

# Covid-19 Update

## Cabinet 15<sup>th</sup> July 2021

- Update on Covid-19 London and Harrow
- Lockdown Exit Roadmap – Step 4 from 19<sup>th</sup> July
- Council response to Covid-19
  - Covid-19 related activity
  - service impact
- Vaccination update
- Planning for recovery
- Overview of capacity and organisational issues
- Questions

- Overall Covid-19 cases are increasing rapidly in Harrow and London
- Harrow is now 194.7 cases per 100k people – this is a significant increase over the past few weeks
- Very significant reduction in impact of Covid-19 on hospitalisation due to vaccination but pressures rising slowly
- Step 4 of Lockdown Exit Roadmap to be implemented from 19<sup>th</sup> July
- Multiple changes to rules including schools, isolation and travel
- The vaccination programme has been accelerated in advance of 19<sup>th</sup> July and Lockdown Exit
- Entering new phase of response “living with covid-19” – brings risks
- Significant focus on service pressures and recovery going forward

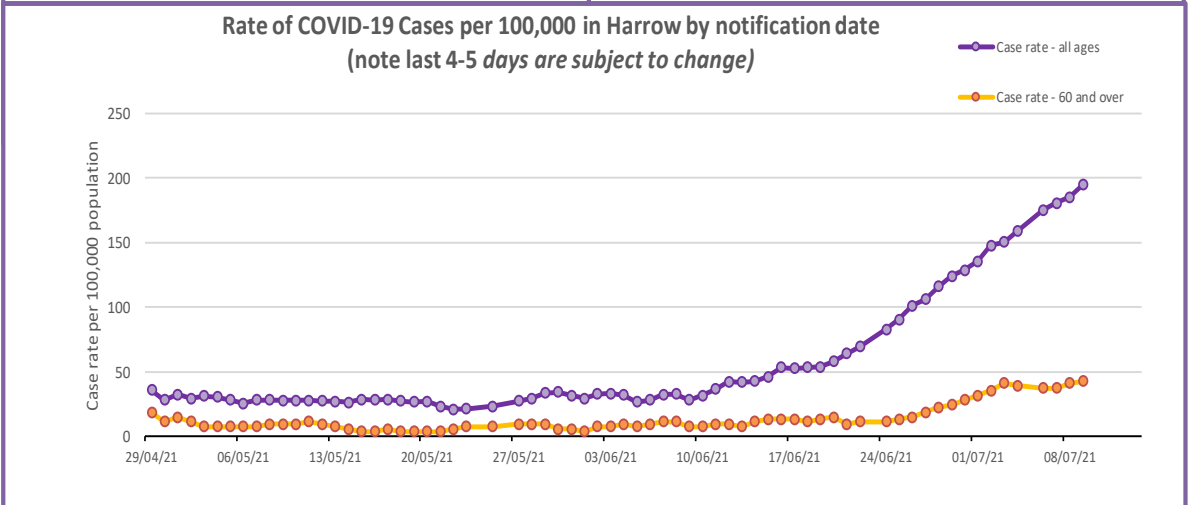
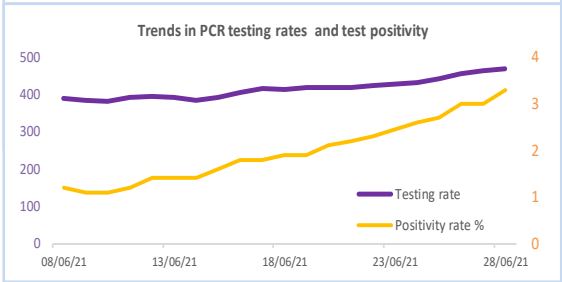
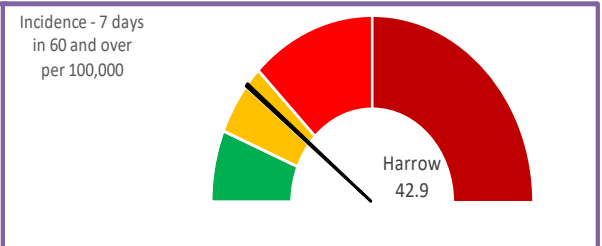
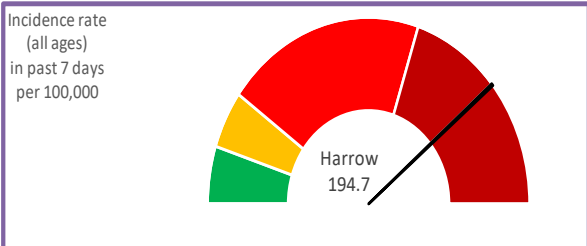
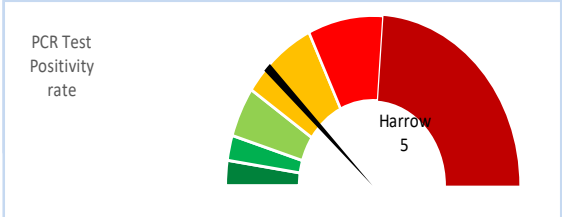
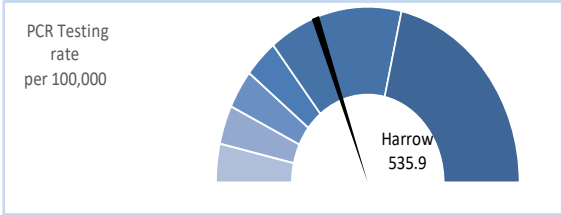
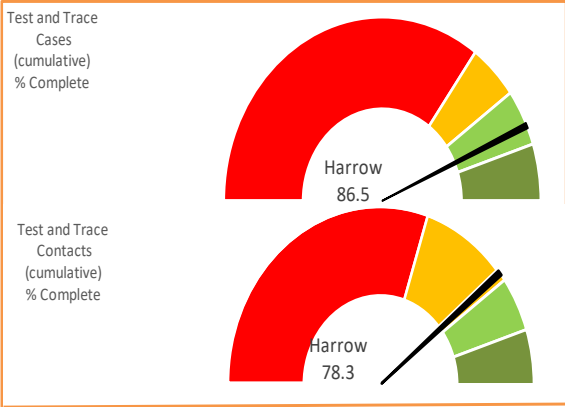
# Harrow Covid-19 Dashboard



## Harrow COVID 19 Dashboard

**Report date:** 15/07/2021  
**Data from:** July 3 2021 to July 9 2021

Confirmed Positive Cases (all ages) in 7 days to 9/7/2021	489
% Change in past 7 days	31%
Interim positive cases (all ages) in 7 days to 13/07/2021	620
Confirmed Positive Cases (age 60+ ) in 7 days to 9/7/2021	23
% Change in past 7 days	21%



Although Harrow has the second lowest rate in the capital, the rate has continued to climb steadily over the last week. The doubling time in the number of cases is currently 13 days. Interim data is greater than the confirmed cases so rates predicted to rise further in the coming week

The 19-24 age group has a rate 3 times the Harrow average and then the 11-18 age cohort have a rate more than double the local average. 72% of cases were in the 11-24 age groups.

**Hospitalisations:**  
 there were 27 admissions to North West London Hospitals Trust in the seven days to 4th July. This is double the number of the previous week

**Deaths**  
 There were no deaths within 28 days of a covid diagnosis

- Lockdown ends on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July alongside changes to many other Covid-19 related rules and regulations e.g. schools, travel, self-isolation
- The Pandemic is not over and case levels are expected to continue to rise rapidly but with much lower rates of hospitalisation
- The Council will continue to be involved in key areas:
  - Exit from Lockdown
  - Testing and Track and Trace
  - Variants of Concern
  - Vaccination programme
- Key priority will be Autumn vaccine booster programme – starts September
- Winter anticipated to be very challenging for NHS and social care due to combination of Covid-19 and normal Winter pressure e.g. Flu

# Lockdown Announcement

- Prime Minister announced that Step 4 of Lockdown Exit Roadmap to be implemented on 19<sup>th</sup> July
- This represents the final easing of restrictions on hospitality and other measures e.g. social contact
- Social distancing ends as does compulsory wearing of face coverings – emphasis is on personal responsibility rather than legal restrictions
- Working from home advice ends meaning the opening of the Civic Hub can go ahead on 19<sup>th</sup> July
- Council services will reopen but some measures will continue to ensure staff and visitors are offered safe environment
- Covid-19 response will continue to be significant e.g. vaccination

- Pandemic continues and advice is to go forward cautiously
- Step 4 does enable gradual reopening of some services and widening access to others e.g. Libraries, Arts Centre, Civic Centre reception
- New Civic Hub will open for c200 staff at anyone time – majority of staff will remain working from home
- Face coverings and aspects of social distancing will remain in Civic Hub and service delivery sites
- Cleaning and ventilation regime will remain as will expectation of regular testing for staff
- PPE use will continue for Social Care staff dealing with vulnerable clients
- Review will take place in August with potential changes from September

- Pandemic response will continue to be a major focus of the Council for many months
- This will involve restarting services and responding to Lockdown Exit
- Activity will continue on key areas including testing, vaccination and isolation support
- Significant demand on services due to covid-19 especially social care, environment, benefits and via the community hub
- The demand on services is causing both a capacity and financial pressure in the system and is likely to grow as furlough ends and the eviction ban expires
- The vaccination booster programme from September will be very important and will require ongoing Council support for c6months
- Winter is likely to be challenging on a number of fronts re Covid-19



- The Mass Vaccination Site at Byron Hall remains the major vaccination centre in Harrow (and is offering Pfizer for all first doses), but residents can access other sites through the National Booking Site including Wembley
- Current phase of vaccination now includes all adults
- Ongoing focus to also drive up numbers in highest risk cohorts 1-9 and deliver 2<sup>nd</sup> doses at pace - residents are being asked to bring forward their 2<sup>nd</sup> dose date where possible
- Continuing targeting of certain Black and Multi Ethnic Communities and residents who are more hesitant to be vaccinated
- Pop-Up for walk-ins being offered on 17<sup>th</sup> July at Roxbourne Medical Centre
- Planning started for Phase 3 vaccinations, i.e. Covid Boosters, which will start in September. NHS will confirm arrangements in coming weeks

# Vaccination Uptake in Harrow



Cohort	1 <sup>st</sup> Vaccination	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vaccination (as % of first doses)
Over 80's	92%	96%
75-79	91%	97%
70-74	89%	98%
CEVs	89%	96%
65-69's	87%	98%
60-64	82%	97%
55-59	79%	95%
50-54	74%	94%
40-49	66%	75%
30-39	54%	47%
18-29	49%	32%
Care home residents	92%	90%
Care home staff	89%	92%
Home care Agency staff	77%	46%
Social Care staff	72% (this is not now captured when booking for a vaccination so we expect this to be a lot higher now as well as equivalent numbers on second doses)	

- The whole of 2021 is likely to be dominated by Covid -19 response
- Now moving from an emergency response to recovery
- NHS and social care will be focussed on treatment catch up
- Economic challenge for business and residents will increase as furlough and other grant support schemes end
- Major focus on catch up for children re missed education
- Longer-term impact of “hidden harm” and mental health very likely
- Housing and homelessness will become a greater challenge in the Autumn
- Capacity and resilience will remain stretched impacting on priorities

- Covid-19 response and recovery will be major focus
- Ensuring delivery of core Council services with extra demand
- HSDP and wider regeneration and housing
- Accommodation strategy delivery and flexible futures
- Health and Social Care Integration
- Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion
- Modernisation – Dynamics, Great People Great Culture, IT, HR/OD
- Budget and MTFS – ongoing challenge of 2021/2 and planning for 2022/3 and beyond
- Very limited capacity to respond to other priorities as planned pre Covid-19

- Pandemic response has now been running for 17 months and remains relentless
- This has involved delivering services, responding to covid-19 and dealing with lockdown – this continues to be a huge challenge post Step 4
- Pressures are building in many services such as adult social care, children's services and environment
- Significant pent up demand in many services e.g. housing and social care
- There is a potential economic shock to come when furlough and other measures end impacting residents and businesses
- Public awareness of how covid-19 response continues to dominate work of the Council is dwindling
- Staff will also need a to take their accumulated leave over the summer

- Covid-19 case rates are rising rapidly but serious illness and hospitalisation remains low
- The Lockdown Exit Roadmap Step 4 from July 19<sup>th</sup> means a return towards normality for society
- Major focus for Council on supporting unlock, covid-19 response e.g. vaccination and planning for Winter
- Planning for recovery and ensuring capacity and resilience is in place is a key focus
- Covid-19 will continue to dominate Council's work and priorities for many months challenging organisational and staff resilience