

Final Stage of National Lockdown Lifting

Briefing for FSCF
14 July 2021



This briefing will cover:

- What we know now about the final stage of the national lockdown lifting and the Government's plans for lifting social restrictions
- The current COVID situation in Camden
- What Camden and Islington Public Health and Corporate have told us
- What this means for family work, and in particular face-to-face visits
- What will happen next
- Resources to help us
- Q and A

What do we know now?



- On 5 July 2021, the Government announced that the final stages of lockdown would lift on 19 July, with a final announcement confirming the plan on 12 July 2021
- All social distancing restrictions lift, except for the requirement to self isolate if you have a positive COVID test
- The legal requirement to wear face coverings in some enclosed public places will be removed but the Government says they are still "expected and recommended" in crowded indoor areas like public transport
- From 16 August 2021, anyone in England who has had both their COVID vaccinations will no longer have to self-isolate if a close contact tests positive for COVID. Same will apply to under 18s.
- The Mayor of London has said face coverings will remain mandatory on TFL public transport (announced 13 July 2021)
- Train operators have discretion to require face coverings as a condition of carriage – for example Eurostar will continue to mandate face masks
- Government will no longer be instructing people to work from home if they can, but they say they would expect and recommend a gradual return over the summer

STEP 1
8 March

29 March

 **EDUCATION****8 MARCH**


- Schools and colleges open for all students
- Practical Higher Education courses

 **SOCIAL CONTACT****8 MARCH**

- Exercise and recreation outdoors with household or one other person
- Household only indoors

29 MARCH

- Rule of 6 or two households outdoors
- Household only indoors

 **BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES****8 MARCH**

- Wraparound care, including sport, for all children

29 MARCH

- Organised outdoor sport (children and adults)
- Outdoor sport and leisure facilities
- All outdoor children's activities
- Outdoor parent & child group (max 15 people, excluding under 5s)

 **TRAVEL****8 MARCH**

- Stay at home
- No holidays

29 MARCH

- Minimise travel
- No holidays

 **EVENTS**

- Funerals (30)
- Weddings and wakes (6)

STEP 2

No earlier than 12 April

At least 5 weeks after Step 1

 **EDUCATION**

- As previous step

 **SOCIAL CONTACT**

- Rule of 6 or two households outdoors
- Household only indoors

 **BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES**

- All retail
- Personal care
- Libraries & community centres
- Most outdoor attractions
- Indoor leisure inc. gyms (individual use only)
- Self-contained accommodation
- All children's activities
- Outdoor hospitality
- Indoor parent & child groups (max 15 people, excluding under 5s)

 **TRAVEL**

- Domestic overnight stays (household only)
- No international holidays

 **EVENTS**

- Funerals (30)
- Weddings, wakes, receptions (15)
- Event pilots

STEP 3

No earlier than 17 May

At least 5 weeks after Step 2

 **EDUCATION**

- As previous step

 **SOCIAL CONTACT**

- Maximum 30 people outdoors
- Rule of 6 or two households indoors (subject to review)

 **BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES**

- Indoor hospitality
- Indoor entertainment and attractions
- Organised indoor sport (adult)
- Remaining accommodation
- Remaining outdoor entertainment (including performances)

 **TRAVEL**

- Domestic overnight stays
- International travel (subject to review)

 **EVENTS**

- Most significant life events (30)
- Indoor events: 1,000 or 50% (plus pilots)
- Outdoor seated events: 10,000 or 25% (plus pilots)
- Outdoor other events: 4,000 or 50% (plus pilots)

STEP 4

No earlier than 21 June

At least 5 weeks after Step 3

All subject to review

 **EDUCATION**

- As previous step

 **SOCIAL CONTACT**

- No legal limit

 **BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES**

- Remaining businesses, including nightclubs

 **TRAVEL**

- Domestic overnight stays
- International travel

 **EVENTS**

- No legal limit on life events
- Larger events



The Current COVID Situation in Camden

People tested positive

Daily 126
Total 16,937

Cases by specimen date

Number of people with at least one positive COVID-19 test result, either lab-reported or rapid lateral flow test (England only), by specimen date. Positive rapid lateral flow test results can be confirmed with PCR tests taken within 72 hours. If the PCR test results are negative, these are not reported as cases. People tested positive more than once are only counted once, on the date of their first positive test. Data for the period ending 5 days before the date when the website was last updated with data for the selected area, highlighted in grey, are incomplete.

Daily Cumulative Data About

Linear Log



■ Most recent 5 days (incomplete) ■ Number of cases — Cases (7-day average)

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Healthcare data are available for **nations**, **NHS regions** and **NHS trusts**. ✕

Patients admitted

Latest daily **66**
Total **74,678**

Patients in hospital

Latest available **514**

Patients on ventilation

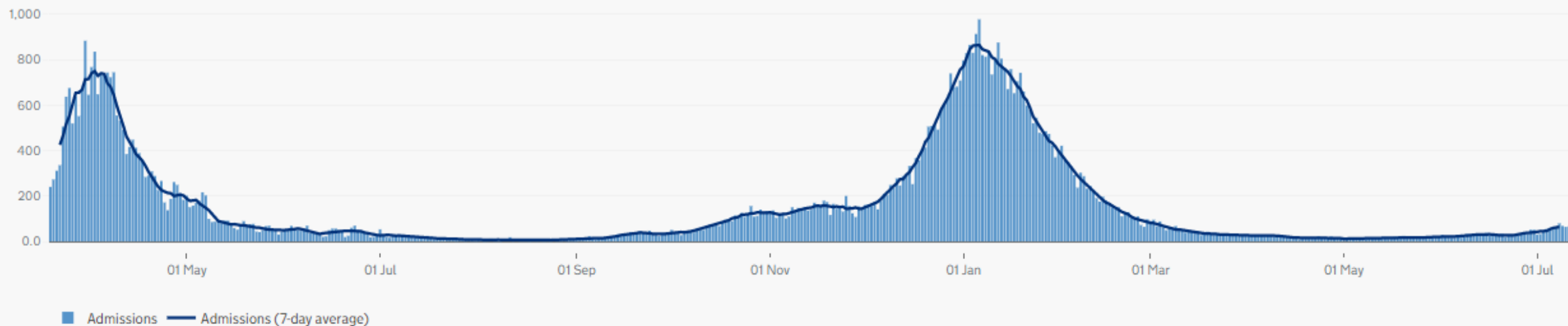
Latest available **101**

Patients admitted to hospital

Daily and cumulative numbers of COVID-19 patients admitted to hospital. Data are not updated every day by all four nations and the figures for Wales are not comparable to those for other nations as Wales include suspected COVID-19 patients while the other nations include only confirmed cases.

Daily Cumulative Data About

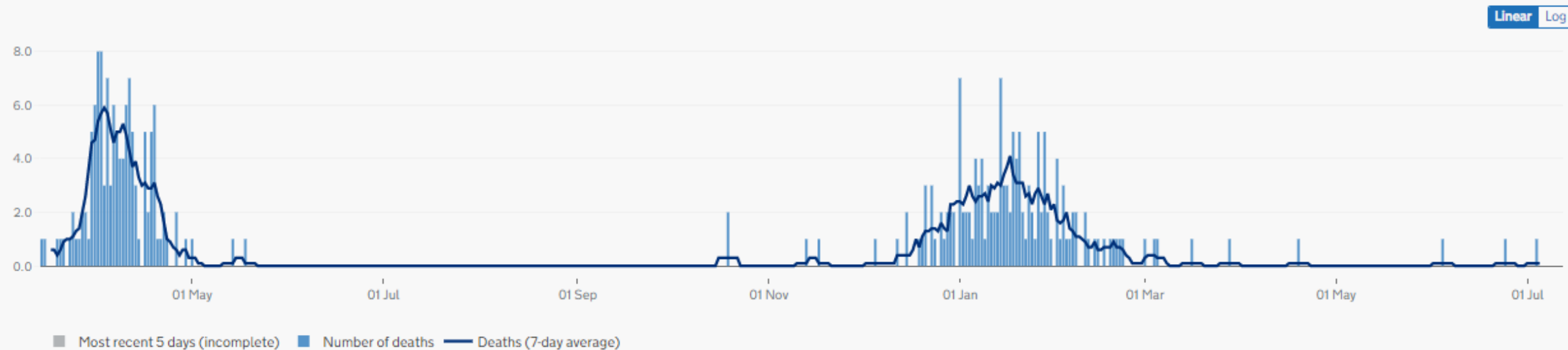
Linear Log



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Deaths data are available for **nations**, **regions** and **local authorities**. ✕**Deaths within 28 days of positive test**Daily
0Total
273**Deaths with COVID-19 on the death certificate**Weekly
1Total
340**Deaths within 28 days of positive test by date of death**

Number of deaths of people who had had a positive test result for COVID-19 and died within 28 days of the first positive test. Data from the four nations are not directly comparable as methodologies and inclusion criteria vary. Data for the period ending 5 days before the date when the website was last updated with data for the selected area, highlighted in grey, is incomplete.

[Daily](#) [Cumulative](#) [Data](#) [About](#)[Download](#)[Share](#)

Vaccinations data are available for nations, regions and local authorities.

People vaccinated

First dose total 145,780
Second dose total 97,318

Vaccinations given

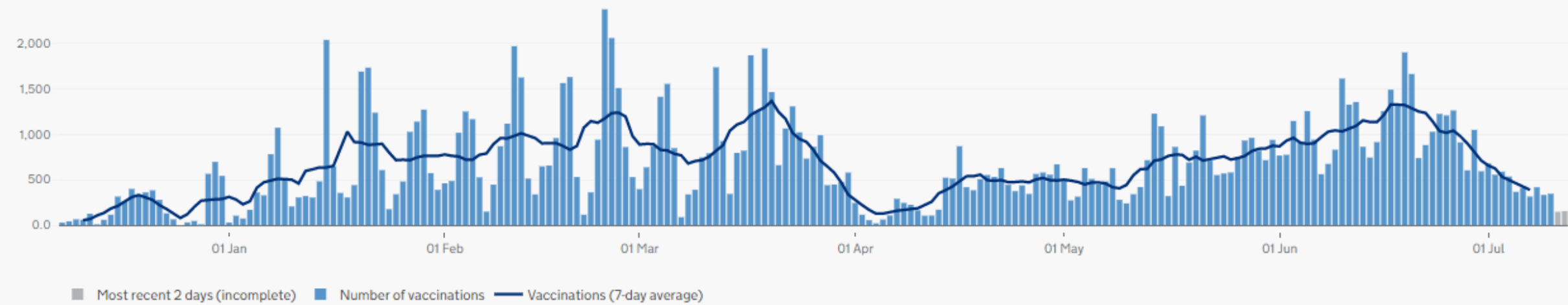
Total 243,098

People who have received vaccinations, by vaccination date

First dose Second dose

The number of people aged 18 or over who have received a first dose COVID-19 vaccination, shown by vaccination date. Daily figures include all vaccines that were given on the date shown, and that were entered on the relevant system at the time of extract. For English areas, these are provided for population surveillance purposes, and only people who have an NHS number and are currently alive are included. They will differ from NHS England daily outputs, which provide operational data for the management of the vaccination programme. Data for the latest 2 days, marked in grey, are incomplete.

Daily Cumulative Data About



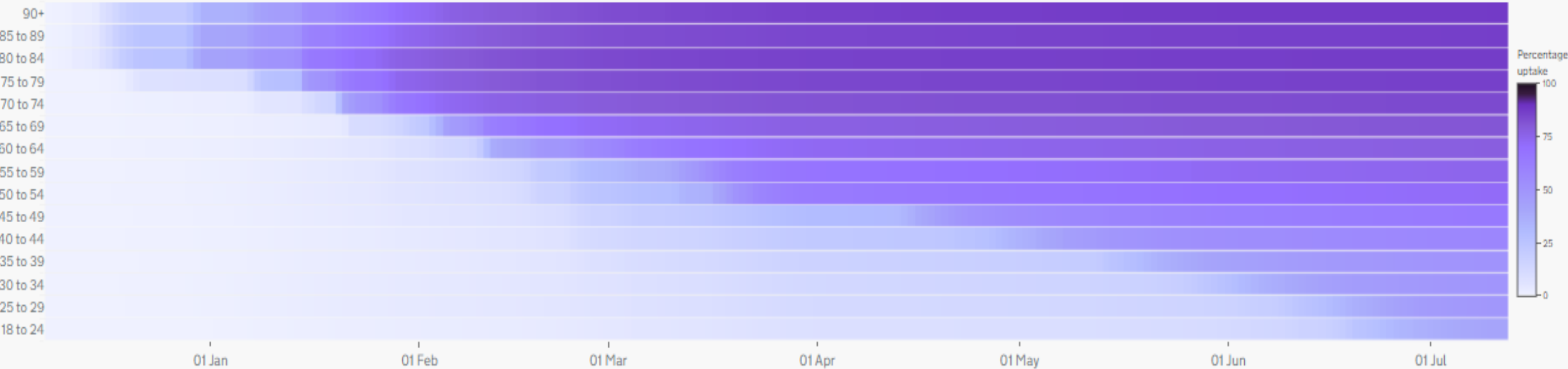
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Vaccination uptake, by vaccination date age demographics

First dose Second dose

Total percentage of people by age group who have received a COVID-19 vaccination, shown by vaccination date. Daily figures include all vaccines that were given up to and including the date shown. For English areas, these are provided for population surveillance purposes, and only people who have an NHS number and are currently alive are included. The denominator used is the number of people on the National Immunisation Management Service (NIMS) database. They will differ from NHS England daily outputs, which provide operational data for the management of the vaccination programme. For Scottish areas, the denominator used is the mid-2019 population estimate, published by National Records of Scotland. For this reason, comparisons should be made with caution.

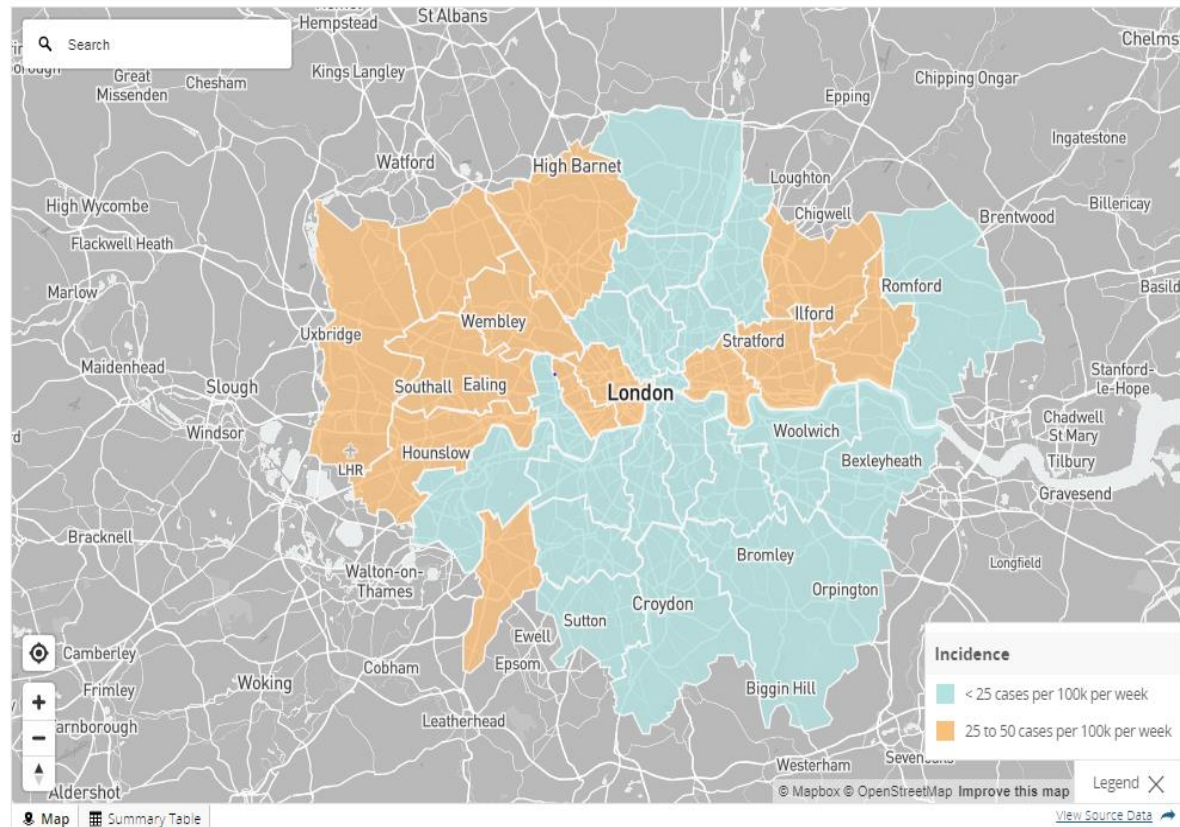
[Heatmap](#) [About](#)



[Download](#) [Share](#)

Weekly Infection Rate Map

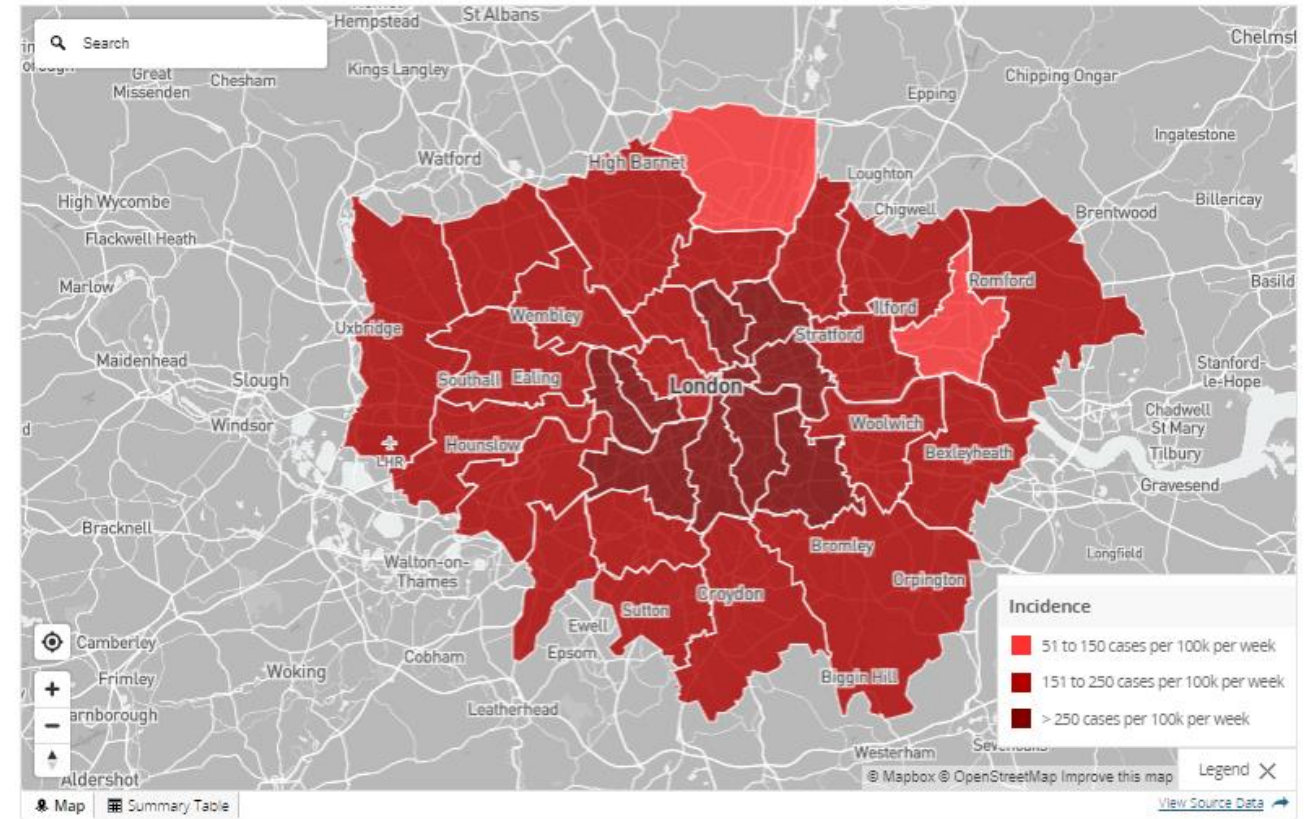
This is a map showing the rates of confirmed cases across a 7 day period for each borough in London. Infection rates have been styled as follows: Maroon >250 cases per 100,000, Dark red 151 to 250 cases per 100,000, Red 51 to 150 cases per 100,000, Amber 25 to 50 per 100,000 per week, Green <25 per 100,000 per week. Data is provided by Camden and Islington Public Health.



When we last met 21 April 2021

Weekly Infection Rate Map

This is a map showing the rates of confirmed cases across a 7 day period for each borough in London. Infection rates have been styled as follows: Maroon >250 cases per 100,000, Dark red 151 to 250 cases per 100,000, Red 51 to 150 cases per 100,000, Amber 25 to 50 per 100,000 per week, Green <25 per 100,000 per week. Data is provided by Camden and Islington Public Health.



Today



What Camden and Islington Public Health and Corporate have Told Us

Public Health Advice on Family Work Specifically

On 6th and 13th July 2021, we asked Camden and Islington Public Health what impact they thought the Government's plans for lifting final lockdown restrictions would have on family support. On 13th July they told us that:

“In terms of face-to-face visits, the key message to staff is to continue with the current home visits guidance for now. COVID will continue to be around, and the measures in the home guidance are there to help protect staff and residents, so it is likely that some/all of the measures will be retained, however, that does need to be agreed corporately.”

The current national guidance for Children’s Social Care is under review, and we are awaiting that update”

Corporate's Approach on Buildings



From 19 July 2021, Corporate will begin to bring back 'Priority 2' staff into 5PS and other Council buildings.

We are Priority 1 staff (e.g. we have been in 5PS throughout the pandemic because we are critical workers)

Priority 2 staff are those teams who need to interact with Camden communities and genuinely cannot continue to work solely at home for any longer without impacting the quality of support they are able to provide.

From Monday, you can expect to see more people in 5PS but everyone will have an allocated set of seats

Corporate will maintain a series of safety measures across Camden buildings – which go over and above Government guidance – to help keep everyone working in them as safe as possible

Corporate still do not want any team to be all together, in a Council building, at one time due to the risk of one COVID infection spreading to an entire team – so bubbles or rotas are recommended

Corporate have confirmed that current working arrangements remain in place – and if you are currently working from home you should continue to do so until informed by your manager.

Corporate's Approach on Individual Risk Assessments

On 7 July 2021, we asked HR and Health and Safety what would happen with individual risk assessments after 19 July. They told us that:

- From 19 July 2021, Camden will continue with individual risk assessments
- There are likely to be some changes to the template – for example whether or not they choose to include vaccination status as a risk mitigation (complicated as you are under no contractual or legal obligation to disclose your vaccination status) or whether the guidance on 'direct contact' for people who are clinically extremely vulnerable or clinically vulnerable will change

We have asked for clarity on this as soon as possible, especially for our staff who are clinically extremely vulnerable or clinically vulnerable

The most important thing we need to think about and plan for

Making sure we continue to keep you as physically safe and well as we can

Protecting your emotional health and your emotional reserves, making sure workloads are manageable, and that you have the scaffolding you need

Things we are currently thinking about and planning for

Potential for another national lockdown, especially if rising cases results in rising hospitalisations and unmanageable pressure for the NHS

Variants – no surge testing yet in Camden, but would need to be prepared for the possibility of new variants in the borough

Vaccination take up, amongst staff and in Camden community (as a risk mitigation factor)

Lateral flow test take-up and regularity (as a risk mitigation factor)

Continued protections for workers who were shielding, or workers who live with family members in that group, or from Black, Asian and minority ethnic groups

Making sure we are keeping you as safe and well as possible, not just from COVID but in following our usual risk management processes (e.g. lone working, joint first visits etc)

What This Means for FSCF



Taking all the advice and information that we have into account, from 19 July we will:

Continue as we are

- Continue in our bubbles, but you can now sit at any FSCF allocated seat on the 4th or 7th floor in 5PS (see the floor plans here <https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/fscf-procedures-during-covid/returning-to-offices-and-face-to-face-work/#main>)
- Continue to follow all current face-to-face visits procedures and recording, and management oversight procedures
- Continue with face-to-face visits to families, with virtual visits in extraordinary circumstances (family retains choice but face-to-face as the first offer, unless your individual risk assessment says you can't)
- You can still come into 5PS, still have your supervision face-to-face and still meet up with people in your bubble
- If you need to come into 5PS or see a family on your non-bubble week, you can but make sure you sit in one of the FSCF allocated seats and please do not come in with your whole team

Why are we doing this

- Public Health local guidance has not yet changed – our current policies and procedures are based on that guidance – therefore there is not yet a strong enough rationale to change our policies and procedures
- Whilst we are not yet at the levels we were in December 2020, case rates in Camden are rising (albeit with much lower levels of hospitalisation and deaths)
- Corporate still want us to have bubbles so whole teams are not together at any one time plus we still don't have enough allocated seats for the whole service
- There are still two important unknowns – if/how the individual risk assessment template might change and if/how Public Health guidance might change – err on the side of caution until those are known
- We have our mitigations in place to help prevent infection spread (risk assessments, PPE, bubbles, rota, staggered start and finish times, reduced use of public transport etc) and now further mitigation through vaccination and lateral flow tests
- It helps keep some consistency, and mitigates against your daily working practice having to constantly change – unless anything changes this will be our way of working until at least 10 September 2021
- This is not to say there isn't still risk. There is.
- If there is any change at any time, or in the event of another national lockdown, we will immediately contact Public Health for advice to determine if we need to change any of our working practices

What if families don't want to see us face-to-face?

- Families will continue to have choice of blended visits or virtual visits only but our policy should be face-to-face as a first offer, unless your risk assessment says you can't
- If families choose virtual only, we'll need to continue to be really clear on the purpose of each virtual visit, the work you want to do with the family members, and what can realistically be achieved
- Can you see the children at school or college? Would the family or young person meet you in an open space?
- If you think not seeing a family increases the risk to the child/rens welfare:
 - Discuss this with the line manager, especially in neglect and domestic violence cases
 - Ensure someone has seen the child/ren, especially whether they are in school – use the network
 - Use the escalation procedure if you lose contact with a family who have selected virtual visits only to prevent the work drifting



What will happen next

REALLY IMPORTANT - Make sure your individual risk assessment is up to date and/or has been reviewed within the last 20 working days – do this in your next weekly check-in with your manager

Make sure you have the PPE you need - your starter packs can be restocked and sent to your home if you need it – remember Public Health say we must use the Type IIR blue face masks when we visit families, not our own face coverings – stock is always in the FIF cupboard on the 9th floor.

Revisit the Camden and Islington Home Visit Guidance and the Government guidance on working in peoples homes

Revisit the helping prevent infection spread webinar slide pack

If the individual risk assessment, or the Public Health home visits guidance, change – I will review and then call another whole service briefing

Resources to Help



The Guidebook Policies and Procedures for Face-to-Face Visits

<https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/fscf-procedures-during-covid/face-to-face-visits-guidance-and-procedures/>

The Camden and Islington Public Health Guidance on Home Visits and Government Guidance on Working in Peoples Homes

<https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/fscf-procedures-during-covid/face-to-face-visits-guidance-and-procedures/>

The Guidebook information on social restrictions (updated daily) <https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/covid-nhs-and-government-information/social-distancing-government-guidance/#main>

The List of Alternative Venues for Visits

<https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/alternative-venues-for-visits/>

Your individual risk assessment – do make sure this is up to date

Refresher on the Helping To Prevent Infection Spread webinar

<https://ascpractice.camden.gov.uk/early-help-guide/family-early-help-covid-guidebook/fscf-procedures-during-covid/face-to-face-visits-guidance-and-procedures/>

Your supervision time, your weekly check-in with your manager, your reflective group supervision spaces and your clinically guided spaces

Q and A