

Update from your Unitary Councillor David Hopkins – 28th September 2020

As at 16.34 Today (Monday) the figure is 1,144, up by four since Sunday. The national figure is up by 4,044 with sadly an additional 13 deaths.

The infection rate locally is (approx..) 16.3 cases per 100,000 population which remains low in comparison with neighbouring authorities (Luton 43.2, Bedford 28.2 and Central Beds 17.7)

The sudden increase a number of weeks ago was due a change in the way in which data is gathered and published by the government.

Previous data shared by Public Health England relied solely on Pillar 1 tests, which are swabs carried out in Public Health England and NHS Hospital Trusts. The figures now included Pillar 2 tests, which are the results of non-clinical and commercial testing.

Milton Keynes Total Cases	Rate per 100,000 population
1,144	424.6
Central Bedfordshire	Rate
1552 (up 7)	537.7
Buckinghamshire	Rate
2, 258 (up 6)	415.1

This overhaul of how coronavirus infection data is presented has resulted in hundreds of new cases emerging in individual authorities

In MK the worst month for infection was April, when 462 positive cases were confirmed in the city. March saw 148 cases, May 167 and throughout June there were 71 positive cases. There was also one case in February, with the first case in MK emerging on February 23.

Care home deaths: ONS publish the data at 9.30 on Tuesday mornings

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/bulletins/deathsregisteredweeklyinenglandandwalesprovisional/weekending11september2020>

If you open the link and click on <Download> four Excel tables will come up.

Table 2 is all care home COVID-19 deaths.

Table 3 is care home deaths from all causes.

MK is Line 83 in both Tables

Hospital deaths: The number of reported deaths in Milton Keynes (hospital only) remains at 104

Local News

Controversial plan for Hindu temple made out of shipping containers is recommended for approval <https://www.mkfm.com/news/local-news/controversial-plan-for-hindu-temple-made-out-of-shipping-containers-is-recommended-for-approval/>

Milton Keynes school thanks family's actions over Covid-19 infection <https://www.miltonkeynes.co.uk/health/coronavirus/milton-keynes-school-thanks-familys-actions-over-covid-19-infection-2985638>

Nearly 600 new homes set to transform Bletchley's Lakes Estate <https://www.mkfm.com/news/local-news/nearly-600-new-homes-set-to-transform-bletchleys-lakes-estate/>

Minute's silence held Milton Keynes for police officer who was shot dead <https://www.miltonkeynes.co.uk/news/crime/minutes-silence-held-milton-keynes-police-officer-who-was-shot-dead-2985894>

Milton Keynes man breaks world record for most amount of chin-ups in 24-hours <https://www.mkfm.com/news/local-news/milton-keynes-man-breaks-world-record-for-most-amount-of-chin-ups-in-24-hours/>

It would be insensitive to reopen Milton Keynes parkrun next month, says CEO <https://www.mkfm.com/news/local-news/weekly-parkruns-in-milton-keynes-have-been-suspended-once-again/>

Appeal to give "wonderful" lady 100 birthday cards on her 100th birthday in Milton Keynes <https://www.miltonkeynes.co.uk/news/people/appeal-give-wonderful-lady-100-birthday-cards-her-100th-birthday-milton-keynes-2985900>

Foundation pupils at Milton Keynes primary school to self-isolate after lunchtime supervisor tests positive for COVID-19 <https://www.mkfm.com/news/local-news/foundation-pupils-at-milton-keynes-primary-school-to-self-isolate-after-staff-member-tests-positive-for-covid-19/>

Firefighters called to 'suspected arson' in Milton Keynes play park <https://www.mkfm.com/news/local-news/firefighters-called-to-suspected-arson-in-milton-keynes-play-park/>

Milton Keynes influencers: 11 social media personalities you should follow on Instagram, TikTok and Twitter <https://www.miltonkeynes.co.uk/news/people/milton-keynes-influencers-11-social-media-personalities-you-should-follow-instagram-tiktok-and-twitter-2985381?page=3>

Milton Keynes to kickstart regeneration and improve connectivity with announced £1m <https://www.mkfm.com/news/local-news/milton-keynes-to-kickstart-regeneration-and-improve-connectivity-with-announced-1m/>

Government

COVID-19 Honours https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-honours?utm_source=f7ae8c37-ca48-4287-817f-ff4cf9277df0&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily

NHS COVID-19 app has been downloaded over 10 million times https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nhs-covid-19-app-has-been-downloaded-over-10-million-times?utm_source=cd6f620b-fde8-4497-9f4d-0d420b50e8cf&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily

PHE data series on deaths in people with COVID-19: technical summary https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/phe-data-series-on-deaths-in-people-with-covid-19-technical-summary?utm_source=090b4fcf-4b63-44e2-bdbc-fcc936b50c24&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily

COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance?utm_source=2efcbb6a-7853-4e49-82ef-1ca3174390d5&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily

New legal duty to self-isolate comes into force today https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-legal-duty-to-self-isolate-comes-into-force-today?utm_source=edd01310-91f3-49ff-97ea-8c3d192f1527&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily

Guidance for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection who do not live with the person https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person?utm_source=437088aa-7087-45a4-813f-af42db63a680&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Strategy: Stabilise and build resilience https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/personal-protective-equipment-ppe-strategy-stabilise-and-build-resilience?utm_source=751d0a26-8b6c-4853-a985-55137f193f30&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily

Huge increase in UK personal protective equipment production https://www.gov.uk/government/news/huge-increase-in-uk-personal-protective-equipment-production?utm_source=275d9ca6-82e8-40fd-9ca1-766ad814255b&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily

Council asks local people to download and use new NHS COVID-19 app

Milton Keynes Council is encouraging local people to download the new NHS COVID-19 app from www.covid19.nhs.uk.

The new app is part of the NHS Test and Trace service and will be used, alongside traditional contact tracing, to notify users if they come into contact with someone who later tests positive for coronavirus.

The app allows people to report symptoms, order a coronavirus test, and check in to venues by scanning a QR code.

It also helps the NHS trace app users who have spent time near other app users, who they may not personally know, and who later test positive for coronavirus. It does this by tracking the virus, not individuals. When you first download the app, it asks for your postcode district (in common to thousands of people) which helps the app work out where the virus is spreading. It cannot be used to identify you, track you or to check if you are self-isolating.

If you have been advised by the app to self-isolate, the app provides a countdown timer so that you can keep track of how long you need to self-isolate.

Milton Keynes Council has been working with local businesses to ensure venues who need to download, and display QR posters have done so. Visitors need to scan QR codes to check in at venues including pubs, cinemas and hairdressers.

Council posters showing where to download the app will also appear around the borough.

Find out more about how Milton Keynes Council is supporting our high streets, pubs, restaurants and other local businesses as they reopen carefully during the COVID-19 pandemic here. <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/your-council-and-elections/restartmk>