

# COVID-19 (coronavirus) weekly update from Birmingham City Council

04-12-2020

## Keep in Touch



### Coronavirus weekly update from Birmingham City Council

Welcome to the coronavirus weekly update from Birmingham City Council.

The update lets you know about Birmingham City Council's services, public health information, general advice on Covid-19, and other relevant news from the council and our partners so that we can keep you informed. If you have friends and family who are not online, please share the information in this bulletin with them.

You can find a full suite of information about Covid-19 on the council's [website](#).



### Covid guidance

Birmingham is now in Tier 3 (Very High alert) of the Government's new COVID-19 restrictions. Every action counts when it comes to protecting ourselves and our loves ones from coronavirus. Find the [latest guidance](#). Between 23 and 27 December, you can form an exclusive 'Christmas bubble' of up to three households.

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The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) have published their advice on priority groups for the COVID-19 vaccine. Find out more about the role of the JCVI in Public Health England's [new blog](#).

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**Vaccines reduce the spread of infectious diseases** and even get rid of some altogether. Since they were introduced, serious conditions like polio and tetanus have become very rare in the UK.

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The council's Public Health Division has successfully tendered for additional community support services to ensure COVID-19 and Test and Trace messages are shared widely within the city. This means partnering with organisations, such as Age UK and West Midlands Faith in Action, to discover the **best methods of reaching the various communities** and understanding how they have been affected by COVID-19.

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Returning home from university for Christmas? Check your university's guidance and travel safely between 3 and 9 December. Read more on government guidance [here](#).

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Applications are now live for the latest business support grants. Businesses need to set up a BRUM account to submit an application. [Find out more and apply](#).

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All sorts of businesses have now re-opened, such as retail, gyms, hairdressers, beauty salons, and tailors. Businesses should ensure they are following the latest **Working Safely guidance** to help keep staff and customers safe.

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Visit the council's website for [translated audio and written information](#) on Coronavirus Test and Trace.

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For latest updates and advice on coronavirus, please visit the [government website](#).

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## Local news

Michelin-starred TV chef, Glynn Purnell, is teaming up with Birmingham City Council to host a **virtual Cook-A-Long**. The show is in aid of the alternative giving scheme that helps rough sleepers, Change into Action.

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Christmas waste collections for households in December 2020 and January 2021 have been confirmed by the council. No collections will be carried out on Christmas Day (Friday 25 December).

Only household waste will be picked up on the Bank Holiday (Monday 28 December) and New Year's Day (Friday 1 January). No recycling will be collected on those two days. [Find out more](#).

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The first of **76 new refuse collection vehicles** for Birmingham's bin rounds have been delivered to the city council.

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Key dates for Phase Two of the A34 Highways Improvement Scheme in Perry Barr (including the removal of the flyover) have been announced. Full details of the key dates in early 2021 [here](#).

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From 1 December, **over 50s can get the flu vaccine for free** – a vital way to protect against illness over winter. Speak to your pharmacist or GP.

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We've teamed up with SignVideo, and you can now **call Birmingham City Council in British Sign Language (BSL)**. Just download the FREE SignVideo app, click on the SV Directory, and search for 'Birmingham City Council', to connect to a BSL interpreter!

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If your child is due to start school in September 2021 you can **apply online** 24 hours a day up to the deadline of 15 January 2021.

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Following a successful launch period, the operating area of **Birmingham's e-scooter trial** will be expanded to the north and southwest of the city from Friday 4 December 2020. The expansion includes the A38 and A34 cycling corridors respectively, allowing people to reach key destinations by e-scooter.

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The Moor Street Queensway bus gate is now in operation, supporting **improved bus services** in the city centre. If you need to reach Bullring and Selfridges car parks, leave the Middleway ring road at Camp Hill or Bordesley Circus and access through Digbeth.