



COVID-19 updates and information from the council and councillors for March 26th

One Year On

Landmarks across Wigan Borough were lit up this week and a memorial service was held in Believe Square in Wigan to mark one year since the country officially went into lockdown.

We would like to say a big thank you to everyone in the borough who has come together to respond to the challenges of the past year with strength and kindness.

[See the council video of our year and all our work in Wigan](#)

If you would like to leave a message in memory of loved ones who have lost their lives as a result of the pandemic, follow the link below.

Book of remembrance

<https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Births-Marriage-Deaths/Deaths/Remembrance/Book-of-Remembrance.aspx>

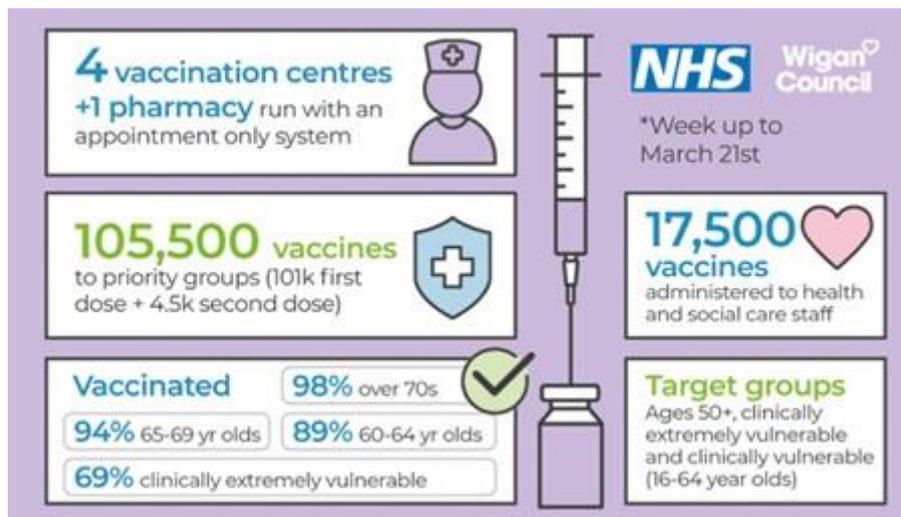


This week's vaccination figures have been published

We continue to encourage everyone to take up the vaccines as soon as you are offered an appointment. If you have specific questions, please get in touch with your GP.

Find out more here

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccination - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)



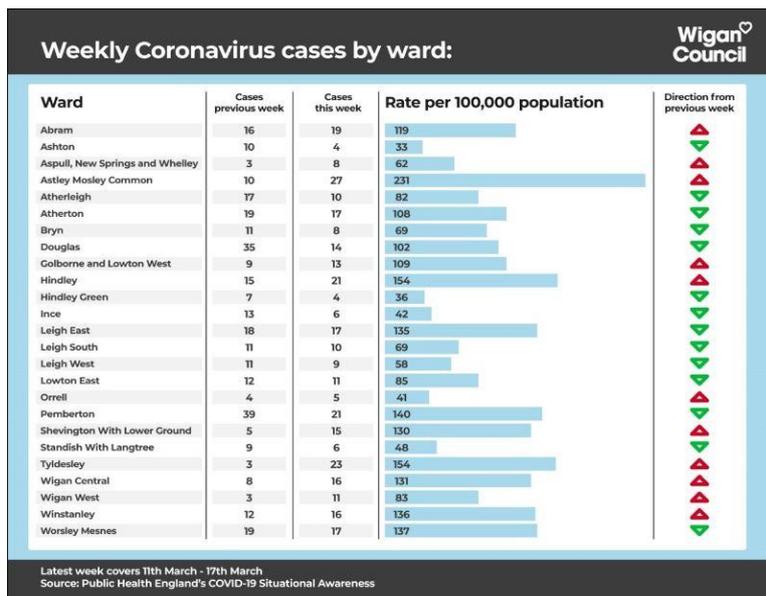
Covid-19 tracker

This week's Covid-19 tracker has been published and it shows:

- The rate of new cases locally is similar to the rate for Greater Manchester but higher than regional and national rates
- As at 23rd March, there were 15 COVID-positive patients in WWL hospitals – lower than last week
- There have been 11 COVID-19 deaths registered in Wigan so far in the latest week - an increase from the previous week.
- Rates have increased slightly in Golborne and Lowton West and fractionally decreased in Lowton East.

View the full tracker here

<https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Crime-Emergencies/Coronavirus/Coronavirus-update-and-advice.aspx>



Borough Life magazine is out this week

Borough Life, our magazine for Wigan Borough residents, will start to be delivered this week. This edition includes a look back on a year of the pandemic in Wigan Borough, a look ahead to what improvements at Pennington Flash nature reserve will bring, behind the scenes info from the borough's archives service and a feature on Wigan's thriving music scene.



Autism Awareness Week: 29th March-4th April

Next week is #WorldAutismAwarenessWeek21 and we're encouraging everyone to aim for acceptance.

Check our social media channels from Monday to find positive messages to share and links to helpful resources. Search #AutismFriendlyWigan or visit our social media pages below.



Find out more about useful resources and support services here
<https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Health-Social-Care/Autism-friendly/Index.aspx>



There's still time to make sure you're part of Census 2021

Census Day has been and gone but if you haven't yet filled in your Census survey, there's still time to take part.

If you have friends or relatives with limited access to technology, Wigan and Leigh Life Centres will be open on Friday this week and weekdays next week from 9am-4pm (for this purpose only), with staff available to offer assistance.

More information here
<https://census.gov.uk/>

There's still
time to **take part**
in the census

Filling in the census is everyone's
responsibility.
We can help you complete yours today.

 Office for National Statistics



it's about us
census 2021

You can also join an online session with a Census Manager who can provide help and support.

[Find out more here](#)

Haigh Woodland Park secures National Lottery support

Development funding of £256,000 has been awarded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund to help us progress plans to restore unused areas of Haigh Woodland Park.

The funding builds on our previous £3.6 million investment in the park in 2016, which helped to fund the new play area, adventure golf, high ropes and conversion of the stables.

This new funding will help us to enhance the biodiversity of the park, particularly the woodland areas.

PLANTATION GATES
VIEW AS PROPOSED



Town centres to get a makeover



A community initiative to spruce up the borough's town centres will begin next month. In 2020, we pledged £600,000 to improve town centres as part of the Our Town programme, following the Deal 2030 consultation, when residents told us that this should be a priority.

The improvement programme had to be postponed due to the pandemic but it will resume in April and 12 areas will now get a deep clean and also see improvements including enhanced road maintenance, more bins, and the installation of new trees and flowers.

An additional £400,000 has been added to the programme this year, bringing the new investment total to £1 million.

Find out more about the programme here

<https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Council/The-Deal/Deal-Communities/Our-Town/Index.aspx>



Greater Manchester is to take Back control of the buses.



GM buses to be "re-regulated : bus campaign "Better Buses for Greater Manchester" said: "This is game-changing for public transport here. Bringing our buses into public control will transform our bus network so that it can work for passengers, rather than for private profit." It follows a consultation by the GM Mayor Andy Burnham to see if people wanted GM to re-regulate the buses so that we have control over bus routes and fares.

Summer-time opening hours for the Recycling Centres across the Borough.



Please remember that this Sunday will see the start of summer opening hours at all of the borough's recycling centres. Sites will open between 8am and 7.45pm daily. For more information on your local recycling centre and permits: <http://bit.ly/2P2MGy5>

Best Wishes

Councillor Gena Merrett
Councillor Yvonne Klieve
Councillor Susan Gambles

**Do you or anyone you know need help,
advice or support?**



***Yvonne, Susan, and Gena.
Councillors for Golborne and Lowton West***

**We are not doing face to face surgeries during the pandemic but we are
still here to help you.**

**If you need advice, information, support or some help please contact us.
We post information every day on our Facebook Page
[@GWLcouncillors](#).**

**You can send us a direct private message to the page.
Or contact us by email or phone to our contact addresses below.**

**Cllr Yvonne Klieve - Tel 07828 064832. Email Y.Klieve@wigan.gov.uk
Cllr Susan Gambles - Tel 01942 568251. Email Susan.gambles@wigan.gov.uk
Cllr Gena Merrett - Tel 07525336608. Email gena.merrett@wigan.gov.uk**