



Covid 19 Updates and information from the council and the local councillors for February 26th

The 'roadmap' out of lockdown

The Prime Minister has announced the Government's plans to bring England gradually out of lockdown. Key dates and some points are:

8th March:

- All schools and colleges will re-open and University students can return for practical courses.
- Two people from different households can meet socially outdoors in a public space.
- One nominated person can visit someone in a care home. PPE and a lateral flow test will be needed and holding hands will be allowed.

29th March:

- We will be allowed to meet in either groups of up to 6 people or with one other household, outdoors, including in private gardens.
- Outdoor sports facilities will re-open.
- Formally organised outdoor sports can re-start.
- Parents' and youth groups can return with a maximum of 15 participants and must be held outdoors. Indoor groups can return for vulnerable children and where parents rely on the groups to be able to work.
- Weddings can take place with up to six attendees.

On or after 12th April:

- All shops will be allowed to open.
- Restaurants and pub gardens will be allowed to serve customers outdoors.
- Hairdressers and beauty salons can reopen.
- Holidays in the UK permitted.
- Libraries and community centres, zoos, theme parks and drive-in cinemas can open.
- Weddings can have up to 15 attendees.

On or after 17th May:

- We can meet in groups of up to 30 people outdoors.
- Six people or two households can meet indoors.
- Pubs and restaurants can seat customers indoors.
- Performances and larger events can open but will be subject to limited numbers.
- International travel may resume.

On or after 21st June:

- All legal limits on social contact will be removed.

The Government has explained that these dates are for guidance only and may be subject to change, depending on:

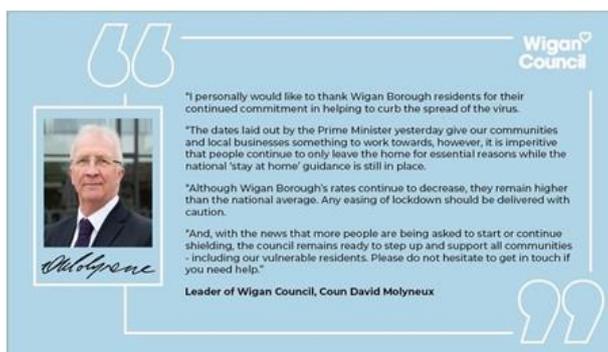
- If the vaccine programme continues to go to plan.
- If vaccines continue to sufficiently reduce the number of people dying or needing to go to hospital.
- If infection rates do not risk a surge in hospital admissions.

If the new variants of the virus do not change the risk of lifting restrictions.

[To keep up to date on the lifting of lockdown rules click here](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/national-lockdown-stay-at-home-2020-03-23)
[National lockdown: Stay at Home - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/national-lockdown-stay-at-home-2020-03-23)

In the meantime, we should all continue to stay at home as much as possible.

[If you are shielding and need support, please contact us here](https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Crime-Emergencies/Coronavirus/index.aspx)
<https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Crime-Emergencies/Coronavirus/index.aspx>



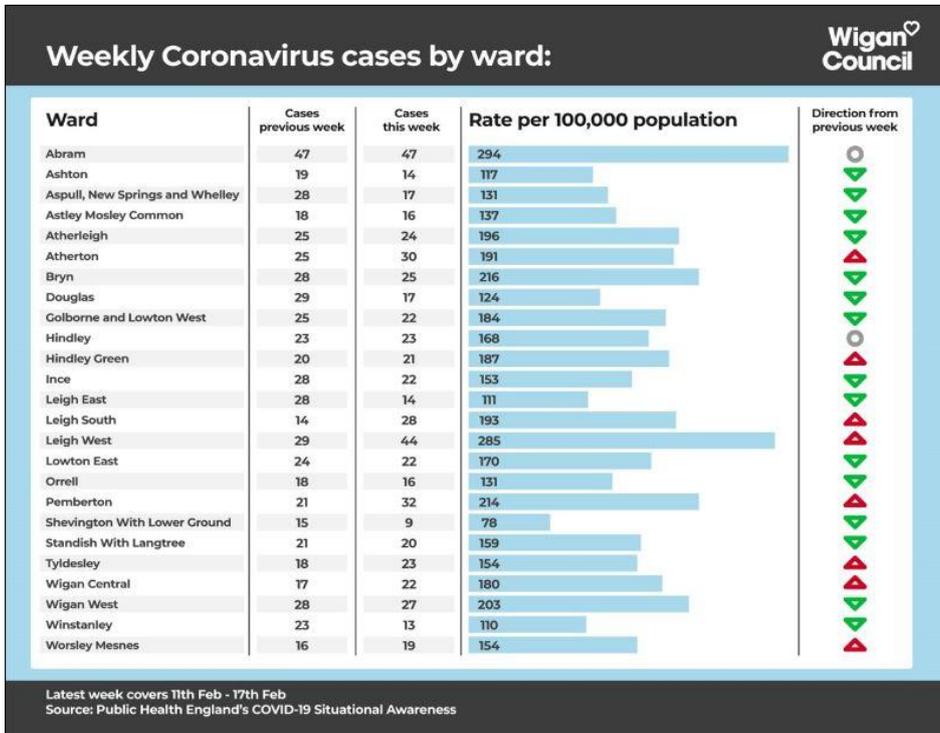
Covid-19 tracker

This week's Covid-19 tracker has been published and It shows:

- The rate of new cases in Wigan Borough is similar to the previous week but are higher than regional and national rates.
- As of 23 Feb, there were 38 COVID-positive patients in WWL hospitals – a reduction of 13 from this time last week.
- Infection rates fell in both Golborne and Lowton wards.

Prof Kate Ardern will host a live Covid-19 Q&A on Facebook this evening at 6pm.

[View the full tracker here](https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Crime-Emergencies/Coronavirus/Coronavirus-update-and-advice.aspx)
<https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Crime-Emergencies/Coronavirus/Coronavirus-update-and-advice.aspx>



Latest vaccination figures for Wigan Borough

Here are the latest vaccination figures locally. We encourage all residents to take up your vaccine as soon as you are offered it.

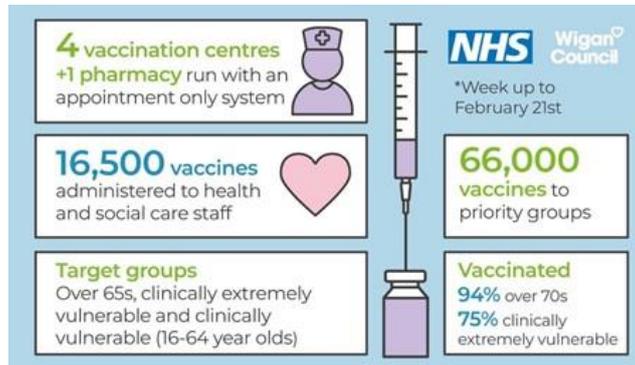
You should only request your vaccination if you are over 70 or clinically extremely vulnerable and haven't been contacted. If you need to request your vaccination call 111.

Everyone else will be contacted as soon as it is your turn.

[Find out more about the vaccination programme here](https://www.nhs.uk)
[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccination - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

For anyone who is Muslim and concerned about taking the vaccine during Ramadan the NHS Race and Health Observatory has said that the vaccine will not invalidate the Ramadan fast.

[For further information click here](http://britishima.org)
[British Islamic Medical Association \(britishima.org\)](http://britishima.org)



The Census is on the way

From next week, each household in the borough will receive a letter about Census 2021 and how you can take part.

Census Day lands on March 21 and we will be encouraging everyone to fill in the survey. The Census has been carried out every decade since 1801, with the exception of 1941.

The Census will include questions about your sex, age, work, health, education, household size and ethnicity. And, for the first time, there will be a question asking people whether they have served in the armed forces, as well as voluntary questions for those aged 16 and over on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Households will receive a letter with a unique access code in the post, allowing you to complete the questionnaire online. Paper questionnaires will be available on request.

[Click here for more information](https://census.gov.uk/)
<https://census.gov.uk/>

CENSUS 2021

Fund for youth organisations

If you are involved in a youth organisation in the borough, take a look at the Government's Youth Covid-19 support fund, as you may be able to apply for additional funding for your organisation.

[Find out more here](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-the-youth-covid-19-support-fund)
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-the-youth-covid-19-support-fund>

Elections in May

Although we will get the final decision on Monday 22nd, it is looking increasingly likely that the local and GM Mayoral elections will take place in May. The safest and surest way to be able to vote is to apply for a postal vote and vote early.

Register for an Postal Vote and ensure your vote counts in the upcoming elections so you vote early and securely.

Want to vote by post in all upcoming elections? Click on this link and complete a postal vote application form here.

<https://l.facebook.com/l.php...>



Community Spring Cleaners Continue

The big community clean up continues. Residents are going out on their streets, on footpaths and parks. The response has been fantastic Today we had a group of seven clearing up the grass verge of the A580 in Golborne. We ordered more equipment and it was snatched up within an hour of delivery on Monday, so we've ordered more. If you want to help and need litter-pickers, gloves and bags, email or message us and we'll drop them off as soon as we can.



Best Wishes

Councillor Gena Merrett
Councillor Yvonne Klieve
Councillor Susan Gambles

Do you or anyone you know need help, advice or support?



Yvonne, Susan, and Gena. Councillors for Golborne and Lowton West

We are not doing face to face surgeries during the pandemic but we are still here to help you.

**If you need advice, information, support or some help please contact us.
We post information every day on our Facebook Page [@GWLcouncillors](#).**

**You can send us a direct private message to the page.
Or contact us by email or phone to our contact addresses below.**

Cllr Yvonne Klieve - Tel 07828 064832. Email Y.Klieve@wigan.gov.uk

Cllr Susan Gambles - Tel 01942 568251. Email Susan.gambles@wigan.gov.uk

Cllr Gena Merrett - Tel 07525336608. Email gena.merrett@wigan.gov.uk