

Important message from Bexley's Director of Public Health

Increase in cases of COVID-19 in Bexley

The past week has seen a sharp increase in the number of cases of COVID-19 in Bexley.

We have seen that these figures can change very quickly, but we are currently one of the London boroughs with the highest number of cases and this is very concerning.

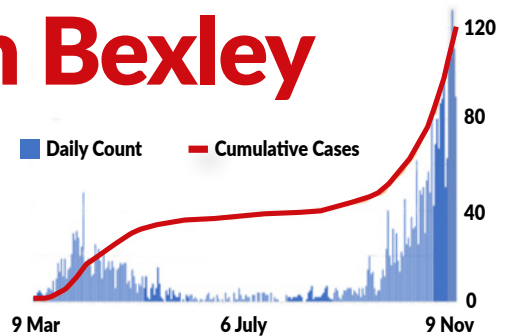
The data suggests that large-scale community transmission has been taking place in workplaces, where we shop, food outlets and schools, as well as in households.

Based on what we know it is likely that the number of cases will increase. If this happens then this will impact on the health of our communities and hospitals and other health services may struggle to cope with demand.

Stay alert, stay safe, control the virus

In recent weeks we have seen the encouraging news about the development of vaccinations to protect us from the virus, but we are some distance from these being available. In the meantime, we need to do everything we can to control the infection rate in Bexley.

It is important that we only make those trips which are essential, remembering to work from home wherever possible and only go out to get food, other essentials and exercise.



While the NHS has learned how to reduce the number of people dying from COVID-19, we have sadly seen people lose their lives, including some residents in Bexley. There are also others struggling with the long-term effects of the virus.

Stay connected and keep active

During this time it is extremely important to stay connected. Please take every opportunity to connect with friends, neighbours and family by telephone. Keeping active is also very important to your health and wellbeing, so please make sure this is part of your daily routine.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your efforts to control the virus. Please continue to keep us all safe. Our key messages are shown on the reverse of this letter.

Dr Anjan Ghosh

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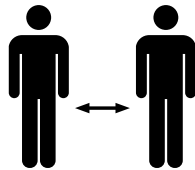
CASES OF CORONAVIRUS ARE RISING IN BEXLEY

**IT'S REALLY IMPORTANT THAT YOU FOLLOW
PUBLIC HEALTH ADVICE TO KEEP YOURSELF,
YOUR FAMILY AND YOUR FRIENDS SAFE.**

STAY AT HOME IF YOU CAN



Wash your hands regularly



Keep 2 metres away from people you don't live with



Wear a face covering in indoor public spaces where you can't safely social distance

LOOK OUT FOR SYMPTOMS



New continuous cough



High temperature



Loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

GOT SYMPTOMS? STAY AT HOME AND GET TESTED

nhs/coronavirus OR CALL 119



**KEEP
BLACKFEN
SAFE**

