



Briefing Note 24 - COVID-19 Guidance

As at 09:00 Saturday 11th April 2020

A. Headline developments announced on Friday 10th April 2020

Item		Source
A1	Launch of UK Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Plan (press release)	https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-sets-out-plan-for-national-effort-on-ppe
A2	Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Plan	https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/879117/Coronavirus_COVID-19_-_personal_protective_equipment_PPE_plan.pdf
A3	Up to £8 million in funding being made available to support adoptive families during outbreak (press release)	https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-adoption-support-fund-scheme-to-help-vulnerable-families
A4	Presentation slides and data sets used to support the Ministerial Press Conference on Friday 10 th April 2020	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/slides-and-datasets-to-accompany-coronavirus-press-conference-10-april-2020
A5	UK statistics: 8,958 dead (+980) 73,758 tested positive (+8,681)	https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public
A6	UK daily interactive statistical dashboard published by Public Health England showing UK cases and deaths	https://www.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/ae5dda8f86814ae99dde905d2a9070ae

B. Key Sources of Government Advice

Document	
B1	Glossary of terms used in government guidance https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-infection-prevention-and-control/glossary-of-terms
B2	Coronavirus: action plan – A guide to what you can expect across the UK https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/869827/Coronavirus_action_plan_-_a_guide_to_what_you_can_expect_across_the_UK.pdf
B3	World Health Organisation https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019
B4	NHS health advice for everyone https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/

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B5	Mental health helplines https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/mental-health-helplines/
B6	Essential travel guidance https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-essential-travel-guidance
B7	Guidance on social distancing for everyone in the UK and for vulnerable people https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people/
B8	Collection of guidance for schools and other educational settings https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-schools-and-other-educational-settings
B9	Guidance for schools and local authorities on maintaining educational provision https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/
B10	Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE): COVID-19 guidance https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/scientific-advisory-group-for-emergencies-sage-coronavirus-covid-19-response
B11	Guidance for employees, employers and businesses https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19
B12	Measures to protect people at higher risk from Coronavirus https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/
B13	Guidance on home care provision https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-residential-care-supported-living-and-home-care-guidance/covid-19-guidance-on-home-care-provision
B14	Guidance on vulnerable children and young people https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people/
B15	Guidance on temporary closure of schools in England https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-school-closures/guidance-for-schools-about-temporarily-closing
B16	Stay at home guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance
B17	Guidance for parents and carers - supporting children & young people's mental health https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/
B18	Coronavirus Act 2020 http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2020/7/pdfs/ukpga_20200007_en.pdf

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B19	<p>Compliance advice for businesses and other venues directed to close</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/business-and-other-venues-subject-to-further-social-distancing-measures/s</p>
B20	<p>Emergency measures for railways to ensure continuity of operations and ticket refunds</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-ensures-ticket-refunds-and-protects-services-for-passengers-with-rail-emergency-measures</p>
B21	<p>Easy-read guide on protecting extremely vulnerable people – also known as ‘shielding’</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/875126/Easy_read_guidance_on_shielding_March_2020.pdf</p>
B22	<p>Guidance for UK businesses trading internationally</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-uk-businesses/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-uk-businesses-trading-internationally</p>
B23	<p>Guidance on cyber security and home working</p> <p>https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/home-working</p>
B24	<p>Guidance for local authorities for controlling fraud during COVID-19 emergency</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/875844/Fraud-Control-in-Emergency-Management-COVID-19-UK-Government-Guidance.pdf</p>
B25	<p>Guidance for closing certain businesses – as at 27 March 2020</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876535/270320_Revised_Guidance.pdf</p>
B26	<p>Guidance on how to help safely</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-how-to-help-safely--2/coronavirus-how-to-help-safely</p>
B27	<p>Financial help for the self-employed</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-gives-support-to-millions-of-self-employed-individuals</p>
B28	<p>How to check if you’re covered under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/check-if-you-could-be-covered-by-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme</p>
B29	<p>Collection of guidance for healthcare professionals and others</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-guidance</p>
B30	<p>How employers can claim wages through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-for-wage-costs-through-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme</p>
B31	<p>New interim safeguarding guidance for schools, colleges and other premises in England</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-safeguarding-in-schools-colleges-and-other-providers/</p>

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B32	<p>Non-statutory renting guidance for landlords, tenants and local authorities in England</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-and-renting-guidance-for-landlords-tenants-and-local-authorities?</p>
B33	<p>Online support and practical guidance for those suffering with mental health issues</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-the-public-on-mental-health-and-wellbeing/</p>
B34	<p>Small Business Grant Fund & Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant Fund – Version 3</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876893/small-business-grant-fund-retail-guidance-vers-3.pdf</p>
B35	<p>Easy-read guide: looking after your feelings and body</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876989/Easy_read_looking_after_your_feelings_and_body.pdf</p>
B36	<p>Easy-read guide: staying at home</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876715/</p>
B37	<p>Easy-read guide: keeping away from other people</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876699/COVID-19_Keeping_away_from_other_people_20200328.pdf</p>
B38	<p>Guidance for parents & carers on looking after mental health & wellbeing of children</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/</p>
B39	<p>Construction site operating procedures – version 2 (updated 2 April 2020)</p> <p>http://www.constructionleadershipcouncil.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Site-Operating-Procedures-02-April-2020-v2.pdf</p>
B40	<p>Changes to the Care Act 2014 allowing local authorities to prioritise care and support</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-changes-to-the-care-act-2014/care-act-easements-guidance-for-local-authorities</p>
B41	<p>Guidance for care of the deceased – for health professionals and other organisations</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-care-of-the-deceased/</p>
B42	<p>Guidance for local authorities for implementing grant funds – version 3</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877286/small-business-grant-fund-and-retail-guidance-v3.pdf</p>
B43	<p>Guidance on childcare and early years closures</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures</p>
B44	<p>Guidance for businesses on grant funding schemes: Version 2 – 3rd April 2020</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878082/pdf</p>

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B45	Business Support – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) https://www.businesssupport.gov.uk/faqs/
B46	Expanded retail discount 2020-2021: guidance to local authorities at 2 April 2020 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877758/Expanded_Retail_Discount_Guidance_02.04.20.pdf
B47	Grant funding allocations by local authority in England https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-business-support-grant-funding?
B48	Launch of project fund bids to UK businesses for innovation – ends 17 April 2020 https://apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk/competition/583/overview
B49	Admission and care of people in care homes: Version 1 -2nd April 2020 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877797/covid-19-care-homes-guidance.pdf
B50	Guidance on maintaining further education https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-further-education-provision/
B51	Guidance for head teachers on awarding qualifications in summer 2020 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878848/Summer_2020_grades_for_GCSE_AS_A_level_EPQ_AEA_in_maths_-_guidance_for_heads_of_centres.pdf
B52	Guidance for teachers, students, parents and carers on educational grades in 2020 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878869/Summer_2020_grades_for_GCSE_AS_A_level_EPQ_AEA_in_maths_-_guidance_for_teachers_students_parents_UPDATED_09APR2020.pdf
B53	Summer 202 results for vocational, technical and other qualifications https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/879019/Summer_2020_results_for_vocational_technical_and_other_qualifications.pdf
B54	Project funding available for innovation: competition closes on 17th April 2020 https://apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk/competition/583/overview
B55	Guidance for local authorities to support and protect vulnerable children https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-childrens-social-care-services/
B56	Coronavirus Status Checker - Online Survey https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus-status-checker
B57	Government plans for scaling up testing programmes – issued 3rd April 2020 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878121/coronavirus-covid-19-testing-strategy.pdf

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B58	<p>Management of exposed healthcare workers and patients in hospitals</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-management-of-exposed-healthcare-workers-and-patients-in-hospital-settings/</p>
B59	<p>Call for evidence by parliamentary Women & Equalities Committee: ends 30 April 2020</p> <p>https://committees.parliament.uk/work/227/coronavirus-and-the-impact-on-people-with-protected-characteristics/</p>
B60	<p>Safety guidance for towpaths and waterways from the Canal and River Trust</p> <p>https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/enjoy-the-waterways/safety-on-our-waterways/coronavirus</p>
B61	<p>Postponement of elections</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878332/Coronavirus_COVID-19_-_letter_to_councils_about_local_authority_meetings_and_postponement_of_elections.pdf</p>
B62	<p>Procurement policy guidance to public bodies on payment of their suppliers</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/procurement-policy-note-0220-supplier-relief-due-to-covid-19</p>
B63	<p>Guidance for apprentices, employers, training providers and assessors</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-apprenticeship-programme-response/</p>
B64	<p>Recruitment for Healthcare Support Workers at London NHS Nightingale Hospital</p> <p>https://www.nhsprofessionals.nhs.uk/en/Nightingale/Nightingale/Nightingale-London</p>
B65	<p>Funding to support schools with exceptional costs</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-financial-support-for-schools/</p>
B66	<p>Free school meals guidance for schools</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-free-school-meals-guidance/</p>
B67	<p>Guidance to local authorities in England on prioritising waste collections</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-to-local-authorities-on-prioritising-waste-collections/</p>
B68	<p>Prime Minister's letter to the nation</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876876/CCS155_CCS0320349160-003_PM_letter_to_nation_on_coronavirus_Accessible.pdf</p>
B69	<p>Coronavirus public information leaflet accompanying Prime Minister's letter</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877678/coronavirus-leaflet.pdf</p>
B70	<p>Guidance for those who provide unpaid care to family and friends</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/</p>

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B71	Increase to Working Tax Credits with effect from 6th April 2020 https://www.gov.uk/government/news/increase-to-working-tax-credits-what-this-means
B72	Hospital discharge service requirements https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/874213/COVID-19_hospital_discharge_service_requirements.pdf
B73	Guidance for health and social care staff caring for people lacking mental capacity https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878910/Emergency_MCA_DoLS_Guidance_COVID19.pdf
B74	Guidance for organisations with laboratory testing capability https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/879087/Guidance_for_Laboratories_offering_support_for_COVID-19_testing_for_publication_2_.pdf
B75	Coronavirus Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Hub https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-personal-protective-equipment-ppe

C. Commentary

The key announcement at the daily ministerial press briefing was the UK-wide **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Plan** to ensure that critical equipment is delivered – and continues to be delivered – to those working on frontline roles tackling coronavirus. It sets out guidance on who needs PPE and when they need to use it, how they can get it at the right time, and the action that is being taken to ensure there is enough to last through the pandemic.

The 25-page plan is downloadable at A2 and sets out three strands covering:

- Guidance
- Distribution
- Future supply

An online Coronavirus ‘PPE Hub’ has been set up and contains a collection of all PPE guidance in one place. A weblink is at B75. A new website, developed with the help of the military, is being set up in the coming weeks to improve distribution and will enable primary, social and community care providers in England to order critical PPE.

Sites for new NHS Nightingale Hospitals were announced for Exeter and Sunderland.