# Welcome to the Community Resilience Virtual Briefing 14 May 2021

#### **Topics to cover**

- Virtual briefing to complement the weekly email briefing
- National situation report
- Covid update
- Vaccination timeline update
- Asymptomatic Community Testing
- Visitor Management Investment
- New Resources for Community Groups
- Key contacts and ideas for future briefings please

# **National situation report**

 Most areas of Scotland and the Isle of Skye are expected to move to Level 2 next Monday (17 May).

#### At Level 2:

- you can meet socially in groups of up to:
  - 4 adults from 2 households in your home or theirs and can stay overnight
  - 6 adults from 3 households in an indoor public place like a café, pub or restaurant
  - 8 adults from 8 households can meet outdoors
- you can travel anywhere in Scotland in Levels 0, 1 or 2 but must not enter a Level 3 or 4 area unless for a permitted reason
- up to 50 people can attend weddings and funerals
- tradespeople can carry out any work in your home such as painting, decorating or repairing
- you should work from home where possible

#### **Covid update**

- Infection rate has decreased now to 7.2/100,000 (12 May). 17 cases across Highland over the last 7 days so positive sustained low numbers (Scotland=28.5/100,000)
- Test positivity 0.5%
- Small number of cases per neighbourhood majority are not being highlighted as won't disclose where there is less than 3 in any neighbourhood.
- Moray situation highlighting virus is still around therefore very important to still stick to:



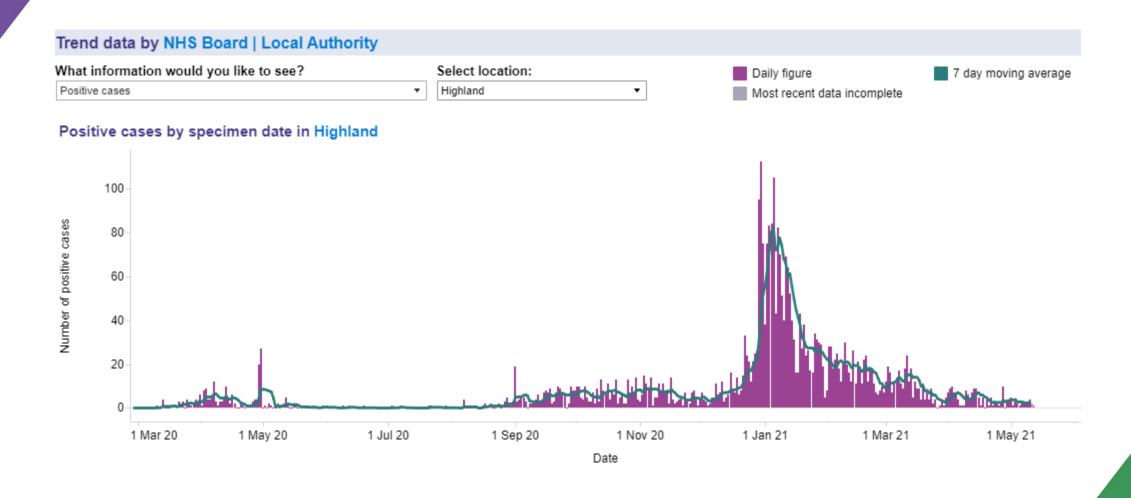






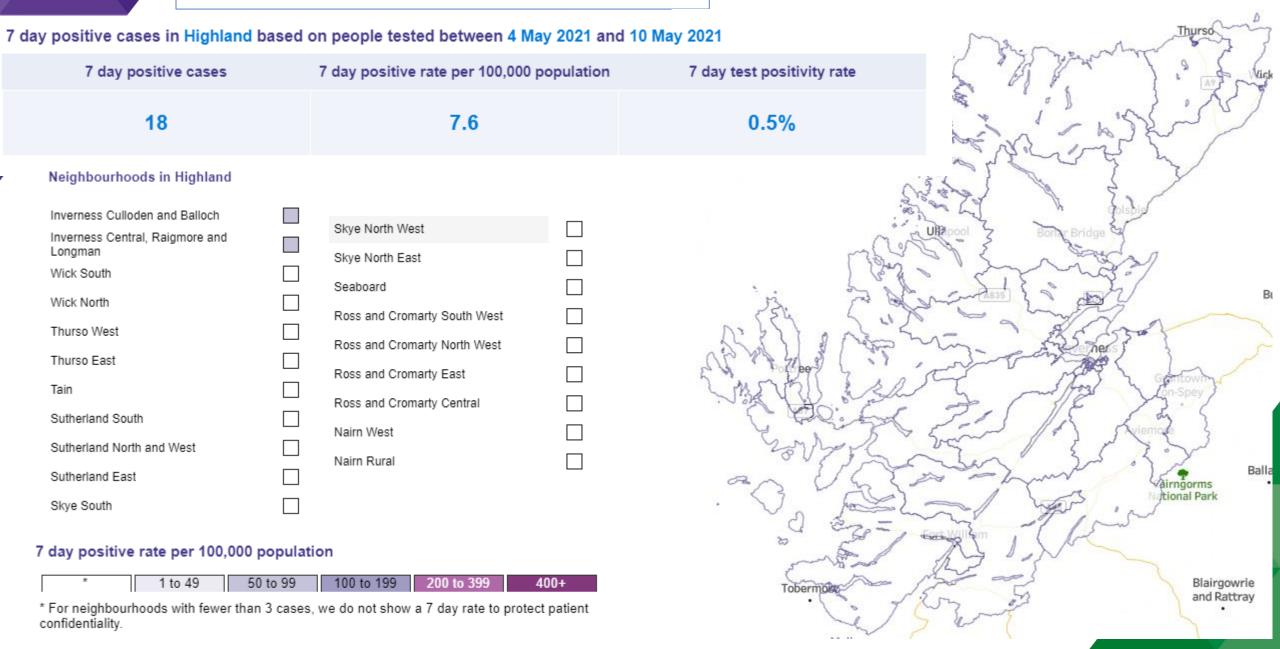


# **Trend data - Highland**



Data position – 12/05/2021. 7 day test positive rate: 7.2/100,000 of Highland population

#### Cases by neighbourhood



## Vaccination programme update

#### **Good progress is being made in Highland:**

- For NHSH area as a whole, over 167,000 first dose vaccinations have been administered which is 68.4% of the over 16 population against a Scottish rate of 64.9%
- Vaccination has reached: 93.7% of over 80's in the community; 95% of those aged 75 79 years; 95% of 70 -74's; 93% of 65 -69's; 91% of 60 64's; 86% of 55-59's and 73% 50 –54's.
- On track for the adult population to be vaccinated by end July.
- Timelines are dependent on vaccine supplies.
- NHSH running clinics where any GP practices withdraw letters direct to individuals where this is happening
- Our mobile vaccination units are being deployed where needed, so far in Beauly, Ballachulish and Brora. This week they've been in Mallaig and Drumnadrochit and possibly Skye later this month. More locations expected in June and July. We'll provide updates to communities on locations once these have been confirmed by NHS Highland

## **Asymptomatic Community Testing**

- Universal offer opened from 26.4.21 anyone can register on the Government's website <a href="https://test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/order-lateral-flow-kits/condition">https://test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/order-lateral-flow-kits/condition</a> for test kits to be posted or call 119
- Work place testing e.g. care homes, schools
- Negotiations underway for pharmacies to offer a collect model
- Assisted LFD testing through the Community Testing programme
  - mobile units becoming the norm
  - we have a team trained, 2 vehicles in use and another developed this month
  - processes tested in Inverness and between 21<sup>st</sup> April and 7<sup>th</sup> May 158 people attended voluntarily, with one positive test result
  - deploying on location to Thurso and Wick next week to normalise testing, note there is no outbreak
  - advance notice will be provided to local community groups to help encourage attendance

## **Visitor Management**

- Travel now permitted across mainland UK
- Partnership working group established to identify issues
- Visitor management plan
  - £280,000 on road management and improvements;
  - £250,000 investment in parking management;
  - £300,000 for the provision of new seasonal access rangers;
  - £60,000 spend on public toilet including comfort schemes;
  - £180,000 on waste management (bins, litter and fly-tipping);
  - £200,000 on enhancing bus services; and
  - £125,000 on initiatives to improve visitor management in hotspots within the Cairngorms National Park Area, working in close partnership with the Cairngorms National Park Authority.

## Visitor Management – Public Conveniences

- Public conveniences £60k investment
  - The Council currently operates 75 public conveniences throughout the Highlands
  - 37 comfort scheme agreements with local businesses and community groups in place. Comfort scheme agreements between the Council and businesses and community groups are aimed at meeting public demand in areas that are not served by Council run facilities
  - Six Highland Council public conveniences are due to receive investments in their facilities including new paddle gate systems for charging
  - 8 new comfort schemes have been agreed
  - Further 6 providers are being considered for inclusion in the comfort scheme
  - Funding for vandalism repairs at several sites

## Visitor Management - Waste

#### Waste services

- Investment of £180k in enhanced waste services
- number of larger bins and increased numbers of smaller bins and increased frequency of emptying
- 8 additional staff employed for the summer season to keep hotspots clear of litter and refuse and emptying bins more frequently
- These staff will be based in Lochinver for the North West Coast;
   Ullapool covering the west area; Lochcarron, Portree,
   Brora/Golspie, Fort William, Aviemore; and Inverness Loch Ness areas.

#### **New Resources**

#### **Welfare Guide**

- Highlighting range of financial support and guidance available for individuals who may be struggling
- Range of topics including:
  - how Pension Credit can provide top-up payments and maximise income for pensioners;
  - information on Best Start Grants and Best Start Foods;
  - financial support for individuals who are required to self-isolate

#### Signposting Resource for Mental Health and Wellbeing

- To help signpost both individuals and communities to trusted services of mental health and wellbeing support.
- Aims to raise awareness of where people can get help in a crisis, and learning tools to develop skills and confidence to allow more open and frequent conversations about mental health.

## 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 <u>NHSHighland.Feedback@nhs.scot</u>

Please respond to <a href="mailto:policy6@highland.gov.uk">policy6@highland.gov.uk</a> if there are any items you'd like to see included in future briefings.