



Briefing Note 44 - COVID-19 Guidance

As at 09:00 Friday 1st May 2020

A. Headline announcements on Thursday 30th April 2020

Item

- A1 [VAT removed from PPE purchases for three months \(press release\).](#)
- A2 [Mitigating impacts on Gypsy and traveller Communities: letter to local authority chief executives.](#)
- A3 [Prime Minister's statement made at 5pm daily ministerial briefing.](#)
- A4 [Chief Coroner's Guidance Note 37 on COVID-19 and possible exposure in the workplace \(issued 28th April 2020\).](#)

B. Data Sources

Sources of daily rolling data

- B1 [Presentation slides and datasets used to support the ministerial media briefing on Thursday 30th April 2020.](#)
- B2 [UK statistics: 26,771 dead \(+674\) 171,253 tested positive \(+6,032\)](#)
- B3 [UK government COVID-19 data tracker](#)
- B4 [Office for National Statistics \(ONS\): Analysis of COVID-19 data and its effect on the UK economy and society](#)

C. Commentary

The Prime Minister led the 5pm daily ministerial briefing. He stated that the UK had '*passed the peak and we are on the downward slope*' in terms of the pandemic. He announced that next week he will be setting out a comprehensive plan to get the economy moving, to get children back to school, and how people can travel to work safely.

Later in the day, there was an announcement from HM Treasury that from today (1st May), PPE purchased by care homes, businesses, charities and individuals to protect against Covid-19 will be free from VAT for a three-month period. Ministers have already removed import duties from PPE to ensure more essential equipment can get to the front line quicker.



Annex

RESOURCES: UK government guidance and related advice

REF	DOCUMENTS and OTHER SOURCES OF GUIDANCE	DATE ISSUED OR UPDATED
Adult Social Care		
R1	<u>Home care provision</u>	06/04/2020
R2	<u>Changes to Care Act 2014 allowing local authorities to prioritise care</u>	01/04/2020
R3	<u>How to work safely in care homes</u>	27/04/2020
Business and other venues – directions to close		
R4	<u>Closing certain businesses and venues</u>	09/04/2020
R5	<u>Designated power to issue fixed penalty notices by local authorities</u>	04/04/2020
R6	<u>Guidance for closing certain businesses</u>	27/03/2020
Business support and employment		
R7	<u>Guidance for employees, employers and businesses</u>	07/04/2020
R8	<u>Financial help for the self-employed</u>	26/03/2020
R9	<u>Are you covered under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme?</u>	30/04/2020
R10	<u>Claiming wages through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme</u>	30/04/2020
R11	<u>Grant funding scheme: guidance for local authorities – version 5</u>	24/04/2020
R12	<u>Business Support – Frequently Asked Questions</u>	Website
R13	<u>Guidance for businesses on grant funding schemes: Version 5</u>	24/04/2020
R14	<u>Expanded retail discount 2020-2021: guidance for local authorities</u>	02/04/2020
R15	<u>Grant funding allocations by local authority in England</u>	24/04/2020
R16	<u>Grant payments made to businesses by local authority area</u>	27/04/2020
R17	<u>Procurement policy guidance to public bodies on payment of their suppliers</u>	17/04/2020
R18	<u>Increase to Working Tax Credits with effect from 6th April 2020</u>	07/04/2020
R19	<u>Guidance for local authorities on implementing the hardship fund</u>	March 2020
R20	<u>Step-by-step guidance for employers on claiming under Job Retention Scheme</u>	April 2020
R21	<u>Financial support for businesses: Headline terms for ‘Future Fund’</u>	19/04/2020
R22	<u>Online support tool for employers and the self-employed</u>	Website



Children and young people

R23	<u>Guidance on vulnerable children and young people</u>	19/04/2020
R24	<u>Guidance for parents and carers - supporting children's mental health</u>	21/04/2020
R25	<u>Guidance for parents & carers on looking after mental health of children</u>	21/04/2020
R26	<u>Guidance for local authorities to support and protect vulnerable children</u>	03/04/2020

Construction sites

R27	<u>Construction site operating procedures – version 3</u>	14/04/2020
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Deaths and bereavement

R28	<u>Guidance for care of the deceased – for health professionals</u>	20/04/2020
R29	<u>Directions to councils in England to allow family members to attend funerals</u>	17/04/2020
R30	<u>Statutory guidance to local authorities in England on local death management</u>	April 2020
R31	<u>Guidance for managing a funeral during the pandemic</u>	19/04/2020
R32	<u>Collection of guidance for those involved in managing deaths</u>	21/04/2020
R33	<u>Information leaflet for the bereaved</u>	April 2020
R34	<u>Public Health England Data Series on Deaths in People with COVID-19</u>	29/04/2020
R35	<u>New daily reporting for all deaths in England (press release)</u>	29/04/2020
R36	<u>Chief Coroner's Note 34 – guidance for coroners</u>	26/03/2020
R37	<u>Chief Coroner's Note 35 – hearings during the pandemic</u>	27/03/2020
R38	<u>Chief Coroner's Note 36 – Coronavirus Act: provisions relevant to coroners</u>	30/03/2020

Education and vocational training

R39	<u>Collection of guidance for schools and other educational settings</u>	April 2020
R40	<u>Guidance for schools and councils on maintaining educational provision</u>	19/04/2020
R41	<u>Guidance on temporary closure of schools in England</u>	28/04/2020
R42	<u>Safeguarding guidance for schools, colleges and other premises in England</u>	27/03/2020
R43	<u>Collection of guidance for schools and other educational settings</u>	28/04/2020
R44	<u>Guidance on maintaining further education</u>	24/04/2020
R45	<u>Guidance for head teachers on awarding qualifications in summer 2020</u>	April 2020
R46	<u>Guidance for teachers, students, parents and carers on educational grades</u>	April 2020
R47	<u>Summer 2020 results for vocational, technical and other qualifications</u>	30/04/2020
R48	<u>Free school meals guidance</u>	30/04/2020
R49	<u>Guidance for apprentices, employers, training providers and assessors</u>	24/04/2020
R50	<u>Funding to support schools with exceptional costs</u>	07/04/2020



R51	<u>Ofqual exam grading consultation: online response closed 29/04/2020</u>	29/04/2020
R52	<u>Special schools managing children with complex needs (SEND)</u>	19/04/2020
R53	<u>Oak National Academy – an online teaching resource for teachers</u>	Website
R54	<u>BBC Bitesize: support for students in primary and secondary schools</u>	Website
Food hygiene		
R55	<u>Guidance for consumers on how to maintain food hygiene</u>	25/04/2020
Glossary of terms used in UK government guidance		
R56	<u>Glossary</u>	27/04/2020
Healthcare professionals and hospital settings		
R57	<u>Background information (epidemiology, virology and clinical features)</u>	29/04/2020
R58	<u>Collection of guidance for healthcare professionals and others</u>	27/04/2020
R59	<u>Management of exposed healthcare workers & patients in hospital</u>	23/04/2020
R60	<u>Guidance for ambulance trusts</u>	11/04/2020
R61	<u>Guidance for first responders</u>	24/03/2020
R62	<u>Guidance for taking swab samples</u>	23/04/2020
R63	<u>Infection prevention and control</u>	27/04/2020
R64	<u>Healthcare support workers required at London NHS Nightingale Hospital</u>	Website
R65	<u>Hospital discharge service requirements</u>	19/03/2020
R66	<u>Infection control precautions when discharging from hospital to home</u>	23/04/2020
Homecare (Domiciliary Care)		
R67	<u>PPE for care workers delivering home care in England</u>	30/04/2020
R68	<u>Putting on PPE for home carers</u>	30/04/2020
R69	<u>Taking off PPE for home carers</u>	30/04/2020
International		
R70	<u>Guidance for UK businesses trading internationally</u>	24/04/2020
R71	<u>UK financial assistance to help reduce mass infections in developing countries</u>	12/04/2020
R72	<u>PPE export controls on UK companies trading internationally</u>	24/04/2020
Laboratories		
R73	<u>Guidance for organisations with laboratory testing capability</u>	09/04/2020
Laws and regulations		
R74	<u>Coronavirus Act 2020</u>	25/03/2020
R75	<u>The Health Protection (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020</u>	10/02/2020



R76	<u>The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions)(England) Regulations 2020</u>	26/03/2020
Local authorities		
R77	<u>Guidance to local authorities for controlling fraud</u>	March 2020
R78	<u>Guidance to local authorities in England on prioritising waste collections</u>	07/04/2020
R79	<u>Postponement of elections</u>	06/04/2020
Medicines and healthcare products		
R80	<u>Medicines & Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) : collection</u>	23/04/2020
Mental health		
R81	<u>Mental health helplines</u>	March 2020
R82	<u>Support and practical guidance for those suffering with mental health issues</u>	31/03/2020
R83	<u>Easy-read guide: looking after your feelings and body</u>	March 2020
R84	<u>Health and social care staff who care for people lacking mental capacity</u>	09/04/2020
Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR)		
R85	<u>Coronavirus analysis and implications for the UK economy</u>	30/04/2020
Personal protective equipment (PPE)		
R86	<u>PPE use for aerosol generating procedures</u>	10/04/2020
R87	<u>PPE use for non-aerosol generating procedures</u>	08/04/2020
R88	<u>Management of exposed healthcare workers and patients in hospitals</u>	23/04/2020
R89	<u>Coronavirus Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Hub</u>	18/04/2020
R90	<u>Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Plan</u>	10/04/2020
Procurement policy guidance to public bodies		
R91	<u>Payment to suppliers of public bodies</u>	17/04/2020
Public information		
R92	<u>Coronavirus: action plan – A guide to what you can expect across the UK</u>	03/03/2020
R93	<u>NHS health advice for everyone</u>	March 2020
R94	<u>Stay at home guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection</u>	28/04/2020
R95	<u>Call for evidence by parliamentary Women & Equalities Committee</u>	30/03/2020
R96	<u>Prime Minister’s letter to the nation</u>	23/03/2020
R97	<u>Coronavirus public information leaflet</u>	23/03/2020
R98	<u>Coronavirus easy-read public information leaflet</u>	April 2020
Rapidly Manufactured Ventilator System Project		
R99	<u>Indemnities granted to manufacturers</u>	April 2020



Renting and landlords		
R100	<u>Non-statutory renting guidance for landlords, tenants and local authorities</u>	28/03/2020
Scientific advice		
R101	<u>Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE): COVID-19 guidance</u>	Website
Security		
R102	<u>Guidance on cyber security and home working</u>	02/04/2020
R103	<u>'Silent Solution' - contacting the police by mobile phone if you cannot speak</u>	07/04/2019
R104	<u>Support for victims of domestic abuse announced by Home Secretary</u>	11/04/2020
R105	<u>Directions given to the NHS to disclose cyber security information to GCHQ</u>	03/04/2020
R106	<u>Thinkuknow programme to protect children when using devices online</u>	Website
Social distancing and protecting vulnerable people		
R107	<u>Guidance on social distancing</u>	30/04/2020
R108	<u>Measures to protect people at higher risk from Coronavirus</u>	17/04/2020
R109	<u>Easy-read guide on protecting extremely vulnerable people</u>	March 2020
R110	<u>How to help safely: guidance</u>	23/04/2020
R111	<u>How to help safely: easy-read guide</u>	April 2020
R112	<u>Easy-read guide: keeping away from other people</u>	23/04/2020
Testing and vaccines		
R113	<u>Coronavirus Status Checker - Online Survey</u>	Website
R114	<u>Government plans for scaling up testing programmes</u>	03/04/2020
R115	<u>Guidance on COVID-19 testing for frontline workers who are self-isolating</u>	29/04/2020
R116	<u>Testing arrangements for essential workers in England with symptoms</u>	29/04/2020
R117	<u>Booking tests: User guide for essential workers in England with symptoms</u>	29/04/2020
R118	<u>Mobile testing units to test frontline workers</u>	26/04/2020
R119	<u>Drug trials could be fast-tracked through new clinical trial initiative</u>	30/04/2020
Transport and travel		
R120	<u>Essential travel guidance</u>	22/03/2020
R121	<u>Safety guidance for towpaths and waterways from the Canal and River Trust</u>	Website
R122	<u>Government data sources and methodology for gathering transport use data</u>	15/04/2020
R123	<u>Driver and rider trainers in England, Scotland and Wales – DVSA guidance</u>	22/04/2020



Trials and volunteers

- R124 [Booking tests: User guide for essential workers in England with symptoms](#) 29/04/2020
- R125 [Volunteering for the National Health Service: Good Samaritan app](#) Website

World Health Organisation

- R126 <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019> Website