

COVID-19

COMMUNITY SAFETY

The Government has announced that the whole of the Liverpool City Region, including St Helens, is to be designated as an Enhanced Response Area (ERA).

This is because COVID-19 cases are increasing and doubling weekly, and we know that this is linked to the Delta variant, first identified in India, which is easier to spread with a 64% increased risk of household transmission and is 40% more transmissible outdoors compared to previous strains.

Newton-le-Willows has a COVID-19 case rate of 152.4 per 100,000 which is triple the borough average and Earlestown is also among the highest rates in the borough for the last few weeks which is why we are taking targeted action initially including surge testing in this area.



People aged 40 and over can change their COVID-19 second dose interval from 12 to 8 weeks by calling 119.



Two drop-in COVID-19 Pfizer vaccination clinics at the Totally Wicked Stadium (Saints) on Tuesday 22 and Friday 25 June, 8am-7pm (with a break between 12.30pm-1.30pm) for anyone:

- People aged 18 and over
- People with an underlying health condition (including 16 and 17 year olds)
- People who live and work in care homes
- Frontline health and social care workers
- Carers over 16 (you don't have to be a registered carer, simply someone that has caring responsibilities for a vulnerable person)

No need to book - just turn up!



Get tested for coronavirus (COVID-19)

There are different tests you can get to check if you have coronavirus (COVID-19). The test you need depends on why you're getting tested. The 2 main tests are:

PCR tests – mainly for people with symptoms, they're sent to a lab to be checked

Rapid lateral flow tests – only for people who do not have symptoms, they give a result in 30 minutes using a device similar to a pregnancy test. You should do a rapid test twice a week (every 3 to 4 days) to check if you have the virus. If people test positive and self-isolate, it helps stop the virus spreading.

You can order tests from:

www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests, collect tests from a test site or pharmacy. More information can be found at sthelens.gov.uk/letsgetttested

Both tests are free.



If you have symptoms of COVID-19

Get a PCR test as soon as possible if you have any of these symptoms:



- a high temperature

or



- a new, continuous cough

or



- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

You and anyone you live with should stay at home until you get your test result. Only leave your home to have a test.

Anyone in your childcare or support bubble should also stay at home if you have been in close contact with them since your symptoms started or during the 48 hours before they started.



Don't forget - Hands. Face. Space. Fresh Air