



**SOMERSET**  
County Council

# Somerset's Public Health Update

Friday 27 May 2022

Welcome to the latest edition of the monthly Somerset Public Health update for key stakeholders and subscribers. This update is produced on behalf of the Somerset County Council Public Health Team and has replaced the previous weekly Covid-19 update.

**What's been happening across Somerset?**

**[Covid-19 Updates](#)**



## New Covid-10 Dashboard

As a result of recent changes to policy, the number of detected cases alone no longer provides an accurate or consistent indication of the prevalence of Covid-19 in our community. As a result of this, detailed cases data such as the map and district level figures have been removed from our Dashboard. Cases are still shown on the chart, however, we have now included additional information (ONS Prevalence\*) that may give a better indication of the actual number of people with COVID. Testing data has also been added to provide further context.

Additionally, the hospital admissions data now includes patients with covid19 requiring mechanical ventilation, as a better indicator of levels of serious illness from covid19, rather than hospitalisations alone. The OPEL level on this page provides a snapshot of how the health and care system overall is managing the demands for service.

The vaccination page now provides more overall strategic vision of how the vaccination programme has been implemented and provides an indication of the effective level of immunity provided to our community by boosters and third doses.

*\*ONS Prevalence Survey estimates the proportion of people in Somerset testing positive based on samples taken from a selection of our population, by the Office for National Statistics (ONS).*

[Covid-19 Dashboard](#)

## Covid-19 Vaccinations

The Covid-19 vaccination is our first line of defence against the coronavirus and the very best way to keep communities safe.

They are **free in the UK** and everyone should have two doses or more to be fully vaccinated against Covid-19.

Every vaccine matters and is the best protection against getting seriously ill or dying from Covid-19. The NHS is ensuring that there are plenty of walk in and bookable slots available across the county.



## Spring Booster Vaccination

The Spring Booster vaccination for all over 75s and the immunosuppressed is now due.

All persons in eligible groups will receive direct communication to assist them with arranging a suitable and local appointment or appointments can be made directly by calling 119, booking [online](#) or finding a local walk-in clinic [here](#).

The UK Health Security Agency published guidance on the spring Covid-19 booster offer for those aged 75 years and older, residents in care homes and those aged 12 years and over with a weakened immune system. Further info can be found [here](#).

**Please encourage those eligible to [go online and book their jab](#), or call 119 for an appointment. You are also able to visit a [walk-in vaccination](#) site for your Spring Booster.**





HM Government



# 75 OR OVER?



If you had your  
**first booster 6+ months ago,**  
you can now **get a second booster.**

**BOOK YOURS WHEN INVITED**



## 12-15 Vaccine

Although the in-school Covid-19 vaccination programme for 12 to 15 year olds has ended, young people are still able to access the vaccine outside of school, at a vaccination centre, pharmacy or [walk-in centre](#).

## 5-11 Vaccine

All healthy 5-11s are now eligible for their vaccine. [Bookings](#) can be made at a wide number of clinics across Somerset or [Walk-in](#) appointments additionally being offered at Tower Vaccination Centre in Taunton on specific days.

Over the half term there will also be dedicated children only days for appointments and walk-ins at Verrington (Wincanton Community Hospital) and Tower Vaccination in Taunton on Monday 30th and Wednesday 1st June.

All children's clinics allow additional time with the specialist and trained staff to reassure and support families during their appointment.

 HM Government





**I SHOULD'VE GOT THE VACCINE  
INSTEAD I GOT REALLY ILL**

**GET VACCINATED NOW**

 [NHS.UK/COVIDVACCINATION](https://www.nhs.uk/COVIDVACCINATION) 

## Local Helplines



If you require support, please contact your Local Authority.

Mendip District Council: 0300 303 8588

Sedgemoor District Council: 0300 303 7800

South Somerset District Council: 01935 462462

Somerset West and Taunton Council: 0300 304 8000

## Want to take control of your own health and well-being?

A good first stop when looking for support for yourself, the people you know or your community is our website [www.somerset.gov.uk](http://www.somerset.gov.uk).

It's never too late to take control of your health and well-being through changing behaviours and seeking help, and we're with you every step of the way.

Follow our Director of Public Health, Professor Trudi Grant, on [Twitter](#) and stay in the know.



[Unsubscribe](#) | [Manage your subscription](#)

Somerset County Council  
County Hall  
Taunton  
Somerset  
TA1 4DY