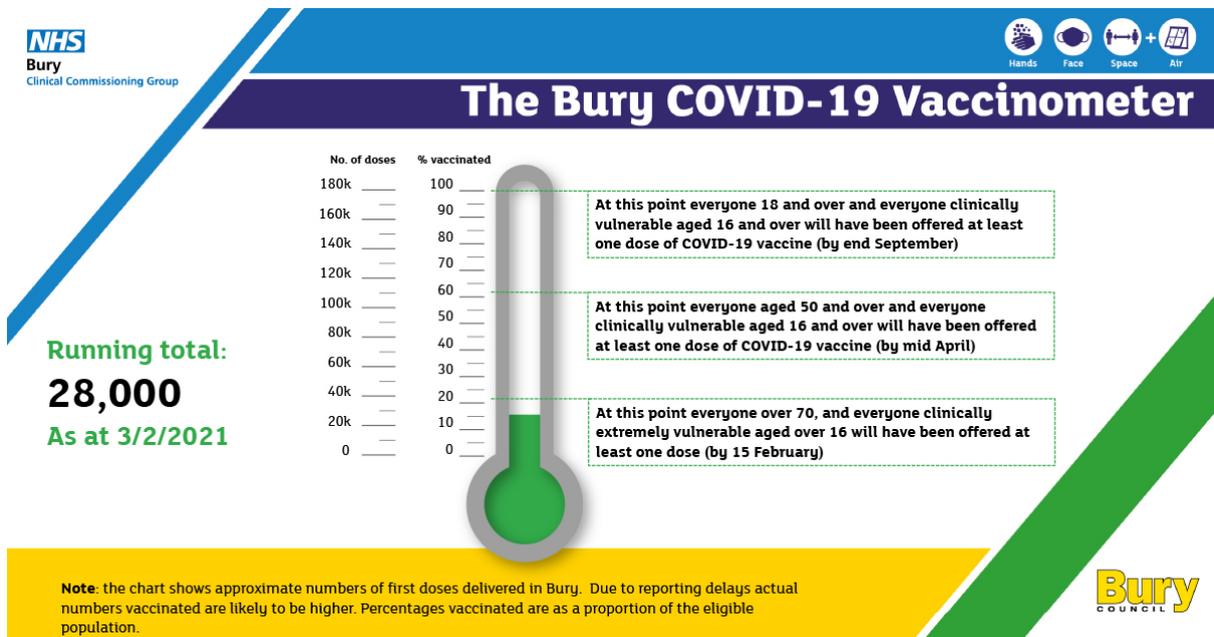


Latest Covid-19 advice for the borough of Bury – 4 February, 2021

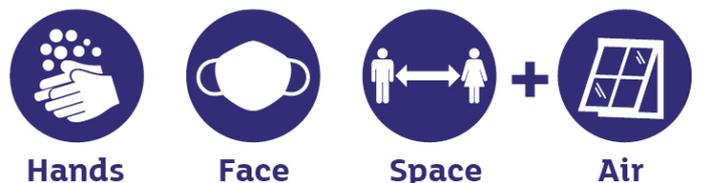
Bury’s ‘Vaccinometer’ ticks up to 28k vaccine doses delivered!

As of yesterday 28,000 doses of the Covid-19 vaccine will have been given across Bury’s four community vaccination centres.



This means that just over 15% of the eligible population (182,100) have been given at least one of the two jabs necessary to protect against the potentially fatal illness.

The continued pace of Bury’s programme means that the majority of cohorts 1-4 (everyone aged 70+ and clinically extremely vulnerable people over 16) have now either had their jab or have an appointment booked.



The Council is now supporting GPs to contact any remaining people in groups 1-4 to make sure they are booked in, and a programme of vaccinating eligible housebound people is well under way. The Council is also offering transport to people who are clinically extremely vulnerable and cannot easily get to the vaccination centres as part of its humanitarian work with the group.

Bury's jabs are being carried out by medical staff at four vaccination centres run by the Primary Care Network: the Elizabethan Suite in Bury, Bealey's in Radcliffe, Ramsbottom Civic Hall, and Prestwich Walk-in Centre.

Vaccination targets:

- By 15 Feb: everyone aged 70+ and clinically extremely vulnerable people over 16 = 39,400 people.
- By mid-April: everyone aged 50+ and clinically vulnerable people over 16 = a further 72,700 people.
- By end September: everyone 18+ and clinically vulnerable people aged 16 and 17 = the remaining 70,000 people.

Frontline health and social care staff are also being vaccinated as priority groups.

Bury's vaccination figures will be higher once results from hospital and mass testing sites are added in.

Remember:

- Vaccinations are given to people in the priority order set by the Government
- When it's your turn, you will be invited by your GP to have a vaccination.
- Remember to go back for your second jab, up to 12 weeks from your first, once you are given an appointment for it, in order to have increased protection
- You must still follow the Covid-safe rules even if you have been vaccinated – it takes several weeks for the vaccine to work, and you may still be able to catch the virus and pass it on.

Advice and support on all matters related to coronavirus can be found on the council's website: www.bury.gov.uk/coronavirus

Case rates continue to fall – thank you for doing your bit

Numbers of new cases of Covid-19 have continued to fall in the week to 30 January, with the overall rate down to 236.7 per 100,000 people. The fall in new cases was seen in all age groups. Numbers of cases in care homes appear to be decreasing, having increased slightly in previous weeks.

Bury's rate was the 5th highest in Greater Manchester, and 16th out of 23 areas in the North West. The number of people with Covid-19 in local hospitals is starting to level off, although the number on oxygen or in intensive care is increasing, and the number of deaths registered in Bury has increased. This picture is consistent with the known lags between infections, hospital admissions and deaths.



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Week ending 30 January: infection rate 236.7 (452 new cases)
Week ending 23 January: infection rate 287.4 (549 new cases)
Week ending 16 January: infection rate 392.7 (750 new cases)
Week ending 9 January: infection rate 465.5 (889 new cases)

The fall in cases can be attributed to ongoing lockdown measures. Thank you for continuing to 'stay home, save lives and protect the NHS'.

Getting tested in Bury

If you have any of the three most common symptoms of coronavirus - a high temperature, a new continuous cough, or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste - we urge you to get tested to protect yourself and the people around you. Please get tested within the first 3-5 days of symptoms.

A range of testing options is available right across the borough:

No appointment needed at Bury's walk-through testing centre, open 10am-3pm, Monday - Friday:
Chesham Fold, 95 Chesham Fold Road, Bury BL9 6JZ.

By appointment 8am-8pm, with some locations open seven days a week, at Department for Health & Social Care testing centres:

- The former Radcliffe Pool car park, Blackburn Street, Radcliffe
- Whitefield Library, Pinfold Lane, Whitefield
- The Metro Christian Centre, 13 Parkhills Road, Bury
- Longfield Centre car park (via Rectory Lane), Prestwich
- Great Eaves Road test site, Great Eaves Road, Ramsbottom

Bury's drive-through testing site at Waterfold Business Park is open by appointment only.

For the latest information about testing and availability visit www.bury.gov.uk/coronavirus-testing or call 0161 253 5515.

Helping people through the toughest time

Support in the community

Support for clinically extremely vulnerable residents who have been asked to shield, other vulnerable residents and residents who need to self-isolate continues through the Bury Community Hubs.

The hubs can help with food shopping and collecting prescriptions as well as telephone befriending and support to get online for things like priority supermarket delivery slots.

The Community Hubs are working with partners in mental health, Bury VCFA, Citizen's Advice Bureau, Age UK and Bury Community Support Network which includes access to foodbanks in Bury. We have a network of individual volunteers in every part of Bury who we can 'buddy' you up with for regular



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chats, support to get online, help to collect your prescriptions and medication, and they can help with your shopping too.

Call 0161 253 5353 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm) for information or to talk to us about what support you might need.

Mental health support

As the coronavirus pandemic continues, life has changed for all of us and it's natural that this may cause you to feel worried or anxious, lonely or frustrated. If you feel you need some extra support, Bury's Getting Help Line is a confidential telephone service run by the voluntary sector for people of all ages who are experiencing difficulties with their mental wellbeing.

You can access advice, guidance and signposting to local services by calling the Getting Help Line on 0161 464 3679. Find out about other mental wellbeing support at www.bury.gov.uk/mentalwellbeing

Grant payments reaching businesses in need

Grant payments continue to be made to Bury businesses coping with the financial effects of the coronavirus lockdown.

The Council's economic development team has worked with local businesses to develop three grant support packages aimed at supporting companies whose survival is crucial to Bury's economy and local jobs, and at those who have not received help so far.

Several million pounds is currently being distributed through the latest tranche of Additional Grant money, at the following three areas:

1. Key strategic businesses which if they were to close would harm the borough's economic capacity, such as manufacturers and producers affected by restrictions affecting national and international markets.

Payouts of between £10,000 and £25,000 can be made, depending on the company's rateable value.

2. Key employment generators, particularly in manufacturing, logistics, creative and digital industries, and business, professional and financial services, employing 10 or more people.

Multi-national outfits would not qualify and companies must be based in Bury. The cap for this fund is £1m and applicants would need to demonstrate what effect lockdown has had on their prospects.

3. Small and micro businesses who have not previously benefitted from support programmes. This will extend support to many self-employed people who can demonstrate they have a trading business.



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This fund is to support businesses that do not have monthly commercial property costs but can provide evidence of monthly fixed asset costs that is fundamental to the operating of the business. These could be: company vehicles, storage space, specialist equipment or the rent of a chair or table in a health or beauty business.

The fund will be open to licensed taxi drivers who can demonstrate they own or lease a vehicle. Support will also be extended to daily licence traders on Bury Market, following previous grants to traders with permanent leases.

And a 'special cases' panel has been set up to distribute grants to applicants who have a worthy claim but are not eligible under government criteria for help.

There are estimated 7,755 enterprises in Bury, employing from zero to nine people, who could benefit on application. Payments could be either £677 or £1,334 depending on the rateable status of the company, paid every 28 days until restrictions are lifted.

Information on the various grants and other support available is on the Bury Means Business website: <https://burymeansbusiness.bury.gov.uk/> and help and advice is available by e-mailing Investin@bury.gov.uk

Next update due Thursday 11 February, 2021.

Find up-to-date information at bury.gov.uk/coronavirus



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