

# **Coronavirus – today's figures**

**The latest figures detailing the number of people diagnosed with Covid-19 in the last 24 hours in Scotland have been announced by The First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon, as she addresses parliament just before First Minister's Questions.**

**Although the First Minister will be questioned by other party leaders in the Chamber there is one Covid-19 question which Brian Whittle MSP has lodged – “To ask the First Minister what action the Scottish Government is taking to make the training of vaccinators as streamlined as possible.”**

**The statistics in Scotland as at 20 January 2021 are shown below.**

**As at 20 January 2021 5,468 deaths have been recorded of people who have tested positive, but there is the usual caveat on the number of deaths over the weekend when registry offices**

are closed.

According to the [National Records of Scotland](#) figures issued on Wednesday 7,704 deaths were registered in Scotland where Covid-19 was mentioned on the death certificate – up to 17 January 2021.

In answer to Mr Whittle's question, the First Minister replied: "Our approach to Covid vaccination training aligns with that which is taken by Public Health England, and has been informed by discussions with all the United Kingdom nations.

"The training takes proper account of the existing skills and experience of the people who are deployed. Individuals who are experienced and active vaccinators need only the training that covers the specific characteristics of the Covid vaccines. The training requirements for individuals who might be returning to service after having been inactive for a period are informed by a short self-assessment and might take longer.

"That said, we recognise the need for a proportionate approach to any induction that might be required over and above vaccination training. For example, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde has already streamlined its processes by introducing pre-clinic huddles that cover matters that might otherwise have formed part of induction training. We have written to all national health service boards encouraging them to take similar steps."

Mr Whittle pressed the First Minister pointing out that the chairs of the British Medical Association Scotland's general practitioners committee and the British Dental Association's Scottish committee had raised concerns about the 'clunky' bureaucratic procedures around training.

The First Minister replied: "It is really important that the people who put vaccine into the arms of people across the country have appropriate training. In my exchange with Jackie

Baillie, I made the point that some of the issues that she legitimately raised are issues that we need to ensure training for so that we can avoid wastage in the programme and ensure that those who are vaccinating know exactly what is required of them.

“There is a tailored approach. People who do flu vaccination every year and are therefore active vaccinators will need to be trained only in the specific characteristics of Covid vaccination. Those who have less experience, or less-recent experience, need more training in order to ensure patient safety and that they know all the dos and don’ts. It is always a case of getting that balance right, but the approach that is being taken is very much aligned across the UK and is there for the right reasons.”

You can also see the latest numbers laid out visually on the Travelling Tabby website [here](#). It is updated at 3pm daily.



[su\_spoiler class="my-custom-spoiler" title="Stay At Home Guidance"]

To minimise the risk of spreading the virus, you must stay at home as much as possible. By law, in a level 4 area, you can only leave your home (or garden) for an essential purpose.

There is a list of examples of reasonable excuses below. Although you can leave home for these purposes, you should stay as close to home as possible. Shop on-line or use local shops and services wherever you can. Travel no further than you need to reach to a safe, non-crowded place to exercise in a socially distanced way. To minimise the risk of spread of Coronavirus it is crucial that we all avoid unnecessary travel.

Examples of reasonable excuses to go out:

for work or an activity associated with seeking employment, or to provide voluntary or charitable services, but only where

that cannot be done from your home.

for education including, school, college, university or other essential purposes connected with a course of study.

for essential shopping, including essential shopping for a vulnerable person. You should use online shopping or shops and other services in your immediate area wherever you can.

to obtain or deposit money, where it is not possible to do so from home.

for healthcare, including COVID-19 testing and vaccination.

for childcare or support services for parents or expectant parents.

for essential services, including services of a charitable or voluntary nature such as food banks, alcohol or drug support services.

to access public services where it is not possible to do so, including from home:

services provided to victims (such as victims of crime),

social-care services,

accessing day care centres,

services provided by the Department for Work and Pensions,

services provided to victims (including victims of crime),

asylum and immigration services and interviews,

waste or recycling services,

to provide care, assistance, support to or respite for a vulnerable person

to provide or receive emergency assistance.

to participate in or facilitate shared parenting.

to visit a person in an extended household.

to meet a legal obligation including satisfying bail conditions, to participate in legal proceedings, to comply with a court mandate in terms of sentence imposed or to register a birth.

for attendance at court including a remote jury centre, an inquiry, a children's hearing, tribunal proceedings or to resolve a dispute via Alternative Dispute Resolution.

for essential animal welfare reasons, such as exercising or feeding a horse or going to a vet.

local outdoor recreation, sport or exercise, walking, cycling, golf, or running that starts and finishes at the same place (which can be up to 5 miles from the boundary of your local authority area) as long as you abide by the rules on meeting other households

to attend a marriage ceremony or registration of a civil partnership.

to attend a funeral or for compassionate reasons which relate to the end of a person's life. This includes gatherings related to the scattering or interring of ashes, a stone setting ceremony and other similar commemorative events.

if you are a minister of religion or worship leader, for the purposes of leading an act of worship (broadcast or online), conducting a marriage or civil partnership ceremony or a funeral.

to donate blood.

for activities in connection with moving home (including viewing a property), or for activities in connection with the maintenance, purchase, sale, letting, or rental of residential property that the person owns or is otherwise responsible for. Travelling for the purposes of undertaking essential work on a property other than your main residence should not be used as a pretext for a holiday. You should not stay longer than for the length of time required to undertake the necessary work.

to avoid injury, illness or to escape a risk of harm.

for those involved in professional sports, for training, coaching or competing in an event.

to visit a person receiving treatment in a hospital, staying in a hospice or care home, or to accompany a person to a medical appointment.

to register or vote in a Scottish or UK Parliament, Local Government or overseas election or by-election, including on behalf of someone else by proxy

to visit a person detained in prison, young offenders institute, remand centre, secure accommodation or other place of detention.

[/su\_spoiler]

[su\_spoiler class="my-custom-spoiler" title="Meeting Outdoors"]

You can only meet people from another household outdoors and in indoor public spaces for certain reasons, such as for work, to join your extended household, for sport, exercise, social interaction or to provide care and support for a vulnerable person. This can include providing emotional support for someone whose wellbeing is at risk, including for those who are isolated because of disability or a caring situation. Read [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): advice for unpaid carers](#)

Up to 2 people from 2 separate households can meet outdoors for sport, exercise or social interaction.

Children under the age of 12 from these households do not count towards the total number of people permitted to gather outdoors.

Children under 12 do not need to maintain physical distance from others indoors or outdoors.

The members of an individual or extended household can meet outdoors for sport, exercise or social interaction.

Those at a higher risk of severe illness from coronavirus (including those who had been shielding, people 70 and over, people who are pregnant and people with an underlying medical condition) should strictly follow the physical distancing guidance.

[/su\_spoiler]

