

Strategic Coordination Group (SCG) – Daily Briefing

For any enquiries relating to the daily briefing, please contact COVID19CommsHub@cityoflondon.go.uk

Daily Mortality Figures (London)

Data Provided from NHS Statistics and are correct for deaths occurring on Date. Please note that this data records the date the death occurred rather than the date the death was announced. Interpretation of the figures should consider the fact that totals by date of death, particularly for most recent days, are likely to be updated in line with future NHS releases <https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/covid-19-daily-deaths/>

Recorded Hospital Deaths (Daily) (82)	Recorded Hospital Deaths (Cumulative) (3,825)
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This Evening's Downing Street Press Conference will be led by Education Minister Gavin Williamson.

Key Government Messages

New social distancing guidance

The government has updated its guidance on social distancing measures. Social distancing is working, but if we stop now, we risk increasing the spread of the virus. We are extending the rules by at least three weeks. The rules will not change until five tests have been met:

1. Evidence that the NHS can cope across the UK
2. A sustained fall in daily death rates
3. Evidence that the rate of infection is decreasing
4. Confidence that supplies of testing and PPE are able to meet demand
5. No risk of a second peak

Public Health England

Guidance for managing a funeral during Coronavirus (19th April 2020)

Public Health England (PHE) has issued further guidance for those managing or organising funerals during the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic. The [guidance](#) aims to ensure that bereaved people are treated with sensitivity, dignity and respect, while protecting individuals, communities and those in the funeral industry from the risk of infection.

The guidance details where exceptions can be made to the stay at home advice currently in place to allow families and friends to attend funerals and say goodbye to loved ones, including those who are self-isolating or who have been defined as extremely clinically vulnerable, should they wish to.

London Strategic Co-ordination Centre:

London's SCG releases COVID-19 Funeral Standards (19th April, 2020)

In support of recently published Government guidance, London's Strategic Coordination Group (SCG) has today [19 April] released a set of Funeral Standards to provide clarity and reassurance to families facing the burial or cremation of a loved one during the current pandemic.

The Standards, which were developed by the Faith and Belief Cell of the SCG for Londoners of all faiths, beliefs and none, respond to the need for families to not delay funerals after someone has died whilst being able to shape some aspects of how they say goodbye.

The guidance is available in the attached email.

Partner Agency Top-Line Messages

MOD:

Gun salute cancelled (19th April 2020)

The Gun Salute for the birthday of Her Majesty The Queen which was due to take place on Tuesday 21 April has been cancelled.

"We can confirm that, following consultation with key stakeholders, ceremonial gunfire from all saluting stations is temporarily suspended due to national COVID-19 restrictions. This will last at least four weeks [until 18 May] and will be regularly reviewed".

Campaigns

Every Mind Matters:

Please support the recently launched [Every Mind Matters](#) mental health campaign. The website includes new NHS tips and advice on looking after mental wellbeing and supporting loved ones through the pandemic. #EveryMindMatters

ENDS