



Weekly Covid-19 Update for Elected Members

Date of Issue: 24 September 2021

Proactive prevention work undertaken

- Business engagements: **102**
- Queries answered: **0**
- Covid complaints: **0**

Test and Trace visits: 88

Changes to Coronavirus Regulations and Guidance

- Guidance on working safely during coronavirus
On 15 September, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport updated the working safely guidance for several sectors.
The updates include changes to sections on face coverings and working from home, in line with the government's autumn and winter plan announced earlier this week.
Guidance:
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-covid-19/updates>
Plan:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-response-autumn-and-winter-plan-2021>
- Guidance for parents and carers on the vaccination programme for young people aged 12 to 15
Public Health England has updated its page of resources for young people and their families with answers to some frequently asked questions on the COVID-19 vaccine. This autumn, all young people aged 12 to 15 are being offered a first dose of the vaccine. Guidance and resources for schools are also available. The guidance documents have been produced to assist school staff, headteachers and parents with any questions about the COVID-19 vaccination programme.
Information leaflets on the vaccination for children and young people are also available to download or order for free.
Guidance:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-resources-for-schools>

Materials:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-resources-for-children-and-young-people>

FAQs:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-resources-for-children-and-young-people/covid-19-vaccination-a-guide-for-eligible-children-and-young-people-aged-12-to-17>

- Guidance on protecting people defined on medical grounds as extremely vulnerable
On 20 September the government updated the guidance for protecting people defined on medical grounds as extremely vulnerable to COVID-19.
The updates to the guidance are in line with the government's 'COVID-19 Response – Autumn and Winter Plan 2021' for managing COVID-19 which was published on 14 September.
Guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19>
- COVID-19: Safer public places – managing public outdoor settings
On 21 September the Government updated guidance for councils, owners and operators to support the safe use and management of outdoor public places while the risk of COVID-19 transmission remains.
The update reflects guidance changes announced in the government's 'COVID-19 Response – Autumn and Winter Plan 2021' for managing COVID-19 on 14 September.
Guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-public-places-managing-public-outdoor-settings>
- Updated guidance on renting for councils, landlords and tenants
On 22 September the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities updated the guidance on renting for councils, landlords and tenants in the private and social rented sectors.
The updates to the guidance are in line with the government's 'COVID-19 Response – Autumn and Winter Plan 2021' which was published on 14 September.
Guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-and-renting-guidance-for-landlords-tenants-and-local-authorities>
Plan: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-response-autumn-and-winter-plan-2021>

Other Relevant Coronavirus Updates

- Young people and vaccines toolkit
The Department of Health and Social Care has made available a toolkit to encourage COVID-19 vaccine uptake amongst young people.
The toolkit includes materials from Public Health England to help councils promote the benefits of the vaccine.
Councils are encouraged to inform their networks about the resources available, which includes a video explainer.

Toolkit:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Kz4ug5YXIKCMQbWtlZDrQYJw8PA3ECb_/view?usp=sharing

Materials:

<https://coronavirusresources.phe.gov.uk/covid-19-vaccine/resources/young-people-vaccines>

Video: <https://coronavirusresources.phe.gov.uk/covid-19-vaccine/resources/video-content-yewande>

- LGA webinar on the work of the JCVI and vaccination

The Local Government Association, in collaboration with the Association of Directors of Public Health, is hosting a webinar on the work of the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation at 2:30 – 4:00pm on 28 September.

The webinar will also take a look towards autumn/winter with regards to vaccinations.

Speakers will include representatives from the JCVI and British Society of Immunology.

Chief executives, councillors, directors of public health and public health teams, are all recommended to attend.

Sign-up:

<https://lgaevents.local.gov.uk/lga/frontend/reg/thome.csp?pageID=447844&eventID=1304&traceRedir=2>

DATA UPDATE

Working closely with the Lancashire Resilience Forum and Public Health England (PHE), we are able to access the very latest data in infection rates and forecasts in order to guide our prevention activity and ensure we are prepared for any changes in local or national lockdown measures and outbreaks.

This data is the property of PHE and currently we do not have permission to share it, only Senior Environmental Health Officers and Chief Officers are permitted access.

However, we have requested permission of PHE to share it both with our elected members and in our communications to encourage local compliance and keep residents informed where our 'hotspots' are.

LATEST FIGURES FOR CHORLEY

The Government has consolidated publication of Covid-19 statistics to make it easier to find the latest data. The latest figure published at 4:00pm on 24 September for cumulative confirmed Covid-19 cases for Chorley is **14673** (cumulative rate per 100 000 is **12343.7**). For comparison, South Ribble has seen 14420 cases (cumulative rate per 100 000 is 12980.9). Total cases and rates in other neighbouring areas are: Blackburn with Darwen 28191 (rate 18790.2); Preston 22294 (rate 15466.2); West Lancashire 14704 (rate 12842.4).

Fig. 1 is an extract from the latest available PHE daily situational report for the North West on Resilience Direct dated 22 September 2021 (covering the reporting period 11 – 17 September*).

The table shows that in Chorley in those 7 days there have been **433** cases (the previous 7-day period saw 387 cases reported). The weekly rate per 100 000 in the report is given as **364.3** (the previous week was 325.6). Comparable data for South Ribble are 344 cases (*cf* 355 cases in the previous 7 days), and the weekly rate per 100 000 is 309.7 (previous week 319.6).

** NB, for comparison between districts, the most recent 4 days are excluded from the calculations due to reporting delays*

The above data are publicly available and may be shared outside the organisation.

As more asymptomatic testing is carried out, it is possible that there may be an increase in cases and rate. In this case, the positivity rate amongst people tested becomes a good indicator of trends. The current data show that 8.0% of people tested in Chorley are found to be positive, an increase from the previous week.

Fig. 2 is an extract from the same report, and shows the change in weekly case rate across the North West from 8 September. The infection rate in Chorley appears once again to be increasing.

Upper Tier Local Authority	Lower Tier Local Authority	Daily individuals tested per 100,000 population 7-day moving average ¹		Weekly percentage individuals test positive ^{2,3}	Weekly no. of newly confirmed cases	Weekly case rate per 100,000, All ages ⁴	7-day change in case rate, All ages ⁶	Weekly no. of newly confirmed cases 60+ yrs	Weekly case rate per 100,000 60+ yrs ⁵	7-day change in case rate 60+ yrs ⁶	Weekly community outbreaks ⁸	
Blackburn with Darwen	Blackburn with Darwen	540.1	decrease	6.5	decrease	342	228.0	-25%	44	147.9	-19%	0
Blackpool	Blackpool	808.2	increase	8.6	decrease	643	464.7	-22%	93	248.8	-34%	10
Lancashire	Burnley	579.8	increase	8.1	decrease	277	310.0	-2%	39	176.6	-22%	0
	Chorley	665.3	increase	8.0	decrease	433	364.3	+11%	26	83.9	-40%	2
	Fylde	746.9	increase	7.8	decrease	327	402.7	-12%	63	219.4	-34%	1
	Hyndburn	551.3	increase	8.6	decrease	257	316.8	-19%	42	213.9	-22%	0
	Lancaster	641.9	increase	8.5	increase	554	374.0	+15%	50	131.1	-40%	2
	Pendle	512.5	increase	8.8	decrease	271	294.1	-12%	28	122.5	-39%	1
	Preston	669.0	increase	8.0	increase	533	369.8	+6%	43	150.4	-17%	0
	Ribble Valley	666.5	increase	9.2	=	263	424.0	+15%	22	114.9	-65%	1
	Rossendale	583.6	increase	8.4	increase	227	317.8	+27%	24	134.3	+9%	1
	South Ribble	609.4	increase	7.3	decrease	344	309.7	-3%	45	145.4	0%	0
	West Lancashire	627.0	increase	6.9	decrease	335	292.6	-12%	62	188.5	-10%	0
Wyre	729.3	increase	8.4	decrease	464	410.4	-6%	75	189.1	-17%	1	
North West		606.9	increase	7.6	decrease	22,899	310.8	-12%	2,671	147.1	-28%	43
England		633.5	increase	6.0	decrease	145,910	258.0	-17%	15,899	116.4	-28%	382

¹Comparison with previous week

²Positivity of all individuals with a valid test result from a specimen taken in the 7-day period of interest (Pillar 1 and Pillar 2 combined). This excludes tests where postcode of residence is not available and lateral flow device tests

³Weekly percentage positive: Red >7.5%, Amber 4% to 7.5%, Green <4%

⁴Weekly case rate: 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

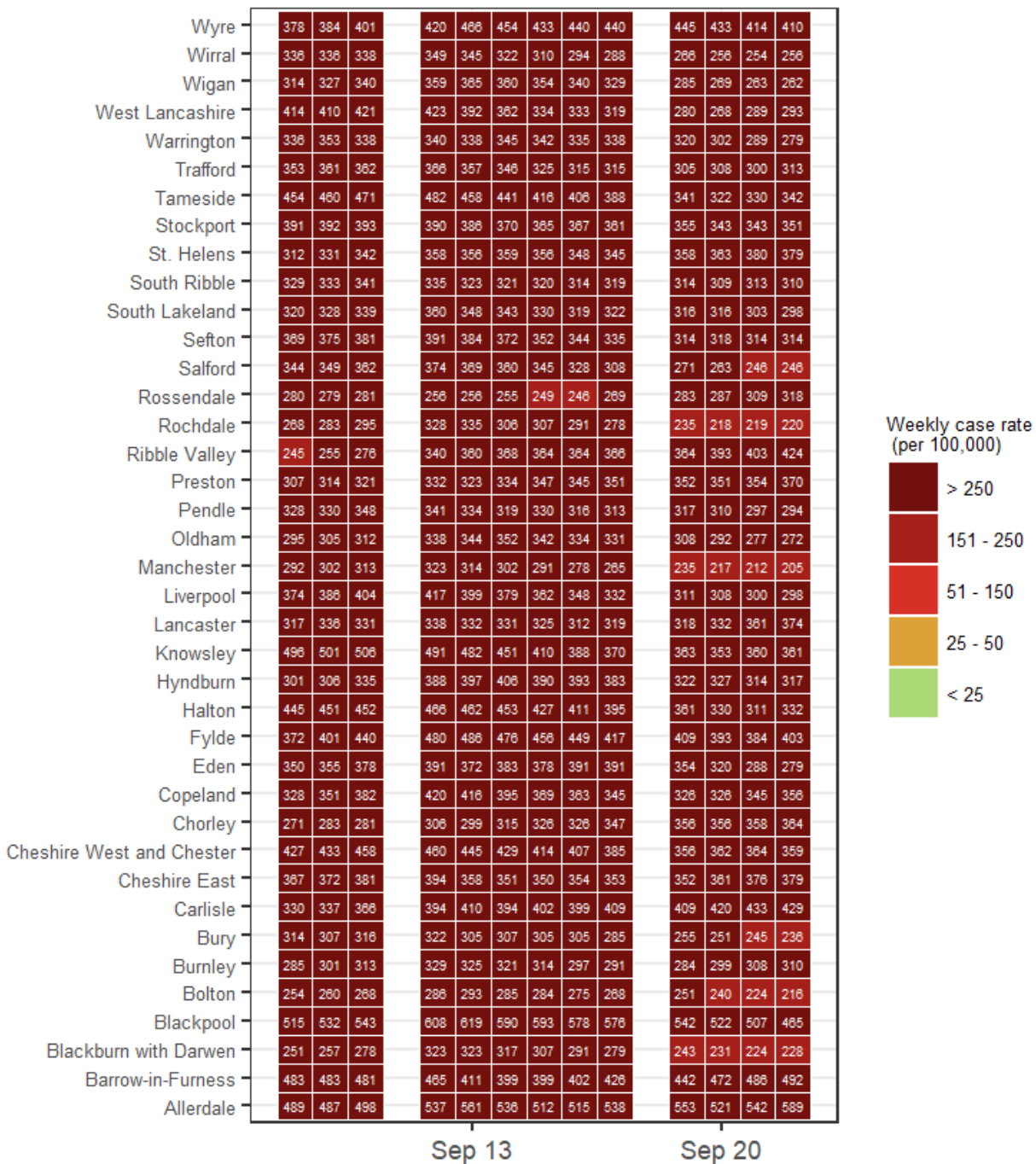
⁵60+ yrs weekly case rate: Maroon >150 cases per 100,000, Dark red 101 to 150 cases per 100,000, Red 51 to 100 cases per 100,000, Amber 25 to 50 per 100,000 per week, Green <25 per 100,000 per week

⁶Percentage change in weekly case rate in comparison to same period 7-days previous: Maroon >100% increase in cases, Red 51 to 100% increase

⁸Community outbreaks include all outbreaks and clusters reported to PHE excluding those from secondary care and care home settings. These include outbreaks reported from childcare, university, prison, primary health care, workplace, school and other community settings. Source: HPZone

Fig.1 Table of testing rate, positivity, case rate, and exceedance rating for Lower Tier Local Authorities in North West in the 7-day period 11 – 17 September 2021 (Table edited to show only the Lancashire-14 districts)

Weekly case rate**



Notes: (*) Number represents 14-day case rate ratio; (**) rate per 100,000, weekly
 Source: Case data from SGSS. Produced by Outbreak Surveillance Team, PHE
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Fig. 2 Change in weekly case rate per 100 000 in North West authorities from 8 September

Lancashire County Council publishes a weekly insight into Covid-19 intelligence. This is publicly available at <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/covidweekly/>

A weekly Coronavirus Disease report is produced by PHE which summarises the national picture and this is available here <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-covid-19-surveillance-reports>

Date: 24 September 2021

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