
**Welcome to the Community Resilience
Virtual Briefing
19 March 2021**

Topics to cover

- Virtual briefing to complement the weekly email briefing
- National Update and Lockdown Easing
- Covid update
- Vaccination progress
- Approach to Community Testing
- Key contacts and ideas for future briefings please

National update

- Some easing in restrictions from 12 March – 4 people from 2 households can now meet and socialise outdoors and the return of some outdoor on-contact sports for adults and 12-17 year olds .
- Phased return to school this week – all primary pupils now back, phased return of secondary
- First Minister announcement 16 March – publication of timetable for easing restrictions:
 - Indicative dates depending upon virus
 - 2 April “Stay at home” to be lifted and changed to ‘stay local’
 - Timescales for retail reopening and for hospitality reopening
 - 26 April travel within mainland Scotland allowed

Lockdown Easing

Indicative Date	Timetable for easing covid restrictions
12-15 March	Return of remaining primary school pupils and senior secondary school pupils part-time. Up to 4 adults from up to 2 households may socialise outdoors. Non-contact outdoor group sport/exercise permitted in groups of up to 15 people (for both adults and 12-17 year olds).
26 March	Communal worship can take place in a place of worship with up to a maximum of 50 people.
2 April	Stay at home measures become stay local - travel within local authority for a non-essential purpose.
5 April	More retailers and click and collect permitted to open. Hairdressers and barbers can reopen (appointment only).
12-19 April	All pupils back at school full-time.

Lockdown Easing cont.

Indicative Date	Timetable for easing covid restrictions
26 April	<p>Socialising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Up to 6 people from up to 3 households can socialise outdoors.• Travel within mainland Scotland allowed.• Up to 4 people from 2 households can socialise indoors in a public place such as a café or restaurant. <p>Retail and Hospitality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All shops, stores and close contact services can open.• Hospitality venues like cafes, pubs and restaurants can open until: 8p.m. indoors (no alcohol) 10p.m. outdoors (alcohol permitted). <p>Gyms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gyms can open for individual exercise – numbers extended, subject to capacity constraints.
17 May	<p>Up to 4 people from 2 household can socialise indoors in a private home or public space.</p> <p>Hospitality venues can open until:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">10:30p.m. indoors (alcohol permitted, 2 hour dwell time)10:00p.m outdoors (alcohol permitted) <p>Cinemas, amusement arcades, and bingo halls can open.</p>

Lockdown Easing cont.

Indicative Date	Timetable for easing covid restrictions
Early June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Up to 6 people from up to 3 households can socialise indoors in a home or public place.• Up to 8 people from 3 households can socialise outdoors. 8 12-17 year olds can meet socially from 8 households outdoors.• Hospitality can remain open until 11pm.
From End of June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Up to 6 people from up to 3 households can socialise indoors in a home or public place.• A phased return of some office staff.

Trend data - Highland

Trend data by NHS Board | Local Authority

What information would you like to see?

Positive cases

Select location:

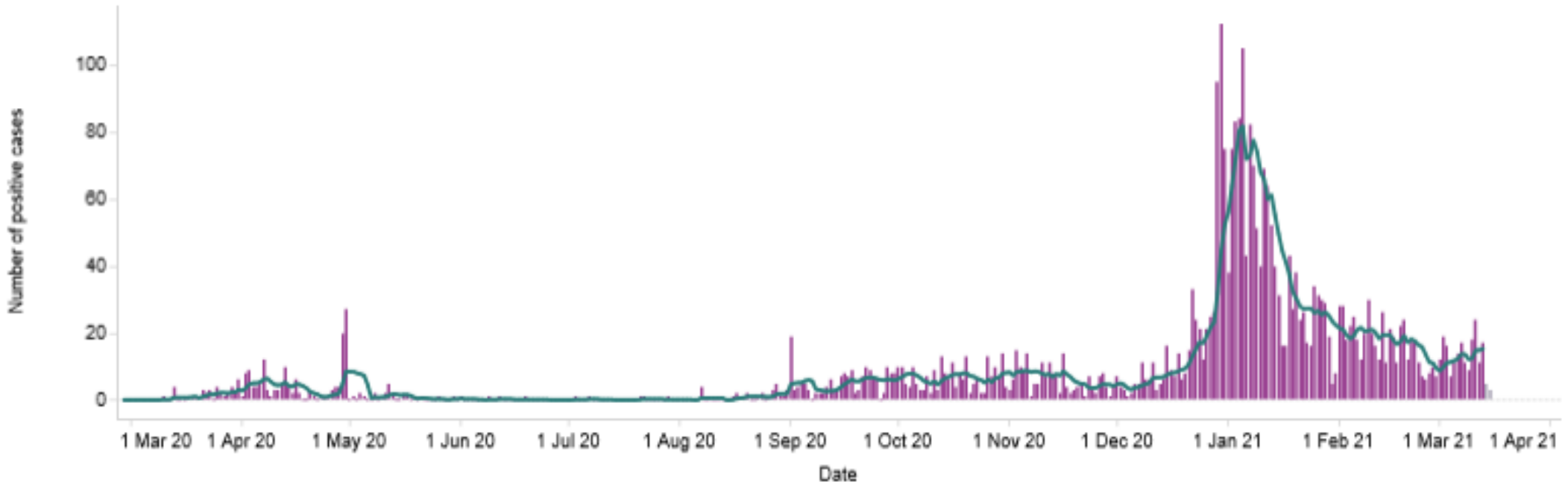
Highland

Daily figure

7 day moving average

Most recent data incomplete

Positive cases by specimen date in Highland



Data position – 15/03/2021. 7 day test positive rate: 45.4/100,000 of Highland population

Covid update

- The decline in Covid positive tests is not being sustained
- Infection rate has increased from 40.7/100,000 reported last week to 45.4/100,000 this week, but still lower than for Scotland at 72.6/100,000
- It's important to stick to:

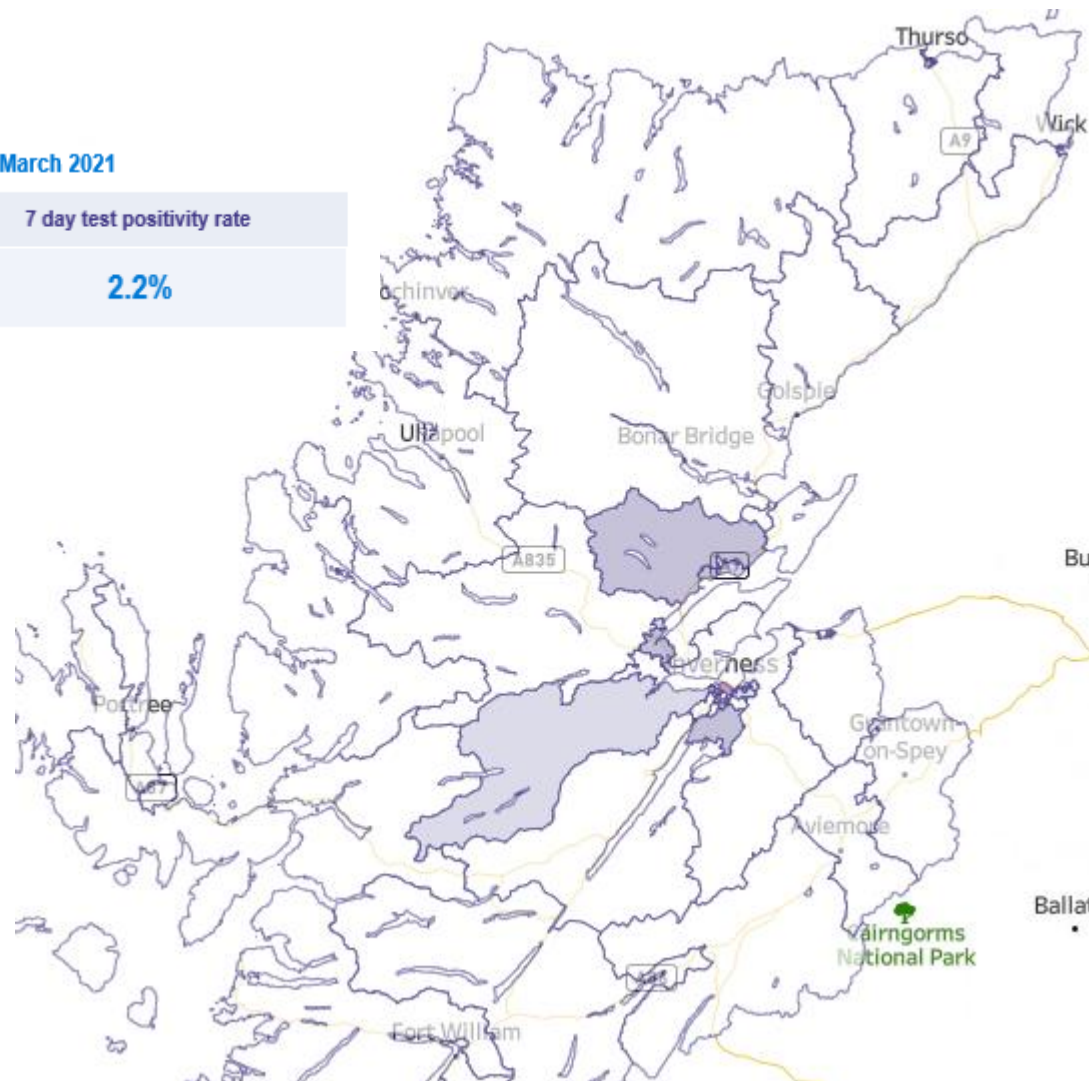


- Majority of cases remain around the inner moray firth area

Cases by neighbourhood

Neighbourhoods in Highland

- Inverness Central, Raigmore and Longman
- Inverness Smithton
- Alness
- Inverness Slackbuie
- Inverness Hilton
- Ross and Cromarty East
- Conon
- Inverness Ballifeary and Dalneigh
- Inverness West Rural
- Inverness Drummond
- Inverness Muirtown
- Buchan
- Dingwall
- Invergordon
- Inverness Westhill
- Wick South
- Wick North



7 day positive cases in Highland based on people tested between 7 March 2021 and 13 March 2021

7 day positive cases	7 day positive rate per 100,000 population	7 day test positivity rate
107	45.4	2.2%

7 day positive rate per 100,000 population



* For neighbourhoods with fewer than 3 cases, we do not show a 7 day rate to protect patient confidentiality.

Vaccination programme update

Good progress continues to be made with the GP led programme:

- For NHSH area as a whole, over 124,222 first and second dose vaccinations have been administered which is **46% of the over 16 population against a Scottish rate of 43%**.
- Vaccination has reached: 91.5% of over 80's in the community; 92.5% of those aged 75 – 79 years; 92.3% of 70 -74's; 86% of 65 -69's and 42% of 60 – 65's
- On track for all those aged over 50 years to be vaccinated by mid April and for the adult population to be vaccinated by mid-July.

Preparing to deploy the Jabbernaut in April to various locations

Symptomatic testing infrastructure

- Regional Test Centre, UHI Campus, Inverness 8am – 8pm;
- Local Test sites operating 8am to 8pm daily at HC HQ Car Park, Inverness and Riverside Car Park, Wick
- Mobile Testing Unit – Community Fire Station Dingwall 10am-4pm daily.
- SFRS have 14 test sites – 2 models

Symptomatic testing infrastructure

Full model
Thurso – 0900 to 1200 Mon to Fri
Dornoch – 0900 to 1200 Mon to Fri
Grantown-on-Spey – 0900 to 1200 Mon to Fri
Portree – 0900 to 1200 Mon to Fri
Broadford – 0900 to 1200 Mon to Fri
Fort William – 0900 to 1200 Mon to Fri
Ullapool – 0900 to 1200 Mon to Fri

Pre-book, attend by car, complete test in car, return packaged test kit to SFRS staff.

If attending on foot, take test home to use and return to SFRS packaged

SFRS send by courier in the afternoon.

Symptomatic testing infrastructure

Pre-deployment model
Kingussie – 1100 to 1200 Mon to Fri
Fort Augustus – 1800 to 1900 Mon to Fri
Gairloch – 1800 to 1900 Mon to Fri
Lairg – 1100 to 1200 Mon to Fri
Acharacle – 1100 to 1200 Mon to Fri
Tongue – 1100 to 1200 Mon to Fri
Lochcarron – 1100 to 1200 Mon to Fri

Pre-book a time slot to collect a home test kit. Complete test and package it at home. Post the test to the lab via the nearest priority post box.

Community testing - key messages

- A new community testing programme offers rapid COVID-19 tests for people without symptoms.
- Not everyone who has coronavirus will have symptoms, so people could be spreading the disease without knowing it.
- Testing for positive cases and encouraging those people to self-isolate means we have a better chance of stopping the virus spreading.
- By getting tested, you can help your community, families and friends stay safe and slow down the spread of coronavirus.

Community testing - key messages

- By getting tested, you can help us move towards reopening work places and businesses.
- More testing helps to show us how the virus is spread and reduce risks.
- People should be encouraged to get tested regularly.
- Support is available for people who test positive and need to self-isolate.

Asymptomatic Community Testing

Types of tests

- **LFD** – Lateral Flow Device testing is carried out by mouth and nose swabbing and checks for virus antigens. It is self-administered and can be conducted and analysed anywhere and provides results in approximately 30 minutes. Used among professional groups including health and social care front line and care homes staff, school-based staff from February 2021 and all secondary school pupils mid April.
- **PCR** – Polymerase Chain Reaction testing is carried out by nasal swabbing and checks for viral genetic material. This test is sometimes referred to as the “gold standard”, however, analysis is done in a laboratory and it takes several hours to transport and analyse samples.
- For community testing, we will use LFD tests (quick and doesn't use up finite lab capacity), but if someone tests positive using LFR, because it is less accurate than PCR tests, all positive LFD results must be checked by PCR.

What happens in community testing for those attending?

- Community testing is walk in and without appointments.
- Public messaging using a variety of formats to encourage take-up.
- Facilities can be fixed, pop-up and mobile.
- On arrival any queues are managed, people are asked to confirm they have no symptoms, they are advised of the purpose of testing in their area and the process of testing, to sanitize their hands and are registered.
- People attending are shown to the testing booth, advised how to undertake the test and where to leave it and how to exit the facility. They may wait for test results or leave the area and be notified of them by text message.

What happens in community testing for those attending?

- Where tests are negative, they are advised and that they must continue to observe FACTS and follow national guidance on lockdown restrictions.
- Where tests are positive, they are advised and arrangements are made for the second PCR test to be taken and submitted.
- Information on how to self-isolate safely is provided – and for household members.
- Leaflet on the range of supports available is provided from the Council and from community groups:
 - Apply for self isolation support grant (£500)
 - Welfare benefits check
 - Food support offer
 - Shopping deliveries
 - Prescription delivery
 - Contact for social support
 - Signposting other services
 - Phone calls from the Council to check in on any supports needed

Highland operations

- Learning from experience elsewhere and part of a national network to share practice
- Currently developing further mobile facilities for Highland and looking at other options
- These suit our geography and it's hard to find fixed venues that are suitable and ready to stand up a short notice and bookable to September
- Looking at any fit with the symptomatic testing infrastructure
- Hoping to trial this approach this month with military support
- NHSH public health team would advise on location where community testing is needed
- When locations are confirmed we will brief local Councillors and let community resilience groups in the locality know to help with messaging and in case we need some help on site marshalling people

Thank you and stay safe

- For local resilience support – please contact your Ward Manager or policy6@highland.gov.uk
- For welfare advice and referring people - Welfare.support@highland.gov.uk
- For the vaccination programme NHSHighland.Feedback@nhs.scot

Please respond to policy6@highland.gov.uk if there are any items you'd like to see included in future briefings.

We plan to review the virtual briefing in mid May (after 3 months), and are keen to hear your views on how helpful this information is and what would make it better.