

# Community Resilience Group Weekly Briefing - 24 2 July 2021

## Briefing 24

### Covid Update

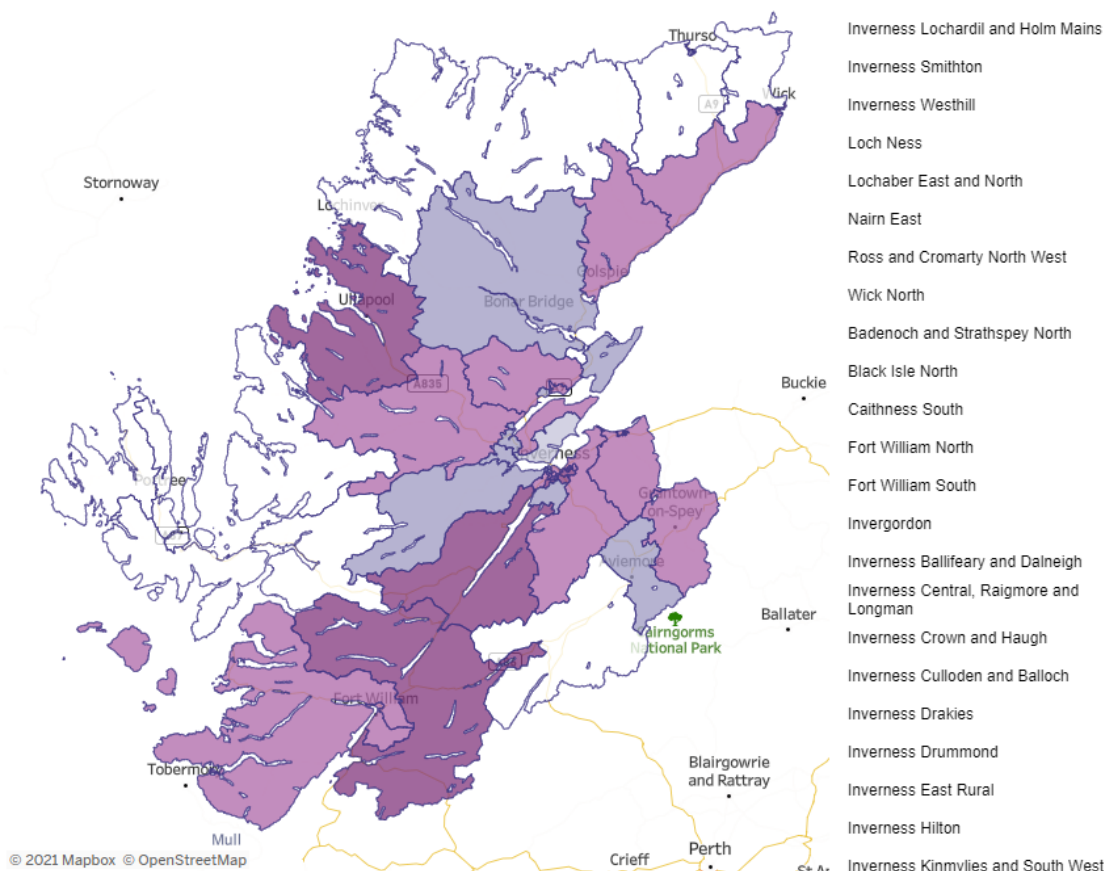
As you will be aware from media coverage, there continues to be a significant increase in the numbers of covid cases reported across the country including within Highland. Over the last 7 days there have been 565 new positive cases in Highland (to 1 July), an increase from the 166 reported last week. This means the latest rate per 100,000 has increased from 70.4 per 100,000 last week to 239.6 per 100,000 as of 29 June.

In terms of neighbourhood data, the map below and accompanying table, highlights the positive cases per 100,000 in communities across the Highland area. The increases shown reflect the increase in reported numbers of cases over the last week.

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.



***Symptoms and PCR Testing*** - the message from NHS Highland is to remain vigilant for any symptoms. The typical symptoms are a new continuous cough, a high temperature or fever and a loss of, or change in, normal taste or smell (anosmia). However, people with COVID-19 can present with a wide range of symptoms including headache, sore muscles and joints, tiredness, sore throat, cold-like symptoms and diarrhoea and vomiting.

Anyone that becomes unwell should isolate immediately and seek a PCR test. Tests can be booked through NHS Inform online or by calling 0800 028 2816.

***Asymptomatic Testing*** - As cases rise, it is important to test yourself even if you don't have symptoms. Taking a rapid LFD test twice a week can help stop new variants earlier, limiting the spread of the virus.

Test kits are available at pharmacies, or to order online from [www.nhsinform.scot/testing](http://www.nhsinform.scot/testing), or by calling 119.

Test kits are also available at Community testing sites. The details for where these are next week is outlined below.

## **Community Testing 5 July – 9 July**

Next week there will be two units deployed for community testing.

- Inverness - “Moves like Jagger” will be at Inverness Retail Park Monday to Friday, opening hours 09.30 – 16.30 (09.30 – 13.00 Friday).
- Aviemore - “Testalot” will be at Aviemore Retail Park Wednesday till Friday, 09.30 – 16.30 (09.30 – 15.00 Friday).

The community testing programme offers rapid COVID-19 tests for people without symptoms. Just to emphasise that there is no outbreak in these communities this is to support normalising testing across the area.

No appointment is necessary, and it will be open both for asymptomatic testing and to collect LFD test kits.

I would appreciate it if you could encourage people across your networks to attend.

## **Self-Registration for Vaccination**

From Monday 28 June, anyone aged 18 and over who has not received a first coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination appointment or has missed their first dose for any reason is invited to self-register for an appointment.

The portal is open until this initial vaccination programme ends in September. The online system, which was used successfully to encourage unpaid carers and 18-29 year olds to come forward, will be available to every adult in Scotland.

Book a place on the Scottish Government's Self Registration Portal here <https://www.nhsinform.scot/vaccineregistration>

## **Vaccination Update**

The latest update from NHS on the vaccine can be accessed at the following link: [www.nhsinform.scot/covid19vaccine](http://www.nhsinform.scot/covid19vaccine)

## **Food Support for Groups**

We know that a number of you continue to provide support to the most vulnerable in your communities and that most of you already have well defined routes for accessing food to provide this support or are supporting individuals to access their shopping or community fridges/food tables.

If you are struggling to access food to continue support to vulnerable people locally, please do contact us through the policy mailbox and we can look at ways that we can support your group going forward.

Contact: [policy6@highland.gov.uk](mailto:policy6@highland.gov.uk)

## **Resilience Network Contacts**

Should any group not already be involved with these networks, the contact details for each is below.

- Caithness – If any groups aren't involved and wish to be please contact Alan Tait at Caithness Voluntary Groups [allan@cvq.org.uk](mailto:allan@cvq.org.uk)
- Sutherland – If any groups aren't involved and wish to be please contact Karina Ross at Highland and Islands Enterprise [karina.ross@hient.co.uk](mailto:karina.ross@hient.co.uk)
- East Ross – Helen Ross, Ward Manager, will facilitate this network. For future involvement in this network please contact [policy6@highland.gov.uk](mailto:policy6@highland.gov.uk)
- Black Isle - If any groups aren't involved and wish to be please contact Asia Cielecka at [communities@black-isle.info](mailto:communities@black-isle.info)
- Wester Ross and Dingwall – Dot Ferguson, Ward Manager, will facilitate this network. For future involvement in this network please contact [policy6@highland.gov.uk](mailto:policy6@highland.gov.uk)
- Skye and Raasay - If any groups aren't involved and wish to be please contact Fiona Thomson at Skye Community Response Development Team [fiona@portreeandbraes.org](mailto:fiona@portreeandbraes.org)
- Lochaber – Emma Tayler, Assistant Ward Manager, will facilitate this network. For future involvement in this network please contact [policy6@highland.gov.uk](mailto:policy6@highland.gov.uk)

- B&S –If any groups aren't involved and wish to be please contact Karen Derrick [enquires@vabs.org.uk](mailto:enquires@vabs.org.uk)
- Inverness City – David Haas, City Manager, will facilitate this network. For future involvement in this network please contact [policy6@highland.gov.uk](mailto:policy6@highland.gov.uk)
- Inverness Rural – Charles Stephen, Ward Manager, will facilitate this network. For future involvement in this network please contact [policy6@highland.gov.uk](mailto:policy6@highland.gov.uk)
- Nairn – Emma Tayler, Ward Manager, will facilitate this network. For future involvement in this network please contact [policy6@highland.gov.uk](mailto:policy6@highland.gov.uk)

## **Helpful Links**

Welfare Support Team - [www.highland.gov.uk/directory\\_record/102970/benefit\\_advice](http://www.highland.gov.uk/directory_record/102970/benefit_advice)

Self Isolation Support Grant - [www.highland.gov.uk/info/20016/coronavirus/940/self-isolation\\_support\\_grant](http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/20016/coronavirus/940/self-isolation_support_grant)

Energy Advice  
[energyadvisors@hi.homeenergyscotland.org](mailto:energyadvisors@hi.homeenergyscotland.org)

AbilityNet - IT advice or support AbilityNet  
Helpline 0800 048 7642.

Covid Resilience Grant Support -  
[www.highland.gov.uk/directory\\_record/1422811/supporting\\_community\\_resilience/category/155/grants\\_for\\_community\\_groups](http://www.highland.gov.uk/directory_record/1422811/supporting_community_resilience/category/155/grants_for_community_groups)

HTSI Community Group Helpline  
Telephone Number 01349 808022