

Covid-19: WCBC Weekly Briefing Note, 30th April 2021

NB. Cases permitting, this will be the last of these weekly briefing notes. If cases remain low there will be less information to share about the disease itself, but more about how the Council and people of Wrexham are transitioning from a response to the pandemic to a recovery from it. Therefore, **from 14th May** the Council will be publishing a **fortnightly briefing note** on the programme of recovery. If local clusters, outbreaks or others issues occur, communications will be issued in that note or separately.

COMMUNICATIONS

Please share – on social media and directly with your communities – this document, the bilingual GIFs sent to you via email and the following link to the Council’s public briefing note:

<https://news.wrexham.gov.uk/covid-19-briefing-note-remember-the-basics-this-bank-holiday-hands-face-space-fresh-air/>

KEY MESSAGES

- Infection rates have risen slightly since last week, but only in a few parts of Wrexham.
- Let’s do all we can to keep levels low so as not to endure a 3rd wave.

DATA ON THE VIRUS

TABLE 1: Covid-19 in the County Borough as a whole compared to other Councils in North Wales

TESTS

	Lowest Scores		Worst Scores		Last 4 Weeks' Scores			
	1st Wave Spring/Summer 2020	2nd Wave Autumn/Winter 2020/21	1st Wave Spring/Summer 2020	2nd Wave Autumn/Winter 2020/21	29/03 - 04/04	05/04 - 11/04	12/04 - 18/04	19/04 - 25/04
Anglesey	1 (08 March)	360 (16 Aug)	805 (21 June 20)	3501 (28 Mar 21)	742	607	539	536
Conwy	4 (08 March)	588 (21 June)	1519 (7 June 20)	2266 (10 Jan 21)	1101	1047	1065	1082
Denbighshire	2 (08 March)	423 (28 June)	1188 (7 Junen 20)	2290 (10 Jan 21)	872	893	957	895
Flintshire	4 (08 March)	651 (21 June)	1332 (7 June 20)	4146 (10 Jan 21)	1068	1097	1212	1108
Gwynedd	5 (08 March)	626 (28 June)	1101 (7 June 20)	1985 (17 Jan 21)	1235	1069	1016	1136
Wrexham	4 (08 March)	1087 (16 Aug)	2069 (2 Aug 20)	4004 (10 Jan 21)	1264	1260	1472	1254

TESTS: POSITIVITY RATE

Old WG Trigger Points: >2.5% >5%

	Lowest Scores		Worst Scores		Last 4 Weeks' Scores			
	1st Wave Spring/Summer 2020	2nd Wave Autumn/Winter 2020/21	1st Wave Spring/Summer 2020	2nd Wave Autumn/Winter 2020/21	29/03 - 04/04	05/04 - 11/04	12/04 - 18/04	19/04 - 25/04
Anglesey	0 (29 March)	0.2 (30 Aug)	34.8 (19 Apr 20)	14.7 (03 Jan 21)	2.8	2.8	1.1	1.1
Conwy	0 (22 March)	0.2 (23 Aug)	38.8 (19 Apr 20)	11.2 (10 Jan 21)	0.9	1.4	0.7	0.6
Denbighshire	0 (15 March)	0.4 (30 Aug)	53.1 (12 Apr 20)	18.6 (03 Jan 21)	1.6	0.7	0.7	0.4
Flintshire	0 (08 March)	0.4 (09 Aug)	49.6 (12 Apr 20)	28.5 (03 Jan 21)	2.6	2.4	2.1	1.4
Gwynedd	0 (15 March)	0.3 (02 Aug)	50.9 (19 Apr 20)	12.7 (17 Jan 21)	2.7	2.8	3.4	2.1
Wrexham	0 (08 March)	0.7 (30 Aug)	39.8 (19 Apr 20)	32.5 (03 Jan 21)	2.4	1.8	1.1	2.4

NEW CASES

Old WG Trigger Point: >50

	Lowest Scores		Worst Scores		Last 4 Weeks' Scores			
	1st Wave Spring/Summer 2020	2nd Wave Autumn/Winter 2020/21	1st Wave Spring/Summer 2020	2nd Wave Autumn/Winter 2020/21	29/03 - 04/04	05/04 - 11/04	12/04 - 18/04	19/04 - 25/04
Anglesey	0 (29 March)	1 (30 Aug)	106 (21 June 20)	130 (03 Jan 21)	21	17	6	6
Conwy	0 (22 March)	3 (23 Aug)	116 (17 May 20)	254 (10 Jan 21)	10	15	7	7
Denbighshire	0 (15 March)	4 (30 Aug)	108 (24 May 20)	411 (10 Jan 21)	14	6	7	4
Flintshire	0 (08 March)	5 (09 Aug)	88 (10 May 20)	1059 (03 Jan 21)	28	26	25	15
Gwynedd	0 (15 March)	2 (02 Aug)	87 (19 April 20)	253 (17 Jan 21)	33	30	35	24
Wrexham	0 (08 March)	10 (30 Aug)	159 (28 June 20)	1236 (03 Jan 21)	30	23	16	30

CASES PER 100,000 POPULATION

Old WG Trigger Points: 25+ 50+ 70+

	Lowest Scores		Worst Scores		Last 4 Weeks' Scores			
	1st Wave Spring/Summer 2020	2nd Wave Autumn/Winter 2020/21	1st Wave Spring/Summer 2020	2nd Wave Autumn/Winter 2020/21	29/03 - 04/04	05/04 - 11/04	12/04 - 18/04	19/04 - 25/04
Anglesey	0 (29 March)	1 (30 Aug)	151 (21 June 20)	186 (03 Jan 21)	30	24	9	9
Conwy	0 (22 March)	3 (23 Aug)	99 (17 May 20)	217 (10 Jan 21)	9	13	6	6
Denbighshire	0 (15 March)	4 (30 Aug)	113 (24 May 20)	430 (10 Jan 21)	15	6	7	4
Flintshire	0 (08 March)	3 (09 Aug)	56 (10 May 20)	678 (03 Jan 21)	18	17	16	10
Gwynedd	0 (15 March)	2 (02 Aug)	50 (10 May 20)	203 (17 Jan 21)	27	24	28	19
Wrexham	0 (08 March)	7 (30 Aug)	117 (28 June 20)	909 (03 Jan 21)	22	17	12	22

HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS

	Lowest Scores		Worst Scores		Last 4 Weeks' Scores			
	1st Wave Spring/Summer 2020	2nd Wave Autumn/Winter 2020/21	1st Wave Spring/Summer 2020	2nd Wave Autumn/Winter 2020/21	29/03 - 04/04	05/04 - 11/04	12/04 - 18/04	19/04 - 25/04
BCUHB	0 (08 March)	5 (06 Sep)	91 (17 May 20)	180 (24 Jan 21)	28	31	19	15

DEATHS

	Lowest Scores		Worst Scores		Last 4 Weeks' Scores			
	1st Wave Spring/Summer 2020	2nd Wave Autumn/Winter 2020/21	1st Wave Spring/Summer 2020	2nd Wave Autumn/Winter 2020/21	29/03 - 04/04	05/04 - 11/04	12/04 - 18/04	19/04 - 25/04
BCUHB	0 (15 March)	1 (13 Sep)	56 (19 Apr 20)	103 (24 Jan 21)	4	7	5	No data

Source: PHW Tableau

Key:

Worst score since the pandemic began in **BOLD** (where it has been recorded in the last 4 weeks)

Comment

- 5 new cases were reported today. The latest 7-day rate for new cases is **22.1/100,000** population, **up** from 12 last week and 17 two weeks ago, but similar to three weeks ago (21). Positivity (the indicator of community transmission) is **2.4%**, also **up** from 1.1% last week and 1.8% two weeks ago. Wrexham is **3rd** in Wales for the rate per 100k, compared to 10th last week and 7th two weeks ago, and **2nd** for positivity, compared to 11th last week and 9th two weeks ago.
- However, these remain the lowest figures since early September 2020 before the second wave of infections began, and lower than the old Welsh Government 'trigger points' for a lockdown or even 'local measures'. Also, as can be seen from Table 2, below, this week's rise affects very few parts of Wrexham town and the rest of the County Borough has had no cases for weeks (reported as '0-2').
- The overall improvement over the last two months has been sustained despite the return of children to schools and a gradual relaxation of the Level-4 alert measures
- A cluster of cases associated with a food plant in Bala has affected some Wrexham residents
- There are no reported cases of 'variants of concern' ('India', 'Brazil', 'Bristol', 'Liverpool', etc.)
- Hospital admission and deaths are, thankfully, very low.

TABLE 2: Covid-19 in the Sub-Areas of Wrexham (18 MSOA areas used by PHW in its Tableau)

SUB AREA	CASES PER 100,000 POPULATION										No. OF CASES	
	Worst since 20/10/20		Best since 20/10/20		Reported 2 Weeks Ago 16th April	Reported 1 Week Ago 23rd April	Reported Today 30th April	% change: 20/10/20 to 25/04/21	% change: 14 days to 25/04	Decile in Wales: 7 days to 25/04	Cases: 21 days to 25/04	Cases: 7 days to 25/04
	Score	7 days to:	Score	7 days to:	7 days to 11/04/21	7 days to 18/04/21	7 days to 25/04/21					
Acton & Maes-y-dre	910	04/01/2021	<40	25/04/2021	<40	<40	<40	-87	0	10	0-2	0-2
Bangor-on-Dee, Overton & Penley	542	08/01/2021	<31	25/04/2021	<31	<31	<31	-77	0	10	3	0-2
Borras & Rhosnesni	909	04/01/2021	<42	25/04/2021	<42	<42	<42	-85	0	10	3	0-2
Caia Park	1120	09/01/2021	<29	25/04/2021	<29	<29	56	-71	0	1	5	4
Cefn Mawr	665	04/11/2020	<22	25/04/2021	<22	<22	<22	-80	0	10	3	0-2
Chirk & Ceiriog Valley	972	17/01/2021	<31	25/04/2021	<31	<31	<31	-83	0	10	0-2	0-2
Coedpoeth & Brymbo	1184	04/01/2021	<22	25/04/2021	<22	<22	<22	-82	0	10	3	0-2
Gresford, Marford & Rossett	840	08/01/2021	<14	25/04/2021	<14	<14	<14	-91	0	10	3	0-2
Gwersyllt West & Summerhill	1924	06/01/2021	<34	25/04/2021	<34	<34	<34	-86	0	10	0-2	0-2
Hermitage & Whitegate	1622	04/01/2021	<23	15/04/2021	34	45	91	-34	168	1	15	8
Johnstown North & Rhosyllen	1288	01/01/2021	<33	25/04/2021	<33	<33	<33	-89	0	10	3	0-2
Llay South & Gwersyllt East	1134	08/01/2021	<25	25/04/2021	<25	<25	<25	-85	0	10	0-2	0-2
New Broughton & Bryn Cefn	1147	04/01/2021	<26	25/04/2021	<26	<26	<26	-87	0	10	0-2	0-2
Pen-y-cae & Minera	891	09/01/2021	<35	25/04/2021	<35	52	<35	-90	0	1	3	0-2
Rhos & Johnstown South	1167	11/01/2021	<29	25/04/2021	<29	<29	<29	-93	0	10	0-2	0-2
Ruabon & Marchwiel	936	03/01/2021	<31	25/04/2021	<31	<31	<31	-92	0	10	0-2	0-2
Town North, University & Rhos-ddu	1227	08/01/2021	<23	19/04/2021	<23	<23	56	-59	143	10	8	5
Wrexham West	1092	12/01/2021	<24	22/04/2021	96	60	72	-33	-25	1	19	6
WREXHAM COUNTY BOROUGH	971	08/01/2021	<12	19/04/2021	17	12	22	-89	29	n/a	68 to 82	24 to 52

Source: PHW Tableau

Comment

- **4** of the 18 sub-areas of the County Borough have more than 50/100,000 population – the old Welsh Government lockdown/local measures trigger – compared to 2 last week, but none has more than 8 cases. The rest, most likely, have not had any cases for several weeks (recorded by Public Health Wales (PHW) as '0-2 cases').
- **These 4** sub-areas are in the worst decile (10%) in Wales (29.5/100k) compared to 3 last week:
 - Caia Park: **56/100k** (4 cases), up from less than 29 last week
 - Hermitage & Whitegate: **91/100k** (8 cases), up from 45/100k last week
 - Town North, University & Rhos-ddu: **56/100k** (5 cases), up from less than 23/100k last week (it is noteworthy that none of these cases are actually in the university itself)
 - Wrexham West: **72/100k** (6 cases), the same as last week
- **16** have seen their lowest rates during this week, since 20th October 2020 (when PHW first published these data), compared to 17 both last week and two weeks ago.
- **14** are in the lowest decile in Wales, compared to 15 last week and 16 two weeks ago.

MANAGING THE VIRUS

- **Overall** - The Level-4 Alert lockdown, in place since 20 December 2020, but gradually relaxed since, comes to an end on Sunday. Wales will then go into Level-3, allowing gyms, leisure centres and some other venues to reopen and various indoor organised activities to resume. The First Minister will review the measure in two weeks and it is expected that, if cases continue to fall, Wales will shortly move into Level-2.
- **Council Services** - the Council is continuing to provide all of its services, as publicised on our website, other than public access to most Council buildings.

The Vaccination Programme

General

- **More than 584,000** doses have been administered in North Wales, compared to 550,000 last week
- **Nearly 96,000** doses have been administered in Wrexham, compared to 88,000 last week
- Vaccine rollout continues through the Mass and Local Vaccination Centres and GP practices

Who are the health board vaccinating and how will they be contacted?

- This week and moving forward the Health Board (BCUHB) will be vaccinating the following groups:
 - People in **Priority Groups 1-9** who were unable to receive their vaccination when it was first offered to them. This includes people aged **50+**, people aged **16-64** with certain underlying health conditions, unpaid carers and those living with people who are immunosuppressed
 - **Priority Group 10** - people aged **18-49 year olds**
- Invitations will be sent by letter, text message and phone call.

AstraZeneca (AZ) or Pfizer vaccine?

- BCUHB is following the latest guidance from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) that the AZ vaccine should not routinely be given to those aged under 30. This means that two groups of Priority Group 10 (18-49 year olds) will be vaccinated concurrently, with two different vaccines: those aged 30-50, the AZ vaccine and those aged 18-29, the Pfizer one.
- Those aged 18-29 who have already had a first dose of AZ will have the second dose of that vaccine to complete their course.
- As BCUHB wishes to use vaccine supplies as quickly as they are received, this will inevitably mean that some under 30s will be invited before the 30-50 year olds have been completed. The only way to avoid this would be to hold back supplies of the Pfizer vaccine, which would be an unjustifiable risk.

Information and statistics on vaccinations can be found via the following links:

- Wales - <https://phw.nhs.wales/topics/immunisation-and-vaccines/covid-19-vaccination-information/about-the-vaccine>
- North Wales: <https://bcuhb.nhs.wales/covid-19/covid-19-vaccination-information/> and [Vaccinations statistics - Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board \(nhs.wales\)](#)