The following outlines the dates when various social and business restrictions and quidelines were published by HM Government, It aims to provide a reference point for what guidance was at any given time since the crisis began, and to give a top line overview of measures.

This information has been pulled together from various sources (including Government and various departments, NHS, Public Health England etc) and should be double checked against any set of particular facts. The hyperlinks to the announcements should assist, but because they are regularly updated, it is not always easy to ascertain the date of the first announcement.

Further guidance has been provided by various regulators such as the HSE (PPE, lone working, RIDDOR reporting. construction sites) and CQC They generally take the lead from government guidance respective websites.

For more information please contact your Client Account Manager or our Head of Crime and Regulatory:

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13 January 2020

Situation being monitored. UK risk assessment - very low. Travel advice given on government web sites.

20 January 2020

Cases now outside China. Same travel advice applies.

22 January 2020

Public Health England (PHE) raises risk from very low to low. Travel advice plus monitoring of arrivals on flights from Wuhan.

28 January 2020

Foreign office advises against all but essential travel to Mainland China

First UK cases confirmed - risk raised from low to moderate. Travel advice only.

2 February 2020

Coronavirus public information campaign launched across the UK

- Advertising campaign launched to encourage Britons to:
- +Always carry tissues and use them to catch coughs and sneezes, and bin the tissue
- +Wash hands with soap and water, or use sanitiser gel, to kill

7 February 2020

Updated advice for returning travellers from China

- +Returning travellers from Hubei Province advised to stay indoors, regardless of symptoms
- +Returning travellers from a host of other countries who develop symptoms to stay at

10 February 2020

New regulations provide health professionals with power "to keep individuals in isolation where [they] believe there is a reasonable risk an individual may have the virus"

25 February 20205 March 2020

COVID-19 declared an imminent threat to public health

+Health Secretary designates certain hospitals "isolation" zones and Hubei province as an "infected area" under changes to regulation.

COVID-19: guidance for employees, employers and businesses

+First guidance published assisting businesses and employers in providing advice to their staff on stopping the spread of coronavirus, and confirming their eligibility for sick pay. Updated.

Guidance for social or community care and residential settings on COVID-19 (withdrawn 13 March 2020)

1 March 2020

Health Secretary sets out government 'battle plan' for COVID-19

- +Every government department to have a designated ministerial virus lead to help oversee government response to the global threat of COVID-19
- +Cross-government 'war room' of communications experts and scientists also set up ahead of public information blitz in coming weeks
- +Further COBRs planned this week, with ministerial COBR meetings upgraded to be held more frequently, if required

3 March 2020

COVID-19 action plan launched

Document published outlining:

- +the government's plans to contain the spread of the virus
- +how action will develop as the virus spreads
- +what people can do to protect themselves and their families

COVID-19 added to list of notifiable diseases

+A statutory instrument was laid adding to the Health Protection (Notification) Regulations 2010.

11 March 2020

Budget Speech to tackle Coronavirus and level up the country given

12 March 2020

Risk moves from moderate to high.

Government moves from contain to delay phase

+Government officially moves to delay phase and warns of social distancing measures to come

Stay at home: guidance for households with possible coronavirus (COVID-19) infection

+If you live at home and develop symptoms, stay at home for at least 7 days

Government advises schools and colleges to cancel overseas trips

+Schools and colleges are being advised against all overseas trips for children under 18 until further notice

Over 70s and at risk Brits advised against travelling on

+British nationals aged 70 and over, and those with underlying health conditions like chronic diseases and diabetes, are advised not to travel on cruise ships

13 March 2020

Suspension of non-urgent NHS services including non-urgent outpatient appointments and surgical procedures

15 March 2020

Prime Minister announces daily press conference

The next phase of the awareness campaign - visiting NHS uk/coronavirus to check symptoms and follow the medical advice, rather than visiting GP. It also urges people with any symptoms to avoid contact with older and more vulnerable people. Urge people to visit the 111 website rather than calling.

16 March 2020

Government publishes updated COVID-19 industry guidance

The Public Health England (PHE) guidance provides important information for specific sectors, including schools and transport, on what precautions to take, what to do if someone develops symptoms and how to limit the spread of the virus.

Prime Minister updated advice that if anybody in household has a new continued cough or high temperature the whole household should self- isolate for 14 days. All non-essential contact and unnecessary travel should stop and people should work from home where possible. States the UK government will no longer be supporting mass gatherings with emergency workers. This social distancing is particularly important for those over 70 years old, pregnant women and those with some health conditions.

17 March 2020

New guidance for households with possible COVID-19 infection

+Guidance updated to suggest you stay at home for 14 days if someone in your household has symptoms of COVID-19

New Government structures developed to tackle COVID-19

+Four new implementation committees focusing on health, public sector preparedness, economy and international response, feeding

into a new daily C-19 meeting, which will be chaired by the Prime Minister.

Chancellor announces further support to business

+Unlimited loans and guarantees to support firms and help them manage cashflows through this period. The Chancellor will make available an initial £330 billion of guarantees - equivalent to 15% of UK GDP.

Foreign Secretary issues guidance on all non-essential travel

+30-day period begins of advising against all nonessential travel

Coronavirus Bill introduced to Parliament

New measures developed in five areas:

- containing and slowing the virus +easing legislative and
- regulatory requirements +enhancing capacity and the flexible deployment of staff
- across essential services +managing the deceased in a dignified way
- supporting and protecting the public to do the right thing and follow public health

18 March 2020

Off-payroll working rules reforms delayed until 2021

+Implementation set back 12 months

20 March 2020

Schools close. Forced closure of some businesses. Prime Minister states : the government are telling cafes, pubs, bars, restaurants, nightclubs, theatres, cinemas, gyms and leisure centres to close tonight.

- Online service launched providing proof of absence from work through COVID-19
- +Service launched online so

that people who are absent from work for more than 7 days with COVID-19 no longer have to visit a GP

Further measures of business support outlined

Measures outlined to help the vulnerable

- +Government urges up to 1.5 million people in England who face the highest risk of being hospitalised by the virus to shield themselves and stay at home
- +People with specific underlying health conditions. including some being treated for cancer, will be contacted by the NHS this week
- +Plans also unveiled to deliver groceries and medicines for those most at risk from the virus where needed

21 March 2020

Regulations to close the following businesses come into force: restaurants (including restaurants and dining rooms in hotels and members clubs); cafes (except those in hospitals, care homes or schools, prisons or those connected to the armed forces); bars, public houses, cinemas, theatres, nightclubs, bingo halls, concert halls, museums and galleries, casinos, betting shops, spas and massage parlours.

22 March 2020

essential travel

+Guidance developed warning people not to travel unless essential, including to second homes, and encouraging everyone to remain in their primary residence

New regulations on business closure published

- +Restaurants, cafes and bars ordered not to serve goods to be consumed on the premises
- +Pubs cinemas theatres etc.

ordered to be closed

23 March 2020

Prime Minister announces lockdown measures

+Citizens told to leave their house only for one form of exercise per day, or for essential work or supplies.

Ban on evictions of commercial tenants who miss rent payments

+Commercial tenants who cannot pay their rent because of coronavirus will be protected from eviction.

Foreign Secretary advises all British travellers to return to UK

25 March 2020

Guidance for food businesses

+Guidance for food businesses on coronavirus published (includes advice to supermarkets).

26 March 2020

Measures unveiled for self-employed workers

+Government scheme to employees extended to self-employed workers.

30 March 2020

Guidance on social distancing updated

2 April 2020

New PPE guidance for nhs teams

+Updated guidance on PPE for health and social care workers which applies across the UK published

3 April 2020

Government business support scheme extended

+Business interruption loans for small businesses improved and new scheme for larger companies



5 April 2020

Updated PPE guidance issued

+Revised guidance concerning use of PPE by health and social care workers, in the context of the current COVID-19 pandemic.

8 April 2020

Employer information: Social distancing

+Guidance for employers on how to pratice social distancing in the workplace, tailored by sector.

Updated infection prevention and control guidance for health and social care settings

+Guidance recommends the safest level of PPE to protect healthcare workers and specifies the type of PPE that should be worn in various healthcare and non-healthcare settings.

12 April 2020

Updated guidance on infection prevention and control

+Guidance on appropriate PPE for health and social care workers. This has been written and reviewed by all 4 UK public health bodies, informed 18 April 2020 by NHS infection prevention control experts and is consistent with World Health Organization guidance.

15 April 2020

Action plan for adult social care

+Government publishes plan for adult social care sector to control spread of infection. support the workforce, support independence and end of life care and support local authorities and providers of care.

Coronavirus (COVID-19): social care guidance

+Brings together coronavirus quidance published for the social care sector and other relevant guidance

COVID PPE plan

+Plan on guidance, distribution and future supply of PPE.

Being clear who needs PPE and when, and who does not, based on UK clinical expertise and WHO standards. This will ensure workers on the frontline are able to do their jobs safely, while making sure PPE is only used when clinically necessary and isn't wasted or stockpiled.

16 April 2020

Letter to construction sector

+Government letters to various sectors including construction sector with link to CLC site operating procedures during covid-19

17 April 2020

How to work safely in care homes

+Guidance includes whether need for PPE, FAQ on use of PPE in care homes, correct use of PPE.

Temporary relaxation of drivers'

+Temporary relaxation of the EU and GB drivers' hours rules for drivers carrying goods by road. Apply from 23.3.20 until 31.5.20. Not limited to specific sectors or journeys.

Social care guidance

+Brings together latest covid-19 guidance for social care sector

Updated PPE guidance

+Covers health and social care settings (sectors most at risk - clear guidance on PPE published) and other sectors (based on current evidence there is very little scientific evidence of widespread benefit from PPE).

19 April 2020

SEND risk assessment guidance

+Risk assessment guidance for special schools and other settings managing children and young people with complex special educational needs and disability (SEND)

23 April 2020

Support for the bereaved

+Information to help bereaved families, friends or next of kin

Stepping down of infection control and discharging

+Advice on appropriate infection prevention and control precautions for patients recovering or recovered from COVID-19 and remaining in hospital, or being discharged to their own home or residential care. Link to DHSC social care plan and care

24 April 2020

home guidance.

Getting tested

+Guidance on coronavirus testing for essential workers who are self-isolating. Lists essential workers and those prioritised for testing.

27 April 2020

Updated adult social care guidance

+Added 'COVID-19: how to work safely in domiciliary care'.

New guarantee on death in service benefits for frontline health and care staff during pandemic

+The families of health and care workers who die from coronavirus in the course of their essential frontline work will receive a lump sum payment of £60,000.

28 April 2020

Further expansion of access to coronavirus testing helps protect the most vulnerable

+NHS staff, care home staff and care home residents will be eligible for testing whether or not they have symptoms. Anyone in England with coronavirus symptoms who either has to leave home to go to work or is aged 65 and over will now also be able to get tested.

Reuse of medicines in a care home or hospice

+Standard operating procedure on how to run a safe and effective medicines reuse scheme in a care home or hospice during the coronavirus outbreak.

4 May 2020

Social distancing in the workplace during coronavirus

+Sector guidance for employers on social distancing - includes retail, manufacturing, construction, waste management, transport and other sectors.

6 May 2020

Dedicated app for social care workers launched

+A app for the adult social care workforce in England has been launched to support staff. It provides access to guidance, learning resources and will unite 1.5 million care workers across 18,000 care providers

9 May 2020

+Press release: NHS and social care staff in the UK are set to receive millions of items of personal protective equipment over the coming months thanks to new collaborations with a number of organisations.

10 May 2020

PM address to nation conditional plan to reopen society announced

11 May 2020

Government's Covid-19 recovery

+Roadmap for how and when the UK will adjust its response to the Covid-19 crisis is published

New portal for care homes to arrange coronavirus testing

+All care home staff and residents are now eligible for testing with priority for those in homes that look after the over-65s.

New guidance launched to help get people safely back to work

+Practical guidance to make workplaces as safe as possible. Covers 8 workplace settings from outdoor environments and construction sites to factories and takeaways. Employers will need to carry out Covid-19 risk assessments to establish what guidelines to put in place. Extra £14m made available to HSE for extra call centre employees, inspectors and equipment.

Health and wellbeing of the adult social care workforce

+Advice for those working in adult social care on managing mental health and how employers can take care of the wellbeing of their staff during the coronavirus outbreak.

How to wear and make a cloth

12 May 2020

Transport and travel guidance

+Guidance for people working in the transport sector to include transport operators and workers, bus and lorry drivers, freight, bus and road transport businesses, maritime and shipping.

14 May 2020

Housebuilders charter for safe working practice

+Charter has been launched to enable housebuilders to make a common commitment to operate in line with government safe working guidance. Signatories to the Charter have publicly committed to safe working practices in accordance with government and Construction Leadership Council guidance.

15 May 2020

Updated guidance for employees, employers and businesses

+Government update guidance to state that guidance is of a general nature and should be treated as a guide, and in the event of any conflict between

any applicable legislation (including health and safety legislation) and guidance. the applicable legislation

Support for care homes

shall prevail

+A plan which focuses on how to prevent and control COVID-19 in all registered care homes. The document sets out the steps that must now be taken to keep people in care homes safe, and the support that will be brought together across national and local government to help care providers put this into practice. Includes PPE, stepping up NHS clinical support (named clinical lead for each English care home), comprehensive testing. oversight and compliance (local authorities must conduct a daily review of care homes in their area), building the workforce and funding (£600m infection control fund).

18 May 2020

Updated guidance for employers and businesses on symptoms of coronavirus

+The most important symptoms of coronavirus, in addition to a new continuous cough and high temperature. now include a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia). People should self-isolate immediately if they have any of these symptoms.

Everyone in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland with coronavirus symptoms can now get a test.

19 May 2020

Support for care homes

+ Template produced for local authorities to complete by 29 May 2020. It covers CQC registered care homes in their area and requires the LA to report on infection prevention and control measures, testing. PPE and clinical equipment, workforce support and clinical support. Ability to request additional support and indicate any issues.

Update to admission and care

of people in care homes

+Guidance updated to add a loss of, or change in, normal sense of smell or taste (anosmia) as a symptom of coronavirus.

20 May 2020

Updated guidance on requirements for discharging covid-19 patients to nursing homes and residential homes

21 May 2020

Government to offer antibody tests to health and social care staff and patients in England

22 May 2020

Second episodes of symptoms in health and social care settings require isolation and repeat testing

Guidance for those providing personal care to people living in their own home during the coronavirus outbreak

27 May 2020

NHS test and trace workplace guidance for employers, business and workers

Updated guidance on providing MOT tests during the coronavirus outbreak, including how to limit the spread of

28 May 2020

Groups of up to six people will be able to meet outdoors in England from 1 June, provided strict social distancing guidelines are followed

29 May 2020

Updated guidance for health and social care staff who are caring for, or treating, a person who lacks the relevant mental

Publication of the minutes from the Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE) meetings 1 to 34, up until the beginning of May.

30 May 2020

Guidance for the public, providers of outdoor sport facilities, elite athletes, personal trainers and coaches on the phased return of sport and recreation.

1 June 2020

Updated guidance on getting

+Guidance on how to test care home residents and workers; information on testing kits and who can be tested

Updated general coronavirus guidance for health and social care settings, other non-clinical settings, and for the general

2 June 2020

Legionnaires' disease: national surveillance scheme reporting form updated to include covid-19

Management of staff and exposed patients or residents in health and social care settings

+Updated guidance for staff who are notified through test and trace that they are a contact of a confirmed case; risk assessment for staff exposures in the workplace should be undertaken to consider if any breach of PPE and if significant or close contact without PPE, worker should remain off for 14 days.

3 June 2020

Guidance for trustees on what matters may need to be reported as a serious incident during the coronavirus

4 June 2020

Face coverings will be required on public transport from 15 June 2020 but people should continue to avoid public transport wherever possible



5 June 2020

Healthcare providers can order additional PPE through the portal to top up their existing supplies for COVID-19 in an emergency

- +PPE portal can be used as an emergency free top-up system by GPs, small residential social care providers (24 beds or fewer) and domiciliary social care providers (99 clients or fewer).
- All staff in hospitals in England will be provided with surgical masks which they will be expected to wear from 15 June. All visitors and outpatients must wear face coverings at all times.

8 June 2020

Every care home in England will now be offered a coronavirus test for all residents and staff, even if they have no symptoms.

New task force set up to support sector and oversee delivery of Social Care Action Plan and Care Homes Intensive Support Package.

9 June 2020

Shops in England selling non-essential goods will be able to reopen from Monday 15 June provided they follow May sector guidance to keep people as safe as possible.

11 June 2020

Guidance on safer travel and working principles for airports and aviation operators

13 June 2020

Updated guidance on meeting people from outside your household and support bubbles

15 June 2020

Updated guidance to help employers, employees and the self-employed understand how to work safely during the coronavirus pandemic. Eight guides updated to reflect industry feedback.

- +Mandatory to wear a face covering on public transport in England.
- Updated guidance for employers about multiple coronavirus outbreaks in the workplace
- +If there is more than one case of COVID-19 associated with a workplace, employers should contact their local health protection team to report the suspected outbreak. The heath protection team will undertake a risk assessment, provide public health advice and where necessary, establish a multi-agency incident management team to manage the outbreak.
- Updated guidance on personal protective equipment for care workers delivering domiciliary care in England
- Updated guidance on working safely in care homes

19 June 2020

New guidance for how adult social care employers should assess and reduce risk to their workforce during the coronavirus pandemic

23 June 2020

Updated guidance on shielding can spend more time outside their homes from Monday 6 July whilst maintaining strict social distancing.

- +PM announces easing of lockdown restrictions from 4 July
- Guidance on meeting people from outside your household from 4 July

24 June 2020

updated guidance on working safely across different sectors

+Hotels and guest accommodation added; guides updated to reflect change to 2m rule and mitigation actions needed to reduce risk of transmission

25 June 2020

10,000 residents and staff across over 100 care homes will be given coronavirus tests as part of a new surveillance study

More pubs, restaurants and cafes will be able to serve customers outdoors in plans announced by the government

Advice and information on how to look after your mental health and wellbeing during the coronavirus outbreak

26 June 2020

Updated guidance for food businesses on prevention of infection and management of outbreaks

29 June 2020

Updated social distancing guidance for transport operators - from 4 July if you cannot keep a 2 metre distance, reduce the risk by maintaining 1 metre distance where possible and taking suitable mitigations.

1 July 2020

Flexible furlough scheme starts

3 July 2020

Staff and residents in care homes for over 65s and those with dementia will receive regular coronavirus tests from next week as part of a new social care testing strategy

Working safely during coronavirus

+Updates to 12 guides covering a range of different types of work - include keeping records of staff, customers and visitors and what to do in the event of an outbreak.

9 July 2020

Outdoor pools can reopen to the public from 11 July followed by indoor gyms, pools and leisure centres on 25 July. Businesses including beauty salons, nail bars and tattoo studios can reopen safely from Monday 13 July.

14 July 2020

Government announce plans to make face covering mandatory in shops and supermarkets from 24 July 2020

Guidance on when to wear face coverings and how to make one

17 July 2020

Guidance for local authorities and local decision-makers on containing and managing COVID-19 outbreaks at a local level. Overarching aim is to empower local decision-makers to act at the earliest stage for local incidents.

- Updated safer travel quidance for passengers
- +Help control coronavirus and travel safely by walking and cycling, if you can. Where this is not possible, use public transport or drive.

20 July 2020

Updated guidance to include recommendation for all care home staff to wear a surgical mask.

+Third table added to the guidance. Type I or II surgical masks should be worn in the care home even when able to maintain 2 metres social distance. The only exception is when you work alone separated from other staff. Domiciliary care guidance also 31 July 2020 undated

22 July 2020

Update on policies for visiting arrangements care homes

+The process of considering visitors should be led by the relevant local director of public health, who should give a regular professional assessment of whether visiting is likely to be appropriate within their local authority. taking into account the wider risk environment.

24 July 2020

Mandatory for public to wear face coverings in shops, supermarkets, shopping centres and transport hubs. List of face covering exemptions published.

+Exemptions include anyone under the age of 11, or those with disabilities, or hidden health conditions such as breathing difficulties, mental health conditions or autism.

30 July 2020

Guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection updated to reflect the extension of self-isolation to 10 days

Management of staff and exposed patients and residents in health and social care settings

+Updated guidance to reflect the extension of the selfisolation period from 7 days to 10 days for staff who have COVID-19 symptoms or a positive test result from the community; 14 days isolation period for staff and patients who are admitted to hospital; inclusion of re-testing guidance in staff.

Personal Protective Equipment illustrated guide published outlines PPE advice for health and social care workers working in the community

Management of staff and exposed patients and residents in health and social care settings - flowcharts updated

to reflect the extension of the self-isolation period from 7 to 10 days.

Visiting care homes - guidance updated to say that no one should be allowed to enter a care home if they are currently experiencing or first experienced coronavirus symptoms in the last 10 days. Also updated to say visitors should be encouraged to walk or cycle to the care home if they can.

Working safely - from 1 August, clinically extremely vulnerable individuals can go to the workplace as long as it is COVID-secure, but should carry on working from home wherever possible.

Government postpone easing of restrictions - casinos, bowling alleys, skating rinks and remaining close contact services must remain closed. Indoor performances will not resume. Pilots of larger crowds in sports venues and conference centres will not take place. Wedding receptions of up to 30 people will not be permitted, but ceremonies can continue to take place, in line with COVID-Secure guidelines

13 August 2020

Advice published on how you can help reduce the transmission of coronavirus

Government announce new enforcement measures for most serious breaches of social distancing restrictions

2 September 2020

Admission and care of people in care home - how to protect care home residents and staff during the coronavirus outbreak. Added a new section on how care homes can support the NHS Test and Trace service.

Overview of adult social care guidance on coronavirus reference to acute PPE shortage guidance removed as it is no longer relevant.

Letter from Director of Adult Social Care Delivery to care providers to highlight rising infection rates and request action on testing and PPE in all care settings.

14 September 2020

Social distancing rules update - new rule of 6 introduced

17 September 2020 Healthcare providers can order

additional personal protective equipment through the portal to top up their existing supplies for COVID-19 in an emergency. Domiciliary care providers with 50 or more clients and residential care homes with over 50 or more beds can now order one box of visors (usually 200 per box) per week.

18 September 2020

A new adult social care winter plan published. Aims to curb the spread of coronavirus infections in care settings throughout the winter months.

+Includes free PPE and £546 million Infection Control Fund. Care providers must stop all but essential movement of staff between care homes to prevent the spread of infection. New Chief Nurse for Adult Social Care will be appointed to provide leadership to the social care nursing workforce.

Social Care Sector COVID-19 Support Taskforce report published on first phase of COVID-19 pandemic.

+Report sets out the progress and learning from the first phase of the COVID-19 pandemic in informing advice and recommendations to government and the social care sector.

11 September 2020 23 September 2020

Government announce further national measures to address rising cases of coronavirus

+Face coverings mandatory in more settings from 24.9.20; office workers who can work effectively from home should do so over the winter; business selling food and drink to close at 10pm from 24.9.20; new rules on meeting people safely. Different rules apply in Wales, Scotland and NI.

28 September 2020

From today, people in England required by law to self-isolate if they test positive or are contacted by NHS Test and Trace

29 September 2020

Updated guidance on NHS Test and Trace for employers, businesses and workers

+Employers should facilitate and support employee use of the NHS COVID-19 app within their workplaces wherever possible, while recognising that the app is not mandatory

12 October 2020

Government announce new local covid alert levels

15 October 2020

Visiting care homes during coronavirus. Updated guidance with reference to local COVID alert levels and measures set out in the adult social care winter plan.

31 October 2020

Prime Minister announces new national restrictions from 5 November 2020

2 November 2020

Updated guidance on use of aloves in care homes



4 November 2020

New guidance to support safe care home visits during lockdown

23 November 2020

Government publish Winter Plan for managing COVID-19 through the winter.

+The plan presents a programme for suppressing the virus, protecting the NHS and the vulnerable, keeping education and the economy going and providing a route back to normality. The plan sets out the Government's approach to ending the national restrictions on 2 December.

26 November 2020

Government announce new tier restrictions and guidance from 2.12.20

1 December 2020

Government publish "easy read" adult social care risk reduction framework.

- +Guidance re-iterates that an adult social care employer should have a process in place to assess and reduce risk for everyone in their care, regardless of characteristics or vulnerabilities. This should include the risk to the people who use the service, considering any individual characteristics which may put them at increased risk: the risk in the workplace, which should include travel to and from, and travel between workplaces and the risk to workers, including volunteers, considering any individual characteristics which may put them at increased risk.
- Updated guidance as to how care homes can support families and visitors to visit residents from 2 December
- Guidance on how care homes can support residents of working age on visits outside of the care home. Sets out how such visits can take place, the role of the provider in supporting outward

visiting and the need for individual risk assessments.

2 December 2020

UK medicines regulator gives approval for first UK COVID-19 vaccine

7 December 2020

COVID-19 vaccination: guide for healthcare workers published

+All frontline health and social care workers are being offered the COVID-19 vaccine which will help protect them against the COVID-19 disease.

COVID-19 vaccination consent forms and letter templates for social care staff, healthcare workers and care home residents published and available online.

8 December 2020

Guidance published about how care homes and visitors can prepare for visitor testing with lateral flow devices. Care homes are responsible for reviewing this testing guidance to prepare staff, residents and visitors for the testing and visiting process.

14 December 2020

Self-isolation period is now 10 days instead of 14.

16 December 2020

Guidance on the designated settings scheme for people discharged from hospital to a care home with a positive coronavirus test

+Sets out advice on setting up

designated settings, and information for local authorities and providers; information on discharge arrangements, and supporting individuals to ensure that their care needs and preferences are accounted for; additional advice on data collection, funding, visiting, and infection prevention and control requirements.

20 December 2020

New tier 4 imposed - residents must stay at home and avoid travel outside tier 4.

21 December 2020

Working safety during coronavirus - updated guidance on local restriction tiers and protecting people who are at higher risk. Clinically extremely vulnerable individuals are strongly advised to work from home if they're in Tier 4.

30 December 2020

Oxford University/Astra Zeneca vaccine authorised by UK medicines regulator

4 January 2021

National lockdown announced. You must not leave, or be outside of your home except where necessary.

2 February 2021

Advice for everyone to help stop the spread of Covid-19 also added to health and social care guidance

15 February 2021

New testing and quarantine rules in force for anyone allowed to enter England

22 February 2021

Government publish road map for cautiously easing Covid restrictions

1 March 2021

Guidance for care home providers on limiting staff movement between settings in all but exceptional circumstances

4 March 2021

Updated guidance on how care homes can support families and visitors to visit residents from 8 March

6 March 2021

All businesses in England are now able to sign up to the government's free COVID-19

workplace testing programme. 12 April

8 March 2021

Lockdown rules change to allow recreation with one other person outside, face to face education and wraparound childcare. Rules on visiting care homes changed to allow regular indoor visits for a single named visitor.

24 March 2021

Testing guidance published on how to access test kits and how to use PCR and rapid lateral flow test kits for regular and outbreak testing of care home residents and staff.

28 March 2021

All employers to be able to offer their employees free, rapid and regular testing that can be taken at home.

If you are an employer that requires staff to travel regularly across UK borders you must take reasonable steps to facilitate your employees to take tests.

29 March 2021

Restrictions - rules change: Rule of six re-introduced for outdoors group

1 April 2021

Clinically extremely vulnerable people in England informed they are no longer advised to shield

6 April 2021

Updated guidance for those working in care homes. Introduced recommendations to change PPE after each episode of personal care, and new recommendations around use of eye protection when delivering personal care within 2 metres.

9 April 2021

Everyone in England is eligible for free rapid COVID-19 tests, twice a week.

• 12 April 2021

Non-essential retail, personal care facilities, indoor sports and leisure facilities, self-contained holiday accommodation, outdoor hospitality venues, outdoor attractions and public buildings may reopen.

28 April 2021

Visiting arrangements in care homes guidance corrected to reflect that named visitors should be tested using rapid LFTs on the day of every visit.

17 May 2021

Restrictions eased - includes gathering limits eased; new guidance on meeting family and friends; indoor entertainment opens; indoor hospitality can reopen; all holiday accommodation can open; rules for care home residents changed; international travel permitted

4 June 2021

Admission and care of people in care homes – guidance updated to reflect the change in procedure of reporting COVID-19 cases and outbreak management in care homes. HPT and PHE to be informed of a single possible or confirmed case. Outbreak is two or more confirmed cases. Stop visiting if outbreak.

9 June 2021

Updated PPE guidance for community and social care settings including care homes

PPE guidance for those working in care home - putting on and removing PPE; taking off PPE

14 June 2021

Government pause step 4 openings until 19 July 2021 and accelerate vaccination programme

Care home residents can stay overnight as visiting restrictions ease.

• 16 June 2021

Everyone working in CQC registered care homes from October 2021 must be fully vaccinated with both doses under new law (subject to Parliamentary approval) to protect residents.

17 June 2021

Visiting arrangements in care homes updated to reflect that care home residents should isolate following a visit only where it includes an overnight stay in hospital, or is deemed high-risk following an individual risk assessment; residents no longer should isolate on admission into the care home from the community

18 June 2021

Updated guidance on admission and care of people in care homes

21 June 2021

Restrictions change – including weddings and civil partnerships; care home visits; large events piloted from 21 June

29 June 2021

Consultation on movement of staff between settings concludes. Government to introduce legislation to temporarily restrict the movement of staff providing personal care or nursing care.

14 July 2021

Working safely during coronarvirus – guidance from step 4 (19 July). Advice on sensible precautions employers can take to manage risk and support their staff and customers.

19 July 2021

Government move to step 4 of roadmap – many restrictions lifted and five point plan introduced to manage the virus in the next phase.

4 August 2021

From 11 November 2021, anyone working or volunteering in a care home will need to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19, unless exempt.

9 August 2021

Steps to take following the death of a person who worked in adult social care in England, Guidance update to add details of a life assurance scheme for eligible frontline health and care workers who die from coronavirus contracted in the course of their frontline essential work.

16 August 2021

Self-isolation removed for double-jabbed close contacts.

20 September 2021

First invitations sent out for booster jabs.

23 November 2021

Restricting workforce movement between care homes and other care settings.
Revised guidance describing circumstances in which staff movement may be cautiously permitted to plan for capacity concerns and to ensure continuity of care.

Personal protective equipment recommendation for unpaid carers.

Booster jabs - those over 40 eligible.

25 November 2021

visiting arrangements in care homes updated.

27 November 2021 New measures announced as

Omicron variant identified in UK. Include face coverings to be made compulsory in shops and on public transport from 30 November.

30 November2021

Booster jabs - those over 18 eligible and dosing gap reduced from 6 to 3 months.

Face coverings compulsory in shops and on public transport; all contacts of suspected Omicron cases must self-isolate, regardless of their age or vaccination status.

Working safely during coronavirus updated to reflect new measures due to Omicron variant. Face coverings; contacts to self-isolate.

1 December 2021

Infection control precautions for discharge to home or residential settings updated due to Omicron variant.

8 December 2021

Government announce move to plan B in England which includes work from home if you can; face masks compulsory in most public indoor venues; NHS covid pass required in specific settings

14 December 2021

Update to visiting arrangements in care homes

+New restrictions on care home visiting due to the new Omicron variant of COVID-19: reducing the number of visitors each care home resident can receive to 3 (not including essential care givers or preschool age children), requiring testing or self-isolation following visits out of the care home, and changing testing arrangements for staff and essential caregivers.

15 December 2021

Requirement to show NHS COVID Pass at nightclubs, some venues and large events to show fully vaccinated, negative test result in the last 48 hours, or exemption.



22 December 202131 March 2022

10 day self-isolation period reduced to 7 days following negative LFD tests on day

11 January 2022

Requirement removed for people testing positive on an LFD test to have a confirmatory PCR test

17 January 2022

People with COVID-19 in England can end their self-isolation after five full days, as long as they test negative on day 5 and day 6

19 January 2022

Measures put in place under Plan B in England to be lifted including ask to work from home; from 27 January there is no longer a legal requirement to wear a face covering; venues and events will no longer be required by law to check visitors' NHS COVID Pass.

31 January 2022

Government announce its intention to revoke the regulations making vaccines a condition of deployment for health and social care staff, subject to parliamentary process.

21 February 2022

Government publish plan for living with Covid-19

24 February 2022

Last domestic restrictions removed including - remove requirement to self-isolate following positive test and daily testing for those under 18 who are fully vaccinated and close contacts.

■ 1 March 2022

Government announce they are to revoke vaccination as a condition of deployment in all health and social care settings.

New guidance published to support the response to COVID-19. Applies to adult social care settings and services in England from 4 April 2022. Covers vaccination, testing, PPE, staff movement and considerations specific to care homes including visits.

Hospital discharge and community support guidance. Sets out how health and care systems should support the safe and timely discharge of people who no longer need to stay in hospital.

1 April 2022

Guidance published on living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19.

Testing for anyone working in adult social care who is not part of regular testing at work - test with LFTs every day before you start work. Withdrawn on 5 April 2022.



