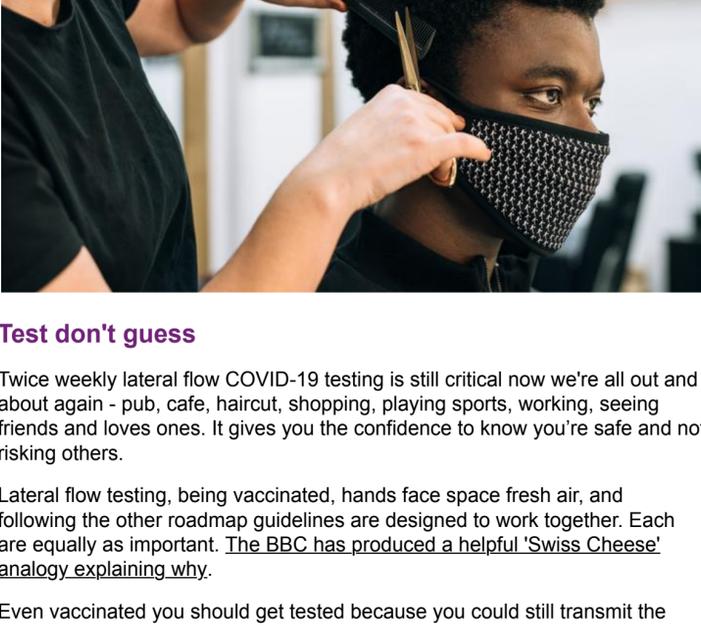


COVID-19 Updates

www.rbwm.gov.uk



Test don't guess

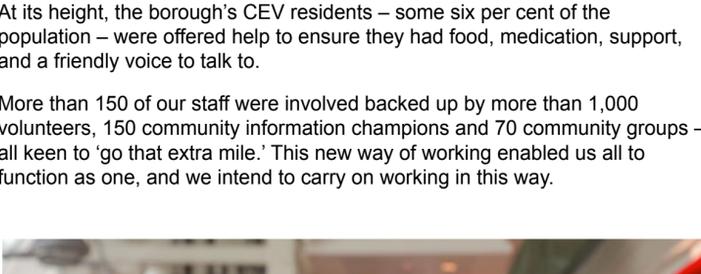
Twice weekly lateral flow COVID-19 testing is still critical now we're all out and about again - pub, cafe, haircut, shopping, playing sports, working, seeing friends and loves ones. It gives you the confidence to know you're safe and not risking others.

Lateral flow testing, being vaccinated, hands face space fresh air, and following the other roadmap guidelines are designed to work together. Each are equally as important. [The BBC has produced a helpful 'Swiss Cheese' analogy explaining why.](#)

Even vaccinated you should get tested because you could still transmit the virus to those who aren't.

Since launching our free Community Testing and Community Collect, we've carried out more than 13,500 tests and handed out some 2,700 home tests. [Find out about our free testing options on our website.](#)

Whether you test positive or negative, [please report your result within 24 hours.](#) Both results are crucial for public health to track the spread of the virus.



Supporting our most vulnerable during lockdown

We would like say a big thank you to the many community volunteers and organisations which worked alongside our staff supporting the most vulnerable in our borough during the past year - now that official shielding has been lifted for more than 8,000 Royal Borough residents.

It marks the end of an innovative community partnership, lasting 374 days, [protecting our clinically extremely vulnerable \(CEV\) residents](#) from COVID-19. At its height, the borough's CEV residents – some six per cent of the population – were offered help to ensure they had food, medication, support, and a friendly voice to talk to.

More than 150 of our staff were involved backed up by more than 1,000 volunteers, 150 community information champions and 70 community groups – all ready to 'go that extra mile.' This new way of working enabled us all to function as one, and we intend to carry on working in this way.



Self-isolation checks following international travel

The [government is now carrying out self-isolation checks](#) if you're self-isolating for ten days after arriving in the country.

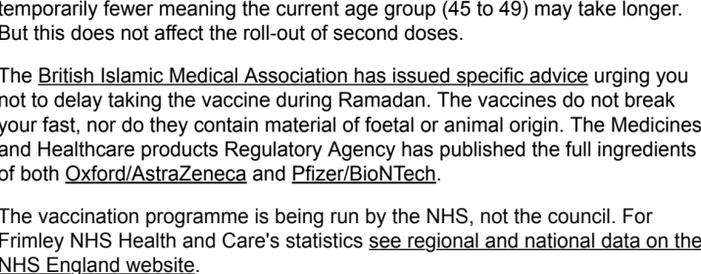
This means you might be visited by someone employed on behalf of the NHS Test and Trace service at the address listed on your passenger locator form. They will have an ID card showing their name, role, and employer.

They won't:

- ask you for your name. They already have this and will ask 'Am I speaking to —?' for you to confirm
- ask for your financial details, such as your bank or credit card
- ask you for money or issue a fine. Only the police can issue fixed penalty notices for breaching self-isolation rules
- ask for your National Insurance number, telephone number or any other identifying information – only your passport or driver's licence
- enter your home

If someone visits you claiming to be from NHS Test and Trace and you believe they're fake, call 999 and ask for the police.

There have been a number of COVID-19 cases in the Royal Borough in recent weeks linked to international arrivals. Self-isolating means that whoever has arrived must stay a separate room from the rest of the household and not mix with other family members. Food etc must be left outside their door. You cannot welcome them at arrivals and they must travel from the airport alone. We know that's hard, but it helps to keeps you safe.



Royal Borough cases

As of this morning, there are 19.8 cases per 100,000. The rate appears to be stabilising around this mark but is expected to increase again with schools now back after Easter, and as lockdown eases. The statistics now also include borough cases found via community and home testing.

During the week up to 14 April, there were 32 news cases in the borough, with the highest rate (18%) among 35 to 39-year-olds. Among ages 60+ there were three cases. Although our rates have dropped, we are mindful that Slough (64.9 per 100,000) on our border continues to have high transmission.

The Royal Borough's case rates are updated daily on the [Berkshire Public Health website](#). The weekly reports, updated on Wednesday evenings, show case breakdowns per Royal Borough ward as well as transmission rates. The site also has information about vaccinations and testing.



Vaccination latest

Across the Royal Borough, Frimley NHS Health & Care has so far administered vaccines to:

- 94% - ages 80+
- 94% - 75 to 79
- 93% - 70 to 74
- 90% - 65 to 69
- 87% - 60 to 64
- 86% - 55 to 59
- 84% - 50 to 54
- 31% - 16 to 49

But remember, even vaccinated, you can still catch COVID-19 although it's highly unlikely you will end up in intensive care. But you could still infect others not yet vaccinated.

Central government has already announced that the number of vaccine doses available this month across England is much lower than in March. The availability of first dose appointments on the national booking system are temporarily of first dose meaning the current age group (45 to 49) may take longer. But this does not affect the roll-out of second doses.

The [British Islamic Medical Association](#) has issued [specific advice](#) urging you not to delay taking the vaccine during Ramadan. The vaccines do not break your fast, nor do they contain material of foetal or animal origin. The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency has published the full ingredients of both [Oxford/AstraZeneca](#) and [Pfizer/BioNTech](#).

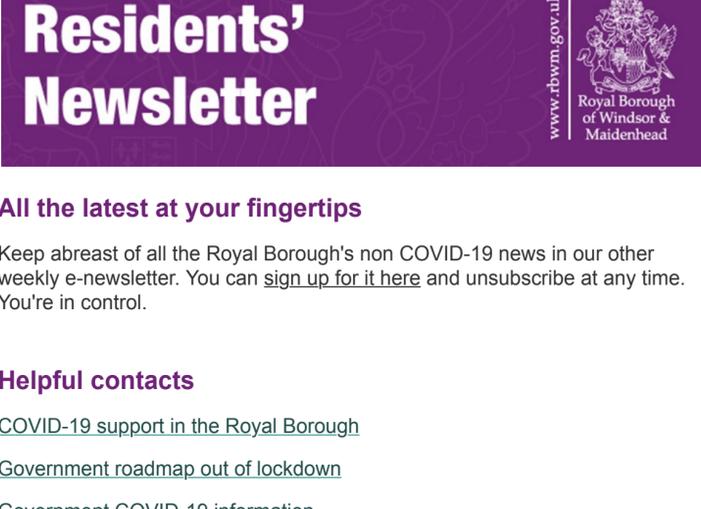
The vaccination programme is being run by the NHS, not the council. For Frimley NHS Health and Care's statistics [see regional and national data on the NHS England website](#).



Bank Holiday pharmacies

The following pharmacies are due to be open on 3 May and 31 May:

- Boots, Peascod Street, Windsor, 11am to 5pm
- Boots, High Street, Maidenhead, 8.30am to 6pm
- Lloyds Pharmacy in Sainsbury's, Maidenhead, 10am to 4pm
- Woodland Park Pharmacy, Waltham Road, Maidenhead, 8.30am to 2pm (3 May only)



All the latest at your fingertips

Keep abreast of all the Royal Borough's non COVID-19 news in our other weekly e-newsletter. You can [sign up for it here](#) and unsubscribe at any time. You're in control.

Helpful contacts

[COVID-19 support in the Royal Borough](#)

[Government roadmap out of lockdown](#)

[Government COVID-19 information](#)

[Public Health England and Department of Health and Social Care guidance](#)

[NHS England advice](#)

Keep up to date with Royal Borough COVID-19 news and information by following us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

Read the [Privacy Notice for this e-newsletter on our website](#).

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