

# Public health briefing for the borough of Bury – 29 October, 2021

## Let's remain careful

As we head into winter (don't forget to turn back your clocks this weekend!) we're in a better place than this time last year. But Covid-19 has not gone away and we need to do all we can to stop the spread.

The huge take-up of the Covid-19 vaccine, and regular testing for the virus, has helped us get back to something like normal, and we're all getting out and about more.

Unfortunately, we still have stubbornly high and rising levels of Covid-19 in Bury. This week alone we have nearly 800 new cases in our borough, and we do still see significant numbers of people with the disease hospitalised and dying.

This combined with the threat posed by other winter illnesses like flu and norovirus, along with bad weather, always put additional pressure on our healthcare services at this time of year.

Over the next few days all households in the borough will receive a booklet packed with information and guidance about Covid-19 and flu vaccination, Covid testing and isolation, an at-a-glance guide to healthcare services in Bury and signposting to support and help.

We ask that people remain cautious. Please follow the guidance and continue to stick to 'hands, face, space + air'. By doing so we can all help to prevent the spread of Covid-19 and other winter bugs.

Let's protect each other, and enjoy the coming season.

## Cases rise once again

This week (up to October 23) the rate of new cases of Covid-19 in Bury increased to 414.8 per 100,000 people.



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

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

The number of Covid-19 patients in hospital, and deaths, is expected to go up again as increases in case numbers, particularly in older adults, feed through in the coming weeks.

#### **7-day case figures:**

Week ending 23 October: infection rate per 100,000 – 414.8 (791 new cases).

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).

## **Let's do it – safely!**

You may have already spotted our new online campaign highlighting all the fun things you can do right across Bury, like shopping, food and drink, days out at attractions and events.

While the tone is very much about making the most of everything Bury has to offer, especially as we head into Christmas, it does remind people of the important principles of hands, face, space + air so we can continue to mix as safely as possible.

You can also hear the campaign from Monday on Hits Radio and see it on billboards around the borough. A handy comms pack full of digital assets for use across partner channels will be issued w/c November 8.

## **Why wait, vaccinate!**

### **First and second dose vaccinations**

If you haven't yet had a first or second dose Pfizer Covid-19 vaccination, it's not too late. Bury has clinics running regularly at our four local vaccination centres, where you can walk-in or pre-book.

- For people aged 16+.
  - Young people aged 16 and 17 will receive a single vaccine.
  - Young people within three months of turning 18, and those aged 18+, will be offered two doses of the vaccination, 8 weeks apart.
- Second doses 8+ weeks since the first.

### **How to book**

- Find details of upcoming walk-in clinics: [www.bury.gov.uk/coronavirus-vaccine](http://www.bury.gov.uk/coronavirus-vaccine)
- Book an appointment if you prefer: <https://covid.nhsbookings.com/gmpcn>

- Book an appointment via the National Booking Service (our Ramsbottom and Elizabethan Suite sites plus other sites outside of Bury can be booked via this route): [www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/) or by calling 119.
- If you need support to book please contact your GP.

### **Booster and flu vaccinations**

Patients eligible for the Covid booster and flu vaccines will be contacted to book an appointment in priority order. The Covid-19 booster vaccine will be offered at least 6 months (180 days) after your second dose of the vaccine. Please wait to be contacted.

### **12 to 15-year-old vaccination programme**

Vaccinations for 12 to 15-year-olds **are not** currently available at Bury's four vaccination clinics.

For pupils aged 12 to 15 who have consent for a Covid-19 vaccination in school but missed the session previously arranged at school, catch-up vaccination sessions have been organised with schools.

Alternatively, vaccinations for 12 to 15-year-olds can be booked at external vaccination clinics via the [National Booking Service: www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/) or by calling 119.

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

#### **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.

#### **Tuesday 2 November**

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. 1.30pm - 4.30pm. Pfizer first dose and second dose.

#### **Wednesday 3 November**

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. 9am - 12.30pm and 1.30pm - 4.30pm. Pfizer first dose and second dose.

### Friday 5 November

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

Ramsbottom Civic Hall, Market Place, Ramsbottom, BL0 9AJ. 8.30am – 5.30pm. Pfizer first dose and second dose.

### Saturday 6 November

Ramsbottom Civic Hall, Market Place, Ramsbottom, BL0 9AJ. 8.30am – 5.30pm. Pfizer first dose and second dose.

### Sunday 7 November

Ramsbottom Civic Hall, Market Place, Ramsbottom, BL0 9AJ. 8.30am – 5.30pm. 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.

## 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 to do at home or at 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 (new continuous cough, high temperature, loss or change of sense of taste or smell) 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 is available in Bury:

- No appointment required - Chesham Fold, Chesham Fold Road, Bury BL9 6JZ (10 am to 3pm, Monday to Friday).
- Appointment only - Mosses Centre, Cecil Street, Bury BL9 0SB. Book online at [nhsburyccg.simplybook.cc/v2/](https://nhsburyccg.simplybook.cc/v2/)
- Appointment only – Department of Health sites located in Prestwich, Radcliffe, Ramsbottom and Whitefield. Book online at <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 5 November, 2021.

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