

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 22nd April 2020. 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) (89)	Recorded Hospital Deaths (Cumulative) (4300)
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Partner Agencies Top-Line Messages

Clap for Carers

This Evening, the Strategic Coordination Group are encouraging partners to once again support carers, keyworkers and frontline staff at 8pm tonight.

It is critical however, that whilst marking the incredible work of keyworkers throughout this period, we all must continue to follow social distancing in line with government advice. We are encouraging partners to share this message within your organisation.

Mayor of London

New Air Quality Findings (23rd April 2020)

The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, has today published new evidence which shows dramatic improvements in air quality as a result of the halving of traffic in London due to the coronavirus lockdown.

The evidence highlights how Levels of harmful gas nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) at some of London's busiest roads are on average about half what they were before lockdown. This is in addition to the significant reductions delivered by policies including the world's first Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ), which contributed to a 44 per cent reduction in roadside NO₂ in the central zone prior to lockdown.

The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, said: "London has one of the most advanced air quality monitoring networks in the world, which has recorded how the coronavirus lockdown has

dramatically improved air quality in London. But this cleaner air should not just be temporary, as Londoners deserve clean air at all times.

So once the current emergency has passed and we start to recover, our challenge will be to eradicate air pollution permanently and ensure the gains we've made through policies such as ULEZ continue. It is critical that Government keeps this in mind as part of the country's recovery from the pandemic."

Read more on this story [here](#)

Virtual Visit to London Firefighters Training (22nd April 2020)

The Mayor of London held a virtual visit yesterday to Wembley Stadium to see how London firefighters are supporting the Ambulance Service throughout COVID-19.

Read more about this visit [here](#)

London Councils

Success of Proud to Care Scheme (23rd April 2020)

A new social care recruitment campaign, Proud to Care London, has received over 800 registrations from people across the capital who are keen to ensure vulnerable Londoners affected by the coronavirus pandemic receive the care and support they need.

Less than a week since launching, the campaign – a partnership between councils across London – has seen 823 people register to provide essential care in communities across the capital

The Proud to Care London online portal enables people to register their interest in care jobs within their communities, while also providing opportunities for those whose employment has been affected by the pandemic to get back into work.

The campaign is looking for people to help with a variety of care sector roles. Most roles currently available are for care workers, but other positions include social workers, occupational therapists, chefs, and cleaners.

Cllr Ray Puddifoot, London Councils' Executive Member for Health & Care, said: "The response since the launch of this campaign has been hugely positive and these new roles will provide much needed assistance to frontline workers already looking after vulnerable people in this difficult time.

As the pandemic continues there will be a growing number of people across London who will need additional support and the correct care, meaning this ongoing urgent recruitment to the sector is vital."

More information on how to sign up to the Proud to Care scheme [here](#)

Key Government Messages

New Testing Eligibility

The Secretary of State for Health & Social Care Matt Hancock is expected to announce an extension to testing in England to include anyone who is critical to keeping the country moving, or to members of their household if they have symptoms.

In addition, the government will launch a new online booking portal enabling employers and workers to get tested online. The NHS have developed, in partnership with Deloitte, technology to enable these online tests to take place.

More details, including a full list of those eligible for this new testing programme is expected to be announced at the 5pm press conference.

Ramadan Guidance

The government are encouraging partners to share social distancing messaging throughout Ramadan.

The Coronavirus pandemic has meant many Muslims in the UK and around the world are not able to mark Ramadan and Eid Al-Fitr in the way they would normally do. The government has been clear that all places of worship should remain closed at this time and, unfortunately, this means that mosques in the UK will not be able to open for worship during this period.

Public Health England have recently provided a new blog post on specific guidance relating to Ramadan and we are encouraging partners to share it. You can read the full blog [here](#)

Ministry for Housing, Communities & Local Government

New Government Correspondence regarding Open Spaces (23rd April 2020)

Simon Clarke MP, the Minister for Regional Growth and Local Government has today written to local authorities to clarify the remarks made by the Secretary of State regarding access to public parks, burial grounds and cemeteries.

Whilst the government are wanting to work with local authorities to keep parks, burial grounds and cemeteries open, the letter confirms there are no regulations in place that compel local authorities to do so. Read the full letter [here](#)

Department for Health & Social Care

New Adult Social Care Recruitment Campaign (23rd April 2020)

The Government has today launched a new adult social recruitment campaign. The new campaign entitled 'Care for Others. Make a Difference' aims to recruit thousands more people into the adult social care sector.

Please find more information on the campaign [here](#)

Large-scale Infection & Antibody Study Launched (23rd April 2020)

The Department for Health and Social Care have today launched a large-scale virus infection and antibody study which will reach 20,000 households in England. It is anticipated that 300,000 people will take part in this study over the next 12 months.

In partnership with the ONS, the study will help improve understanding around the current rate of infection and how many people are likely to have developed antibodies to the virus.

Read more on this announcement [here](#)

Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport

New Guidance Issued to Protect Children Online (23rd April 2020)

To combat the increased risks of cyberbullying and disinformation, the government has today issued new guidance to ensure both adults and children are staying safe online. The new advice includes valuable information to ensure the public have up to date security settings, are able to properly fact check, can protect themselves against fraud and look after their own personal well-being as screen use increases.

Find out more about the new guidance [here](#)