

Northern Ireland Office

Covid 19

Situation Report **32**

New information in **RED**

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OFFICIAL - SENSITIVE

Key Developments

Summary: It is understood that Robin Swann has advised the Executive that further interventions are needed before the end of November. Close contact retail and limited hospitality venues are due to open tomorrow. Discussions are ongoing within the Executive. The 7-day rate has fallen again, to 180.7 per 100,000.

NI

- Robin Swann has written to SoS Health asking for up to four million fast-turnaround Covid-19 tests, UKG is yet to respond but we understand 1 million are set to be sent to NI soon and tests will be allocated according to Barnett consequentials. The tests would not be subject to lab processing, making them suitable for mass testing.
- Health officials have advised the Executive that further restrictions will be required before the festive period. This may include the introduction of local, legally enforceable travel restrictions.
- NI's Chief Scientific Adviser has said the R-rate in NI is currently sitting at "around one", and has risen since schools' reopened two weeks ago.

UK

- UKG and DA Ministers are broadly aligned on a policy to allow Christmas 'bubbles'. CMOs from across the UK are to meet this week to discuss and provide advice on proposals, with a possible announcement late next week, a decision would be made at COBR.
- The Oxford/Astra-Zeneca vaccine has shown a strong immune response in those in their 60s and 70s. UKG has ordered 100m doses of the vaccine, which does not need to be stored at very cold temperatures.
- The Scottish Health Minister has announced plans to roll out a national vaccination plan next month, and vaccinate 0.5m by the end of the year.

IE

- Ireland's CMO has said that advances made during the first three weeks of the level five restrictions have not been maintained.
- The Irish Government has announced a 50 million euro one off Covid payment scheme for third level students today.
- Two Covid 19 testing facilities are opening at Dublin Airport, one a drive through test that goes into operation today, and the other a walk in test which opens on Monday.

Data Update

	Northern Ireland	Total UK	Ireland
Tests - Not including antibody test or ONS surveillance.	875,832 (+8,781)	36,747,691 (+424,941) as of Thursday 19th November	1,846,364 (+80)
Cases	48,716 (+487)	1,430,783 (+22,473)	69,437 (+4,182)
Deaths	901 (+12)	53,343 (+432)	2,006 (+12)
Hospital inpatients (current)	456 (+4)	16,345 (+64) UK-wide as of Thursday 19th November	290 (+16)
Cases per 100,000, 7 & 14 day cumulative figures	180.7 (7 day cumulative figure - down from 187.9) 394.9 (14-day cumulative figure - down from 401.1)	260.5 (7 day cumulative figure - down from 265.5) 505.4 (14-day cumulative figure - no change)	57.3 (7 day cumulative figure - up from 57.0) 115.0 (14-day cumulative figure - up from 114.3)

More detail on today's numbers

Rates Across NI

- The average rate of positive crosses per 100,000 over the past 7 days across Northern Ireland is now **180.7**, down from 187.9 yesterday. The 7-day rate is highest in: Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon (up to **248.0**); ; Derry City and Strabane (up to **221.0**); and Mid Ulster (up to **218.3**); Causeway Coast and Glens (down to **187.2**)

Total Individuals Positive

- A running total of **48,716** individuals have now tested positive in NI.

Age Profile of Positive Tests

- The proportion of cases in those aged 60 over the last 7 days has risen to **22.2%**. The number of positive tests in those aged 80 and older during the last 7 days has decreased on yesterday to **251**.

Hospitalisations

- There are currently **456** COVID inpatients in NI hospitals. Currently **31** of **136** ICU beds are unoccupied.

General Hospital Beds Occupancy

- Across the NI healthcare system occupancy is at **100%**, with **four of twelve hospitals operating beyond capacity**. Across the regional Trusts, there are **10 unoccupied beds**.

Forward Look

	Mark/Holly could attend	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
w/c 16/11	Official	Four nations Local outbreaks sitrep NR	NIO officials meeting (All)	Four nations Local outbreaks sitrep NR	NIO officials meeting (All)	Four nations Local outbreaks sitrep NR
		X UK Coord meeting NR	Weekly union meeting NR	C19/NI/UK/Ireland Coord meeting NR	Vaccines NR	DHSC/CO catch-up
		Intra-UK travel meeting NR	Covid-O planning NR	Therapeutics/Devolution XWH catch-up NR	PPE meeting with CO & DHSC NR	
	Ministerial/ PUS		Covid / Transition meeting re Health and Social Care Bill NR		Test & Trace - 4 nations comparison meeting NR	
			Cabinet (SoS) + Exec		Covid O (SoS) + Exec	Covid-O (SoS)
w/c 23/11	Official	Four nations Local outbreaks sitrep NR	NIO officials meeting (All)	Four nations Local outbreaks sitrep NR	NIO Officials meeting (All)	Four nations Local outbreaks sitrep NR
		X-UK co-ordination NR	Weekly union meeting NR	C19/NI/UK/Ireland Coord meeting NR	Vaccines NR	DHSC/CO catch-up
			Covid-O planning NR	Therapeutics NR		
	Ministerial/ PUS		Cabinet (SoS) + Exec		Covid O (SoS) +Exec	
						MIn Walker/Robin Swann mtg

Latest Lines / stats

- See [here](#) for the DoH dashboard with the latest numbers (updated at 2 every day, including weekend)
- See [here](#) for the Healthcare Team's latest lines on Covid
- See [here](#) for NIE press conference readouts