

Dear Mr Loughton

Adam Doyle's office has forwarded to me your constituent's enquiry regarding COVID-19 statistics in Adur and the Zoe app.

A variety of COVID-19 datasets are available in the public domain; the latest statistics for Adur can be viewed here on the Public Health England website. Since the 16th July 2020, Public Health England have also been publishing data below local authority level, where three or more people have been tested positive for COVID-19 in the previous week, data below this are however, suppressed. In addition to testing information, data relating to people who are reporting symptoms and seeking advice on NHS 111, 999 or 111 online and being assessed as potentially having COVID-19 are also published at <https://digital.nhs.uk/dashboards/nhs-pathways>.

With frequent updates and different sources it can be difficult for the public to track information, so West Sussex County Council is now providing a weekly data information pack for residents which includes data at lower tier local authority level, which can be viewed here.

Using the published data, up to Monday 27th July 2020, there were a total of **190** positive tests of Adur residents. This is a cumulative lab-confirmed cases rate of **297.5** per 100,000 population and as at July 27th Adur ranked 248 out of 315 lower tier authorities, 1 being the highest rate which at 27th July was Leicester.

In addition to information in the public domain the Public Health team in the County Council receive:

- Information relating to people who have tested positive for COVID-19. Data we have access to includes postcode, age and where recorded occupation and ethnicity
- Public Health England provide a daily review of authorities (at a lower tier level) in terms of whether the number of new cases is higher or lower than recent trends
- Information on a specific outbreaks, such as at schools, care homes or other settings such as pubs
- Summary data on people who have been tracked and traced via the NHS Test and Trace service, although this is not provided at a detailed level or at lower tier authority level

- Summary data on the number of people in the county who have contacted NHS 111/999 or 111 online who have been triaged with a potential assessment of COVID-19

Using this range of intelligence, there is a daily review of the local situation in West Sussex and the council regularly work with colleagues from across the region to ensure the wider picture is understood, including a weekly meeting with colleagues in districts and boroughs. We have seen recent improvements in relation to access to information required to monitor localised situations, and will continue to request further access to datasets where required. We are aware of the ZOE app data, however, we do not have access to the information users are providing to Kings College.

I would also like to take this opportunity to highlight that West Sussex County Council has produced a COVID-19 Local Outbreak Control Plan, as required by the Government, which was published on Tuesday, 30th June 2020. This details how local, regional and national organisations and responses will work together as a system to prevent cases of the virus, where possible, in West Sussex and respond to any local outbreaks. More detail on operational delivery elements will be added to the plan as further guidance is produced nationally, and as the national Joint Biosecurity Centre becomes fully operational.

Kind regards

Anna Raleigh
Director of Public Health