



Update for key stakeholders

02 July 2021

COVID cases

We had 447 new cases in the seven days to June 27. The infection rate is 207/100,000 across the NHS Highland area: 248/100,000 in Argyll and Bute and 189.5/100,000 in North Highland.

We have three patients in hospital with COVID-19 and none in ITU.

There have been 169 recorded deaths in the NHS Highland area since the start of the pandemic: 98 in Highland and 71 in Argyll and Bute. These are deaths within 28 days of a confirmed positive test and represent no change for eleven weeks.

Vaccination

As at 29 June, we have vaccinated 85.6% of over 18 year olds with their first dose, compared to a Scottish average of 85.3%. We have vaccinated 66.5% with their second dose, compared to a Scottish average of 61%. You can view progress on the national [vaccination programme online here](#).

We have also scheduled in drop in clinics for those 18-39 who have yet to receive their first dose of vaccine. These will be held in July in the following locations – Tain, Dunoon, Inverness, Fort William and Wick.

Managing COVID cases, clusters and outbreaks

The loosening of restrictions has meant that cases are rising. Even people who are fully vaccinated can still contract and pass on COVID, often without noticing symptoms, so it is important to carry out regular testing. The rise in cases also means that more people have to self-isolate and more people need to be contact-traced.

Impact on workforce

We have also seen the impact self-isolating can have on our workforce with a number of colleagues isolating at home. In addition to this all our services are reporting unprecedented levels of demand which is impacting on our capacity leading to longer than normal waits. All steps are being taken to manage patients as safely as possible within the system.

Feedback

If you have comments or queries please contact nhshighland.feedback@nhs.scot