine at least six months ago. People will be invited in priority order, like the earlier phases of the vaccination programme, meaning that the most vulnerable will receive theirs first.

Eligible people will also be offered their annual flu vaccination at the same time as their Covid-19 booster.

The following clinics will be running as walk-ins for first and second vaccinations in coming days:

#### **Saturday 23 October**

Ramsbottom Civic Hall, Market Place, Ramsbottom, BL0 9AJ. 8.30am – 6pm. Pfizer first dose and second dose.

#### **Sunday 24 October**

Elizabethan Suite, Town Hall, Knowsley Street, Bury, BL9 0SW. 8.30am – 5.30pm. Pfizer first dose and second dose.

Ramsbottom Civic Hall, Market Place, Ramsbottom, BL0 9AJ. 8.30am – 6pm. Pfizer first dose and second dose.

### **Tuesday 26 October**

Elizabethan Suite, Town Hall, Knowsley Street, Bury, BL9 0SW. 8.30am – 5.30pm. Pfizer first dose and second dose.

Prestwich Walk-in Centre, Fairfax Road, Prestwich, M25 1BT. 1pm - 5pm. Pfizer first dose and second dose.

### **Wednesday 27 October**

Prestwich Walk-in Centre, Fairfax Road, Prestwich, M25 1BT. 9am - 12.30pm and 1.30pm - 4.30pm. Pfizer first dose and second dose.

### **Thursday 28 October**

Elizabethan Suite, Town Hall, Knowsley Street, Bury, BL9 0SW. 8.30am – 5.30pm. Pfizer first dose and second dose.

Radcliffe Reformed Church, Blackburn Street, Radcliffe, M26 3WQ. 9am - 3pm. Pfizer first dose and second dose.

### **Friday 29 October**

Ramsbottom Civic Hall, Market Place, Ramsbottom, BL0 9AJ. 8.30am – 6pm. Pfizer first dose and second dose.

### **Saturday 30 October**

Ramsbottom Civic Hall, Market Place, Ramsbottom, BL0 9AJ. 8.30am – 6pm. Pfizer first dose and second dose.

Elizabethan Suite, Town Hall, Knowsley Street, Bury, BL9 0SW. 8.30am – 5.30pm. Pfizer first dose and second dose.

### **Sunday 31 October**

Ramsbottom Civic Hall, Market Place, Ramsbottom, BL0 9AJ. 8.30am – 12.30pm. Pfizer first dose and second dose.

Prestwich Walk-in Centre, Fairfax Road, Prestwich, M25 1BT. 9am - 12.30pm and 1.30pm - 4.30pm. Pfizer first dose and second dose.

## Get tested, stop the spread!

Testing for Covid-19, even if you don't have symptoms, remains one of our best defences against the spread of the virus. It's estimated that 1 in 3 people who have Covid-19 don't know that they do, so they could unknowingly pass it on.

Using quick LFT tests on a regular basis helps to pick up cases that might otherwise be missed. Testing helps us to break the chain of transmission and protect people around us.

In Bury, we have multiple options available for people to continue to test.

### LFT (Lateral Flow Testing)

Self-testing with LFT test kits is easy and simple to do at home or work. There are several ways to get LFT kits:

- Collect them from a community pharmacy. Visit [maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk](https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk) to check your nearest participating pharmacy - you'll need a collect code which you can request online [here](#)
- Collect them from the Mosses Centre in Bury. Visit [nhsburyccg.simplybook.cc/v2/](https://nhsburyccg.simplybook.cc/v2/) to book your Click and Collect slot
- Order online, and they'll be sent to your home: see [www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests](https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests)

If you do an LFT test you need to register your results online or by phoning 119 within 24 hours of taking the test. Anyone who has a positive LFT test result should self-isolate and take a follow-up PCR test within two days, even if they don't have symptoms.

### Getting a PCR test

If you have any of the three most common symptoms of Covid-19 get a PCR test as soon as possible to protect yourself and others.

The PCR test you take will be analysed at a laboratory and you will receive the results by text message, email or telephone.

A range of PCR testing options are available in Bury:

- No appointment required - Chesham Fold, Chesham Fold Road, Bury BL9 6JZ (10 am to 3 pm, Monday to Friday).
- Appointment only - Mosses Centre, Cecil Street, Bury BL9 0SB. Book online via [nhsburyccg.simplybook.cc/v2/](https://nhsburyccg.simplybook.cc/v2/)
- Appointment only – Department of Health sites located in Prestwich, Radcliffe, Ramsbottom and Whitefield online via <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>
- Order a home testing kit (delivered by post) at [gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test](https://gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test).

Call 0161 253 5515 to speak to someone about testing, how to book and availability.

Find more information at [www.bury.gov.uk/coronavirus-testing](https://www.bury.gov.uk/coronavirus-testing)

## Self-isolate to keep Covid-19 at bay

People who have had both jabs, or are aged under 18, are no longer legally required to self-isolate if they are identified as a close contact of a positive Covid-19 case. Instead, they are advised to get a free PCR test as soon as possible.

It is important that if you have any symptoms of Covid-19 you should stay at home and await your result. And if you do test positive, you should stay at home for a full 10 days, not leaving home for any reason during this time.

By isolating in a timely and correct way you will be helping to stop the spread of Covid-19.

Bury's Community Hubs are still there for anyone who needs support, including those who are self-isolating. To access essential help, call 0161 253 5353 (9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday) or text 07860 022876 (messages responded to by the next working day).

Further information is [on the community hubs page of our website](#).

## Helping people through difficult times

Life has changed for all of us through the pandemic, 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 more](#) about other mental wellbeing support.

Next update due Friday 29 October, 2021.

For up-to-date information about Covid-19 see [bury.gov.uk/coronavirus](https://bury.gov.uk/coronavirus)