

[Coronavirus and COVID-19: latest information on our response, our services and how to get support](#)



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New coronavirus case data published

5:43pm - 02 July 2020



From today, positive coronavirus cases from testing in the wider community (also known as pillar 2) at upper tier local authority level in England will be added to the daily COVID-19 dashboard published nationally.

Although this will not affect the total number of cases in England, it will show an increase in the published North Somerset figures which have previously only included pillar 1, which is testing in Public Health England (PHE) labs and NHS hospitals for those with a clinical need, and health and care workers.

Cllr Mike Bell, Deputy Leader and executive member for health at North Somerset Council, said: "Public Health England colleagues in the South West have been helpful in sharing data for all positive tests, including pillar 2, with us previously. This was obviously critical in our analysis of the cluster of cases in May centred at Weston General Hospital."

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“Our North Somerset Council public health team is currently looking at the best way, alongside this national data, to increase understanding of COVID-19 cases locally, including how to publish accessible information for local residents and businesses. We will share more information on this as soon as we can.”

Matt Lenny, the council’s Director of Public Health, added: “Earlier this week we published our Local Outbreak Management Plan, which provides advice to a wide range of partner organisations, decision-makers and our residents on how to protect the health of our community. It brings together an approach that is co-ordinated across all aspects of North Somerset life. We hope we will not see another local outbreak but if we do, we are prepared to control this awful virus.

“Everyone has a role to play in reducing the impact, and the best advice I can give remains – keep washing your hands regularly for at least 20 seconds, keep up your social distancing efforts, and if you have any symptoms that you think could be coronavirus, please book yourself a test immediately on the [NHS website](#), and self-isolate until you have your results. We have plenty of testing capacity locally, so you’ll be seen very quickly and have your results within a day or two.”

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