



# Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19): Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland stakeholder bulletin #15

Issued on behalf of the NHS in LLR  
Date of issue: 3rd June 2020



Through these bulletins we will keep you updated on the NHS response to Coronavirus in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

We will try to ensure you have the latest information, but as you are aware the situation is rapidly changing. If you have any questions or would like to ask about a topic please email us at: [PressOfficeLLRCCGs@leicestershire.nhs.uk](mailto:PressOfficeLLRCCGs@leicestershire.nhs.uk)

Please continue to support the message on staying at home and in particular help us to tackle misinformation by promoting the official sources of information: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>.

## Coronavirus cases in LLR

As at 3 June there were 2266 lab confirmed cases in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) 376 people who tested positive with coronavirus have sadly died in Leicestershire's hospitals (University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust and Leicestershire Partnerships NHS Trust).

## Coronavirus testing for patients

Anyone aged 5 and above who has symptoms can now get tested, using a swab test, to see if they currently have coronavirus. Essential workers will be given priority and appointments must be made in advance.

For patients in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, the test could take place either at our permanent test centre at Birstall Park and Ride or at a mobile testing unit (MTU).

Mobile units are only in a location for a few days. They have an integrated one-way system that allows people with an appointment to attend for either walk-in or drive through testing. There is also a permanent site in Peterborough which might be of interest to patients in Rutland.

The swab test is only effective if it is carried out in the first three to five days of symptoms, so it is important that patients book their appointment as soon as they develop symptoms.

To avoid people turning up at the MTUs without an appointment, and to reduce the risk of people delaying their test in anticipation of a more convenient location, advance location details and the duration of an MTU's stay are not being made available to the general public.

When people book their appointment they will be given a choice of local locations from the permanent sites and the MTUs that are in operation at the time. They will receive the full address details of where to go with their confirmation email.

Appointments can be booked for the remainder of this week at the following locations:

	Birstall Park and Ride	Rutland MTU	Leicester (City-centre) MTU
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2020	✓	✓	✓
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2020	✓	✓	✓
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2020	✓		✓

To book an appointment visit: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested>.

## 119 Testing Call Centre

By calling 119, members of the public who don't have online access, can book a coronavirus swab test and ask any questions relating to having a test and getting results. This includes information about drive through test sites, mobile test units and home tests.

The call centre is open from 7am to 11pm and can be accessed by people with speech or language difficulties as well as by people whose first language is not English.

The service can be accessed by people with hearing or speech difficulties by calling 18001 0300 303 2713.

## Government launches NHS Test and Trace service

The new NHS Test and Trace service has now launched across England and will form a central part of the government's coronavirus recovery strategy. The service will help identify, contain and control coronavirus, reduce the spread of the virus and save lives.

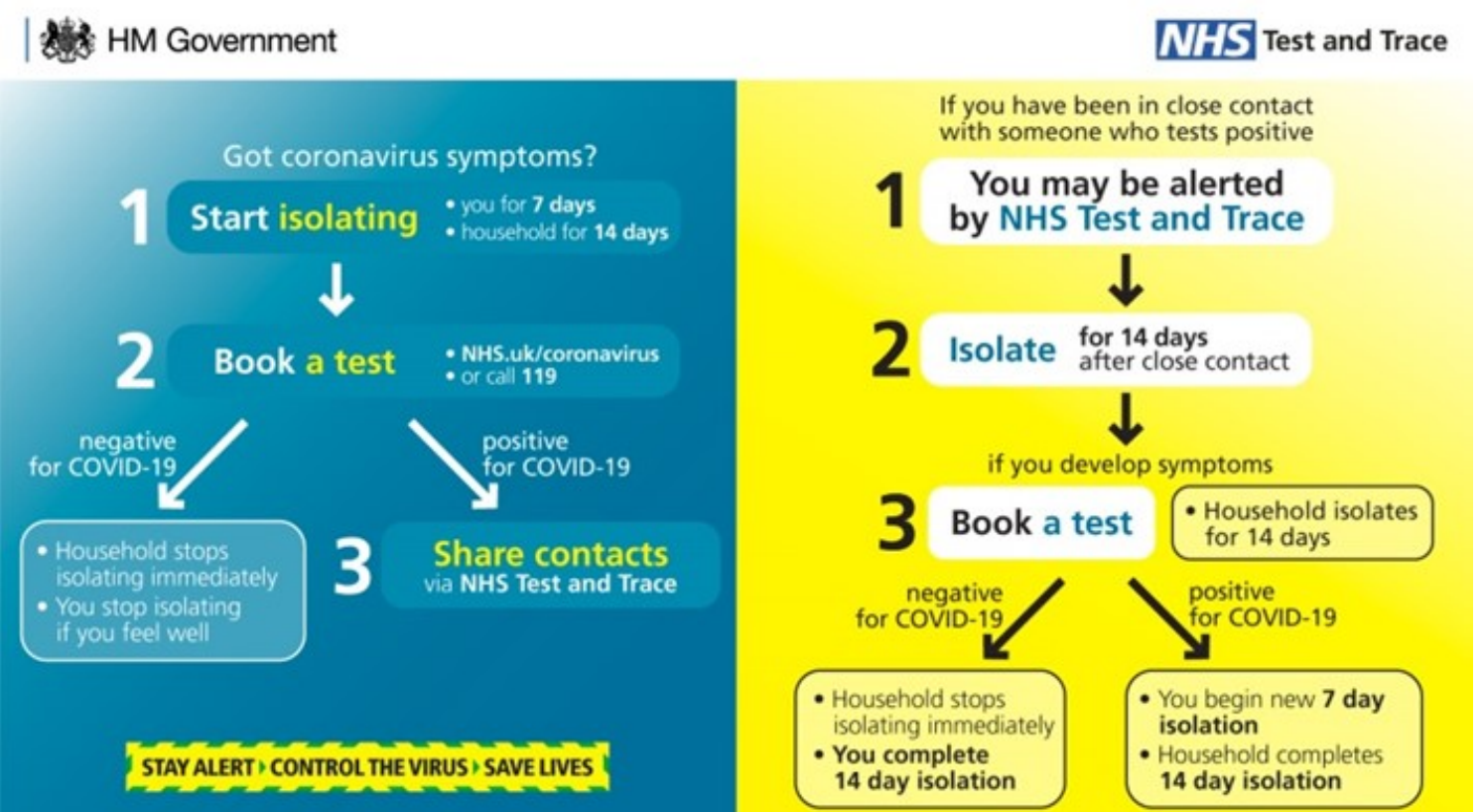
Anyone who tests positive for coronavirus will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace and will need to share information about their recent interactions. This could include household members, people with whom they have been in direct contact or within 2 metres of for more than 15 minutes.

People identified as having been in close contact with someone who has a positive test must stay at home for 14 days, even if they do not have symptoms, to stop unknowingly spreading the virus.

If those in isolation develop symptoms they can book a test at [nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://nhs.uk/coronavirus) or by calling 119. If they test positive, they must continue to stay at home for 7 days or until their symptoms have passed.

If they test negative, they must complete the 14-day isolation period. Members of their household will not have to stay at home unless the person identified becomes symptomatic, at which point they must also self-isolate for 14 days to avoid unknowingly spreading the virus.

People who are contacted by the NHS Test and Trace service will be given clear information explaining what they must do and how they can access local support if needed. Guidance is also available online at [gov.uk/coronavirus](https://gov.uk/coronavirus).



## Update on antibody test kits for home use

Some UK providers such as high street pharmacies and private healthcare providers offer COVID-19 antibody testing for members of the public.

The test involves taking a finger prick blood sample. The laboratory tests are CE marked and safe for use on blood drawn from the vein by a healthcare professional, but have not yet been validated by the manufacturer of the test to be used with a finger prick blood sample.

It's very important for people at home to be able to understand the reliability of the result and what it means for them. A positive result may not mean a person is immune or, if they demonstrate immunity now, how long this will last.

The Government strongly advises members of the public or organisations who have purchased these tests and received antibody results to continue to follow the Government's advice whatever the result of the test. The Government is contacting providers of the antibody testing services and the laboratories running these tests to ask them to temporarily stop offering these tests for sale until the regulatory and safety concerns have been resolved.

## Coronavirus: your experiences of NHS services

In May we launched our online survey to find out about people's experiences of NHS services during the coronavirus outbreak. We have had a fantastic response so far – 609 at the last count – and some very helpful feedback.

It has been interesting to see that many patients are positive about the new arrangements put in place to ensure GP services can be provided safely to them, particularly video and telephone-based consultations. However other patients have raised concerns around accessing information on how to manage and access care where required for non-covid conditions.

We'd still like to hear more about your experiences of using GP and pharmacy services, the impact on your mental health and wellbeing, and the availability of information and advice. The survey closes on Sunday 7th June, so please do take part in the survey by visiting [bit.ly/LLRCovid19](https://bit.ly/LLRCovid19) or calling 07917 722 708.

## Every Mind Matters - New sleep resources

Following Mental Health Awareness week, Public Health England has produced a new set of [resources to encourage](#) people to be kind to themselves by taking action to improve their sleep. The resources include tips and advice on getting a good night's sleep and are available for everyone concerned about the impact of sleep on mental wellbeing.

## Useful information

One Prepared is a local source of information for help and services in LLR <https://www.llrprepared.org.uk/one-prepared/>.

National information is available at <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

For health advice on coronavirus please visit: <https://www.nhs.uk/>

For local NHS information see <https://www.leicestercityccg.nhs.uk/my-health/coronavirus-advice/>