

## Latest Covid-19 advice for the borough of Bury – 20 August, 2021

### Drop in infection rates this week

The number of new cases in Bury fell by 11% in the week up to 14 August. The weekly rate of new cases that week was 287.9 per 100,000. This follows an increase the week before.

There is evidence from national data that many people are still being cautious in taking advantage of the relaxation of lockdown measures. Google community mobility data suggests that many people are still working from home if they can. There is also likely to be some reduction in virus transmission in summer as the virus survives less well at this time of year, people spend more time outdoors, and schools, colleges, and universities are closed for the summer. Vaccinations are also helping to slow transmission. Despite this, the overall rate of infection is not low, and hospitals are still managing a significant number of people with Covid-19 along with other pressures.

#### 7-day case figures:

Week ending 14 August: infection rate per 100,000 – 287.9 (549 new cases).

Week ending 7 August: infection rate per 100,000 – 323.0 (617 new cases).

Week ending 31 July: infection rate per 100,000 – 275.9 (527 new cases).

Week ending 24 July: infection rate per 100,000 – 389.5 (744 new cases).

Please keep taking action to help drive transmission down:

- Wear face coverings in crowded areas such as public transport
- Meet outside as much as possible and/or let in fresh air
- Minimise the number, proximity and duration of social contacts
- Continue to wash or clean your hands frequently.

Also: please continue to test, to isolate if positive or asked to by NHS Test and Trace, and ensure you and your family members go for your first and second vaccinations at the earliest opportunity.

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

## Aged 16 or 17? Come on down and grab a jab!

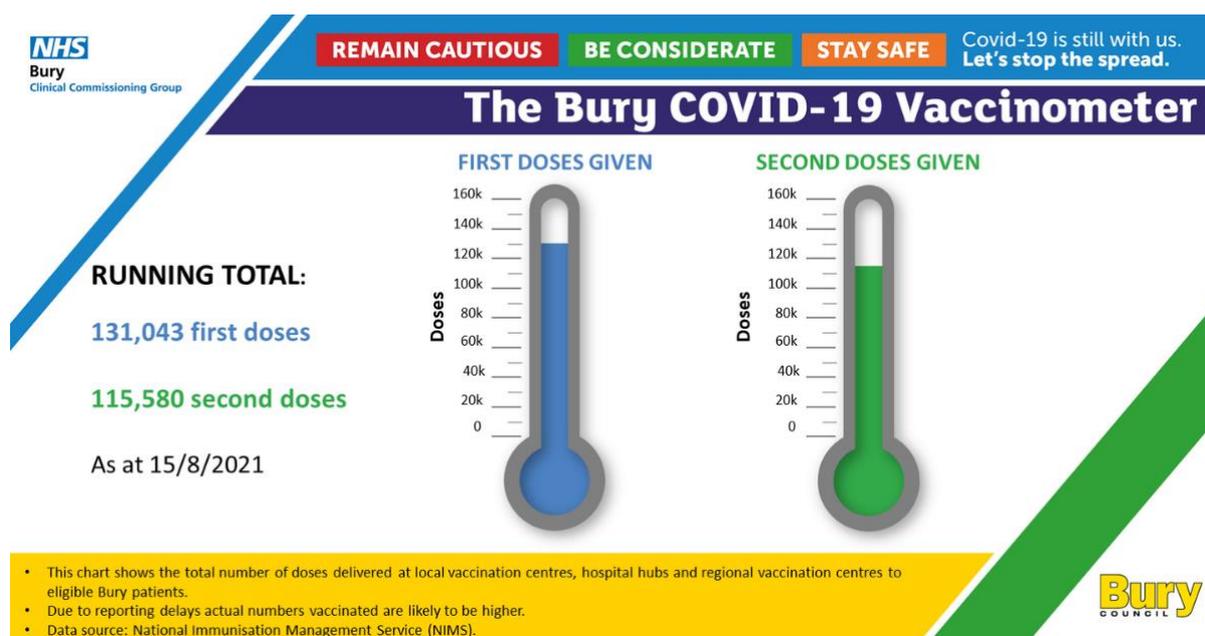
All young people in Bury aged 16 and 17 will, from Monday (23 Aug), be able to get a Covid jab and get protected against coronavirus.

A first dose of the Pfizer vaccine will be offered at Bury's three main vaccination sites – the Elizabethan Suite in Bury, Ramsbottom Civic Hall and at Prestwich Walk-in Centre (NB: not at Fairfield or any pop-up clinics).

All of these clinics will be walk-in – no appointment needed – although slots can also be booked. For a list of the latest upcoming clinics, go to <https://www.bury.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=15987>

In the meantime, eligible residents are being urged to get their jabs and take the total number given across the borough beyond 246,623.

The latest figures show that 131,043 people across Bury have now had one dose of the vaccination, and 115,580 of them have had both jabs.



Clinics are open, with no appointment needed, for anyone aged 18+ who lives, works or studies in Bury. Also, young people who are within three months of their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday are welcome to come for their vaccination - to avoid delay, we recommend that those in this age group bring a form of ID.

Remember – to get full protection against the virus, you must return for your second jab.

To offer the best safeguard against infection, second doses are offered at 8+ weeks after the first dose. Patients may be offered their second vaccination earlier but only to avoid wastage or because they have a specific medical condition.

*Second doses will not be brought forward for the purposes of foreign travel.*

Upcoming walk-in clinics (you can also book) are as follows:

**Friday 20 August**

Mobile Vaccination Clinic, outside Radcliffe Market, Blackburn Street, Radcliffe, M26 1PN. 11am to 3pm. Pfizer first dose and second dose. (Walk-in only)

**Saturday 21 August**

Ramsbottom Civic Hall, Market Place. 8.30am to 6.30pm. Pfizer first dose and second dose.

Mobile Vaccination Clinic, outside Radcliffe Market, Blackburn Street, Radcliffe, M26 1PN. 11am to 3pm. Pfizer first dose and second dose. (Walk-in only)

**Sunday 22 August**

Ramsbottom Civic Hall, Market Place. 8.30am to 1.30pm. Pfizer first dose and second dose.

Elizabethan Suite, Knowsley Street. 8.30am to 6pm. Pfizer first dose and second dose.

**Thursday 26 August**

Prestwich Walk-in Centre, Fairfax Road, Prestwich M25 1BT. 8.15am – 1pm. AZ second dose.

**Sunday 29 August**

Pop-up at St Gabriel's Medical Centre, 4 Bishop's Road, Prestwich M25 0HT. 10am – 4pm. Pfizer first dose and second dose (walk-in only).

**Tuesday 31 August**

Mobile Vaccination Unit, Fire Station, Bury New Road, Whitefield, M45 7SY. 11am to 3pm. Pfizer first dose and second dose (walk-in only).

**Tuesday – Friday every week**

Fairfield General Hospital operates a walk-in 'no appointment needed' clinic from Tuesday to Friday each week, offering Pfizer first and second doses:

- 8.30am to 5.30pm (Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays)
- 11am to 7.30pm (Thursdays)

Address:

Fairfield General Hospital (Education Centre), Rochdale Old Road, Bury, BL9 7TD.

There is limited free vaccination hub parking available opposite the Education Centre entrance.

If you would prefer to book for this clinic you can now do so through the national booking service: alternatively, call 0161 778 2104.

Access the [NHS National Booking Service](#) or call 119.

Find out more about vaccinations in Bury at [bury.gov.uk/coronavirus-vaccine](http://bury.gov.uk/coronavirus-vaccine)

## Self-isolation rules have changed – a reminder

People who have had both jabs, or are under 18, are no longer legally required to self-isolate if they are identified as a close contact of a positive Covid-19 case.

This means, with more than 75% of people having received both doses of the vaccine, the majority of adults no longer need to self-isolate if they are contacts.

Instead of self-isolating, they are advised to get a free PCR test as soon as possible.

For people who do still need to self-isolate (if their PCR is positive, or they have not been twice vaccinated), it's important to do so immediately and for the full 10 days. You shouldn't leave home for any reason during this time (including the period of awaiting a Covid-19 test result).

Keeping yourself away from other people when you could be infectious is the most effective way of stopping coronavirus from spreading.

Bury's Community Hubs are still here for anyone who needs support because they have no one to turn to for 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).

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

## It's best to test!

Testing for coronavirus, even if you don't have symptoms, remains one of our best defences against the spread of the disease.

In Bury we have multiple options available for people to access both LFT (Lateral Flow Tests) - for people without symptoms - and PCR tests (for people with symptoms, or those asked to get tested) when they need them.

### *Rapid LFT tests*

An estimated 1 in 3 people who have the virus don't know that they do, so they could unknowingly be passing it on to their loved ones or work colleagues.

Regular rapid testing, twice a week, helps to pick up cases that might otherwise not have been discovered. With this knowledge we can break the chain of transmission, helping us to protect people around us and safely get back to doing the things we enjoy and a more normal way of life.

The rapid LFT test takes approximately five minutes to complete and the result is available in around an hour if you are having an assisted test, or 30 minutes if you are taking the test yourself at home.

LFT test kits are available for collection from testing sites at Waterfold Business Park and from the Mosses Centre by appointment only. You can also book an assisted test at Waterfold.

Home testing kits can also be collected from local pharmacies, or home delivered if ordered on the gov.uk website.

Full details on LFT testing options and booking for assisted tests are available [on the council's website](#).

*If you have a positive result after taking an LFT test*

Anyone who gets a positive test result should self-isolate and will be required to take a follow-up PCR test within two days to confirm the result, even if they don't have symptoms. This is also important to help track any variants of concern.

Even if you have a negative result, it's still vital to continue to follow the guidance around hands, face, space and air to avoid catching coronavirus.

*PCR testing for people with Covid-19 symptoms*

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 to 5 days of symptoms.

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

- No appointment needed at Bury's walk-through testing centre, open 10am-3pm, Monday-Friday (excluding bank holidays) at Chesham Fold, 95 Chesham Fold Road, Bury BL9 6JZ.
- By appointment 8am-8pm, with some locations open seven days a week, at Department for Health & Social Care testing centres located at:
  - The former Radcliffe Pool car park, Blackburn Street, Radcliffe
  - Whitefield Library, Pinfold Lane, Whitefield
  - Longfield Centre car park (via Rectory Lane), Prestwich
  - Great Eaves Road test site, Great Eaves Road, Ramsbottom
- By appointment at The Mosses Centre, Cecil Street, Bury
- Bury's drive-through testing site at Waterfold Business Park is available by appointment only.

Access the [latest information](#) about testing, how to book and availability or call 0161 253 5515.

## Helping people through the toughest times

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 more](#) about other mental wellbeing support.



## Could you help us get important Covid-19 information out to people in Bury?

The Bury Community Champions scheme was created so we could get important news about Covid-19 developments out to people quickly, and in the best format for them.

We're looking to recruit more Champions to join the dozens of people across the borough who have already signed up to the scheme, and help our public health team to co-produce and send out information like bulletins, leaflets, videos and assets for social media, some of which could be adapted for different needs, e.g. in different languages.

As we try to stop the spread of Covid-19, getting the word out to our communities so that people can take action for themselves and their families is more important than ever.

[Find out more](#) about becoming a Community Champion.

Next update due Friday 27 August, 2021.

Find up-to-date information at [bury.gov.uk/coronavirus](https://bury.gov.uk/coronavirus)