

## Community Resilience Group Weekly Briefing - 41 05 November 2021

### Covid Update

Over the last 7 days there have been 801 new positive cases in Highland (to 04 November), an increase from last week when 697 were reported. This means the latest 7-day rate per 100,000 shows an increase from 296.1 per 100,000 last week to 340.2 per 100,000 as of 04 November. As we have seen increases in number over the last two weeks 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 8.4% on 02 November, slightly up from 8.3% on 26 October.

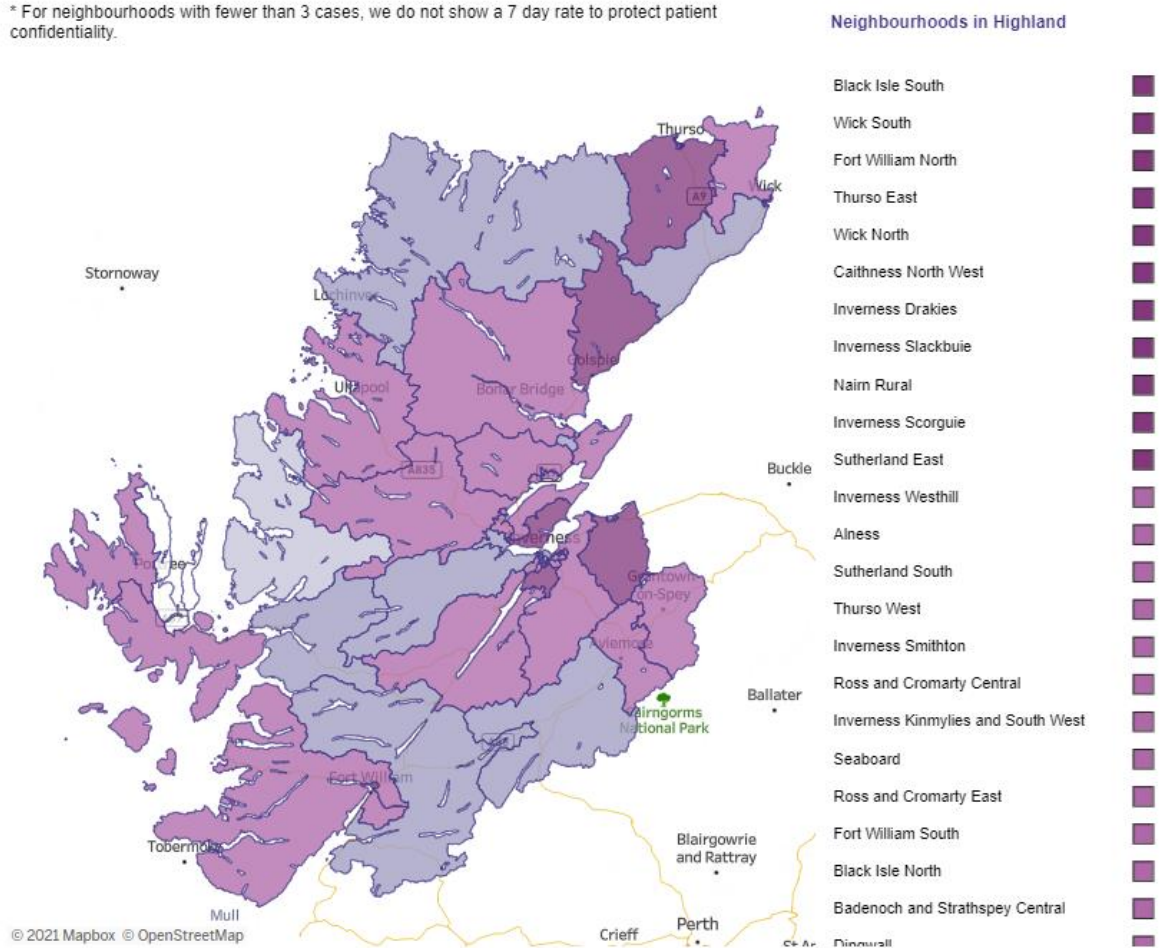
7 day positive cases in Highland based on people tested between 27 October 2021 and 2 November 2021

7 day positive cases	7 day positive rate per 100,000 population	7 day test positivity rate
<b>801</b>	<b>340.2</b>	<b>8.4%</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.



## **Scotland has Moved Beyond Level Zero**

From 9 August 2021 the whole of Scotland moved to beyond Level 0. You can find Scottish Government guidance for everyone on how to stay safe and prevent the spread of COVID-19 here.

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-staying-safe-and-protecting-others/>

**Scottish Government messages this week** – there are no key points this week, but the Scottish Government has launched two new marketing campaigns regarding the Flu Vaccine and COVID-19 Vaccines Booster.

**[Scottish Government Flu Vaccine and COVID-19 Vaccines Booster Campaigns including information in a range of languages.](#)**

There are three related key documents for stakeholders in relation to the Covid-19 and Flu vaccinations which include information that can be shared with the communities that you support:

1. [Seasonal Flu Immunisation - Stakeholder Toolkit](#)
2. [Covid-19 Booster Jab - Stakeholder Toolkit](#)
3. [Seasonal Flu Immunisation and Covid-19 Booster Jab - Explainer Videos \(in various languages including BSL\)](#). This Explainer Video is available in multiple languages and this link provide URLs for all translated videos,

## **Symptomatic Testing (with symptoms)**

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.

## **Asymptomatic Testing (without symptoms)**

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 are outlined below.

## **Community Testing 8 – 12 November for those without symptoms (Asymptomatic)**

The community testing programme offers rapid COVID-19 tests for people without symptoms.

## **Next week a mobile testing unit will be in Inverness.**

The mobile testing unit 'Moves Like Jagger' will be in the Tesco's Car Park, Inverness Retail Park, Eastfield Avenue, Inverness, IV2 7GD. Opening times will be;

- Monday 8 November 9am-4pm
- Tuesday 9 November 9am-4pm
- Wednesday 10 November 9am-4pm
- Thursday 11 November 9am-4pm
- Friday 12 November 9am-4pm

Just to emphasise that there are no specific outbreaks in this community, 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.

Those who attend a COVID-19 Mobile Clinic will also have the opportunity to enter a free monthly draw to win an Amazon Kindle e-reader (10<sup>th</sup> generation, with 6" backlit display) after completing an exit survey. The winner will be drawn by random at the end of the month.

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

## **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).

For details of vaccination access for flu and Covid-10 and information about drop-in clinics that are operating in Highland please check the following link: <https://www.nhshighland.scot.nhs.uk/COVID19/Pages/Vaccination.aspx>

## **Housing matters: Highland Tenants Newsletter**

The Council's latest newsletter for Tenants has been published by our Tenant Participation Team and contains a number of articles that may be of interest to community resilience groups. A PDF copy is attached, or you can access the newsletter at this link.

[https://www.highland.gov.uk/downloads/file/24147/housing\\_matters\\_autumn\\_2021](https://www.highland.gov.uk/downloads/file/24147/housing_matters_autumn_2021)

## **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