

COVID-19 IN THE UK

27TH OF JANUARY, THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE MATT HANCOCK TO PARLIAMENT

- *“The Chief Medical Officer continues to advise that the risk to the UK population is “low” and has concluded that [...] we are well prepared and well equipped to deal with them.”*
- *“The current evidence is that most cases appear to be mild.”*
- *“From today, **we are** therefore **asking** anyone in the UK who has returned from Wuhan in the last 14 days to self-isolate. Stay indoors and avoid contact with other people – and to contact NHS 111. If you are in Northern Ireland, **you should phone** your GP.”*
- *“**If you develop** respiratory symptoms within 14 days of travel from the area, and are now in the UK, **call your GP** or ring 111 informing them of your symptoms and your recent travel to the city. **Do not leave home** until you have been given advice by a clinician.”*

11TH OF FEBRUARY, THE SECRETARY OF
STATE FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
MATT HANCOCK

- “The *clinical advice* about the risk to the public has not changed and remains moderate.”
- “Finally Mr Speaker *there are actions each and every one of us can take*: simple but effective steps like washing hands and using tissues.”

5TH OF MARCH, THE SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE MATT
HANCOCK

- “Our approach to tackling coronavirus is to *prepare for the worst* and work for the best.”
- “This is going to be a difficult time for us all.”
- “This is *about slowing the spread, lowering the peak impact and pushing it away* from the winter season when the NHS is under maximum pressure. Because the scientific advice is very clear that *going too far or too fast carries risks* of its own. Ultimately, we are working to a timetable that is set by the progress of the virus itself. With 85 confirmed positive cases in the UK, shutting down all our schools and universities for example *would not have a clinical benefit* at this stage.”

23RD OF MARCH, PRIME MINISTER BORIS JOHNSON

- “The coronavirus is **the biggest threat** this country has faced for decades ...”
 - any medical need, to provide care or to help a vulnerable person; and
- “And as we have seen [...] that is **the moment of real danger.**”
 - travelling to and from work, but only where this is absolutely necessary and cannot be done from home.
- “From this evening **I must give** the British people a very simple instruction - **you must stay** at home. Because the critical thing **we must do** is stop the disease spreading between households. That is why people **will only be allowed** to leave their home for the following very limited purposes:
 - You **should not be** meeting friends. If your friends ask you to meet, you should say No.”
 - “But at present **there are just no easy** options. **The way ahead is hard**, and it is still true that many lives will sadly be lost.”
- shopping for basic necessities, as infrequently as possible
- one form of exercise a day - for example a run, walk, or cycle - alone or with members of your household;

30TH OF APRIL, PRIME MINISTER BORIS JOHNSON

- “They [Global Health Care Offices] are rising to *a challenge we have never seen* in our lifetimes. And the same can be said of the entire people of this country *staying in enforced confinement.*”
- “... the *tragedy that engulfed other parts* of the world.”
- “Fifth, and this is the most important, *we must all make sure* that the measures we take do not risk a second spike that would overwhelm the NHS.”
- “And so it is *vital that we do not now lose* control and run slap into a second and even bigger mountain.”

THE STATISTICS OF THE BBC

- “After a steady decline since the first peak in April, confirmed cases started rising again in July, with the rate of growth increasing sharply in September and October”.
- “in this country alas as across much of Europe the virus is spreading even faster than the reasonable worst case scenario of our scientific advisers”.
- But the latest figures from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) **suggest** the increase in infections **may be stabilising** around the UK, with the rate of increase **slower than in recent weeks**.

31 OCTOBER 2020 PRIME MINISTER BORIS JOHNSON GAVE A STATEMENT AT THE CORONAVIRUS PRESS CONFERENCE.

- “And we will continue as far as we possibly can **to adopt a pragmatic** and local approach in the months ahead”.
- “A **peak of mortality alas far bigger** than the one we saw in April”.
- “From Thursday until the start of December, **you must stay at home**”.
- **You may only leave home** for specific reasons, including: For education; For work, say if you cannot work from home; For exercise and recreation outdoors, with your household or on your own with one person from another household; For medical reasons, appointments and to escape injury or harm; To shop for food and essentials; And to provide care for vulnerable people, or as a volunteer.
- “**I’m afraid** non-essential shops, leisure and entertainment venues will all be closed ...”
- “**I know how tough shielding was**, and **we will not ask people to shield** again in the same way again”.
- “**I am under no illusions** about how difficult this will be for businesses which have already had to endure hardship this year. **I am truly, truly sorry for that**”.

BUSINESS SECRETARY ALOK SHARMA'S SPEECH FOR THE CONFEDERATION OF BRITISH INDUSTRY'S (CBI) 2020 ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

- We have protected almost 10 million jobs through furlough.
- Paid out almost £14 billion in support of around 3 million self-employed people.
- Creating jobs for young people, who are amongst the most at risk of long-term unemployment in these difficult times.

5 NOVEMBER PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT ON CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

- “We have put in place an unprecedented package of economic support, protecting the wages and jobs of millions of people”.
- “We have built the largest testing capacity in Europe, with 32 million tests conducted so far and over half a million tests now available every day across the UK”.
- “The UK Government and the devolved administrations are working together on a joint approach to the Christmas period”.
- “The advice I have received suggests that four weeks is enough for these measures to make a real impact”.
- “We have better treatments and techniques to take care of those in hospital, thanks largely to the ingenuity of British scientists”.