

# Community Resilience Group Weekly Briefing - 28 30 July 2021

## Covid Update

Over the last 7 days there have been 304 new positive cases in Highland (to 29 July), a decrease from last week when 388 were reported. This means the latest rate per 100,000 has decreased from 164.8 per 100,000 last week to 129.1 per 100,000 as of 29 July. Whilst this is a continued decrease, it remains important to be careful and stick to the Scottish Government guidelines.

In terms of neighbourhood data, the map below and accompanying table, highlights the positive cases per 100,000 in communities across the Highland area. The test positivity rate on was 5.3% on 27 July, down from 5.8% on 20 July.

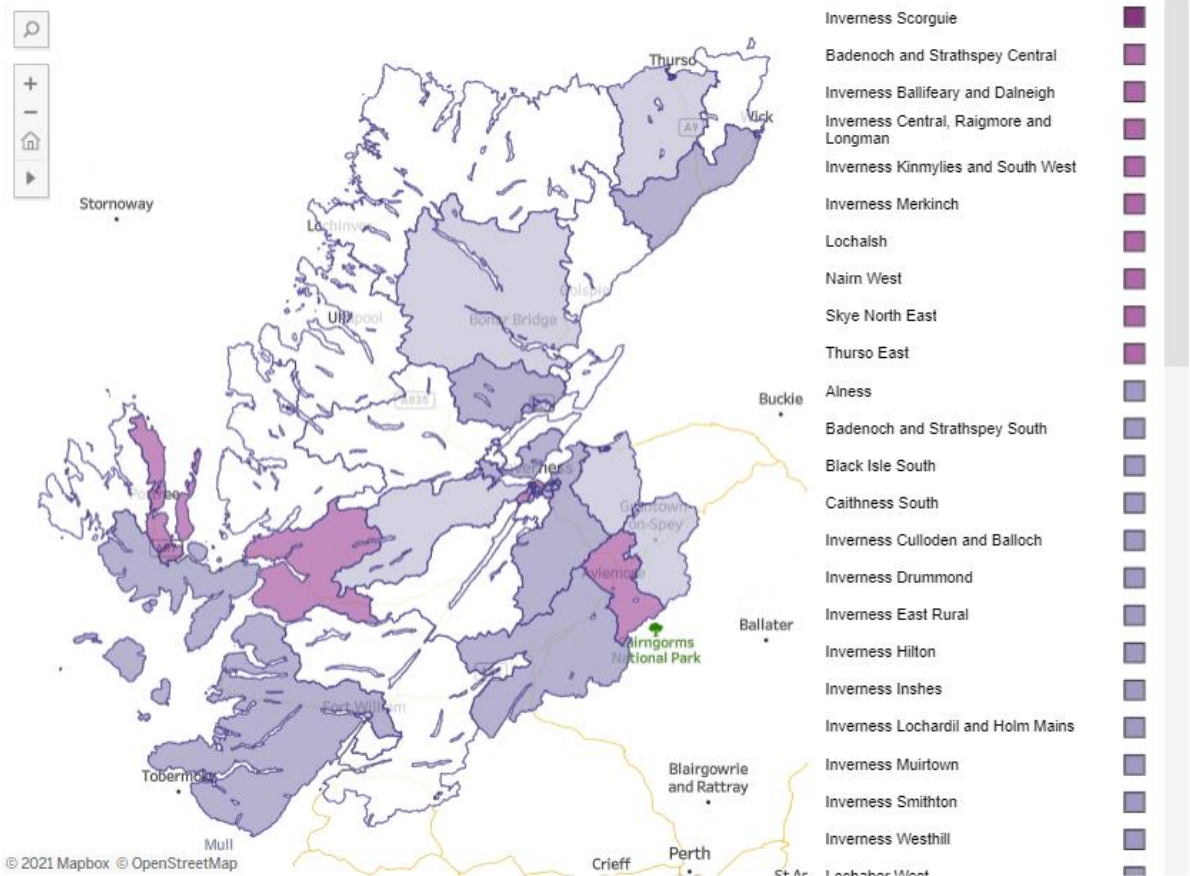
7 day positive cases in Highland based on people tested between 21 July 2021 and 27 July 2021

7 day positive cases	7 day positive rate per 100,000 population	7 day test positivity rate
<b>304</b>	<b>129.1</b>	<b>5.3%</b>

7 day positive rate per 100,000 population



\* For neighbourhoods with fewer than 3 cases, we do not show a 7 day rate to protect patient confidentiality.



### **Asymptomatic Testing**

It continues to be important that people test themselves even if they don't have symptoms. Taking a rapid LFD test twice a week can help stop new variants earlier, limiting the spread of the virus.

Test kits are available at pharmacies, or to order online from [www.nhsinform.scot/testing](http://www.nhsinform.scot/testing), or by calling 119.

Test kits are also available at Community testing sites. The details for where these are next week is outlined below.

### **Symptomatic Testing**

If you do believe you have symptoms, please self-isolate and book a PCR test.

Postal PCR kits are available through NHS Inform either online [here](#) or by calling 0800 028 2816.

In addition to the local support that is available, people can get support to self isolate by calling the Council's helpline number: 0300 303 1362. This can include access to food and supplies to self isolate and individuals may be entitled to a £500 self isolation support grant.

### **Community Testing 2 August – 6 August**

The community testing programme offers rapid COVID-19 tests for people without symptoms. Next week mobile testing units will be in Portree and Dornoch.

- **The mobile testing unit Jabbernaut will be at Bayfield Lorry Park, Bayfield Road, Portree, IV51 9EL:**

Monday 2 August, 12noon-4:30pm

Tuesday 3 August, 9:30am-4:30pm

Wednesday 4 August, 9:30am-4:30pm

Friday 6 August, 9:30am-2pm

- **The mobile testing unit Moves Like Jagger will be at Dornoch Academy Car Park, Evelix Rd, Dornoch, IV25 3HR:**

Monday 2 August – Thursday 5 August, 10am-4pm

Friday 6 August, 10am-2pm

Just to emphasise that there is no specific outbreak in these communities this is to support normalising testing across the area.

No appointment is necessary, and it will be open both for asymptomatic testing and to collect LFD test kits.

Please note that these drop-in sessions for community testing are only for people without symptoms. Anyone that becomes unwell should isolate immediately and seek a **PCR test**. PCR tests can be booked through NHS Inform online or by calling 0800 028 2816.

I would appreciate it if you could encourage people across your networks to attend.

### **Level 0 Restrictions are in place since Monday 19 July**

From Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July, the whole of Scotland moved to Level 0 with some modifications. You can find guidance about what you can do under this protection level on the Scottish Government website [here](#).

[here](#).

### **Vaccination Update**

The latest update from NHS on the vaccine can be accessed at the following link: [www.nhsinform.scot/covid19vaccine](http://www.nhsinform.scot/covid19vaccine)

### **Enabling Neighbourhoods and Communities Fund**

The Enabling Neighbourhoods and Communities Fund has reopened for applications with refreshed criteria. This is a £1 million Scottish Government fund administered by Corra Foundation. Over £600,000 has been distributed in phase one (February – May 2021). The next phase, commenced 1st July, will support groups to access the remaining funds. The purpose of the Enabling Neighbourhoods and Communities Fund is to provide small grants to community and voluntary groups across Scotland who are delivering activities that connect and support people within their local community. The Fund aims to reach groups who:

- Have strong local relationships with people in the community.
- Are already supporting people in their communities to reconnect and improve wellbeing.
- Have an annual income of less than £50,000.

Please note groups who are currently in receipt of Scottish Government funding eg. Community Recovery Fund or Adapt and Thrive are not eligible to apply.

<https://www.corra.scot/grants/enabling-neighbourhoods/>

## **Food Support for Groups**

We know that a number of you continue to provide support to the most vulnerable in your communities and that most of you already have well defined routes for accessing food to provide this support or are supporting individuals to access their shopping or community fridges/food tables.

If you are struggling to access food to continue support to vulnerable people locally, please do contact us through the policy mailbox and we can look at ways that we can support your group going forward.

Contact: [policy6@highland.gov.uk](mailto:policy6@highland.gov.uk)

## **Helpful Links**

Welfare Support Team -

[www.highland.gov.uk/directory\\_record/102970/benefit\\_advice](http://www.highland.gov.uk/directory_record/102970/benefit_advice)

Self Isolation Support Grant - [www.highland.gov.uk/info/20016/coronavirus/940/self-isolation\\_support\\_grant](http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/20016/coronavirus/940/self-isolation_support_grant)

Energy Advice

[energyadvisors@hi.homeenergyscotland.org](mailto:energyadvisors@hi.homeenergyscotland.org)

AbilityNet - IT advice or support AbilityNet

Helpline 0800 048 7642.

Covid Resilience Grant Support -

[www.highland.gov.uk/directory\\_record/1422811/supporting\\_community\\_resilience/category/155/grants\\_for\\_community\\_groups](http://www.highland.gov.uk/directory_record/1422811/supporting_community_resilience/category/155/grants_for_community_groups)

HTSI Community Group Helpline

Telephone Number 01349 808022