



Sandwell News

COVID-19: NEW VARIANT IN YOUR AREA

ENHANCED TESTING AVAILABLE

A new variant of Covid-19 is present
in the Oldbury/Tipton area.

Get tested now

Check if you live in the area affected and how to get tested at:
www.sandwell.gov.uk/testsandwell

STAY HOME
▼
**PROTECT
THE NHS**
▼
SAVE LIVES

Enhanced testing in Oldbury and Tipton


If you live in any of these specific areas in Oldbury and Tipton, it's important you get tested for Covid-19. This is because the variant that originated in South Africa has been detected in the area.

Everyone living in these specific areas over the age of 16 should be tested.

This includes anyone who has been vaccinated, anyone who has had Covid-19 previously and anyone who has had rapid tests at school, home or at West Bromwich Town Hall. You still need to get a test.

For these tests go to PureGym, Dudley Port, DY4 7UL, between 8am and 3.45pm any day. There's no need to book if you are walking to the test centre. If you have to drive you need to book an appointment online.

Alternatively, please complete and return your home testing kit.



WARNING TO PEOPLE IN HATELEY HEATH WARD

The Covid-19 infection rate in the Hateley Heath ward of West Bromwich is higher than anywhere else in Sandwell - please take extra care.

Sharp rise in infection rates in Hateley Heath, West Bromwich


People living and working in this area, as well as the rest of Sandwell, must be extra cautious.

[The rate of infection in Hateley Heath ward is more than twice the average rate for Sandwell.](#)

There has been no single large outbreak in the area, there has just been a general rise in infections, with shops and supermarkets often emerging as possible places of infection.

Please - everyone, especially people in this ward, take extra care and keep on following the rules. Get your Covid-19 vaccination when you're offered it.

There is absolutely no room for complacency. Covid-19 is a killer virus and we need everyone to be on their guard to protect themselves, their loved ones and their community.



Bin collections update

Our environmental partner Serco is having a challenging week with Covid-19 related staff absence impacting on the number of teams and crew members out working.

Unfortunately, some bins haven't been collected on their usual day, but teams are working hard to minimise delays to residents. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

If the bins in your road haven't been emptied yet, please bear with us and leave them out until we get to you.

Crews will continue to work over their usual shift times to help catch up with the delays and extra crews will be brought in to help clear any missed bins on evenings as well as Saturday (27 March) and Sunday (28 March). Thank you for your patience and the support during this time.



Over 50s in Sandwell can now get vaccinated without an appointment

If you're 50 or over and you haven't had your Covid-19 vaccine yet, until 2 April you can [turn up at the vaccination centre at Tipton Sports Academy without an appointment](#).

Tipton is Sandwell's main vaccination centre - but you can also go to Saddlers Centre in Walsall or WV Active Aldersley if those are nearer for you.

Please remember to bring your NHS number and have your date of birth ready.





Between 8am and 7pm, from now until 2nd April, there are COVID-19 vaccines available for those eligible at the following sites without the need for an appointment...



Saddlers Centre,
Walsall



Tipton Sports Academy,
Sandwell



WV Active Aldersley,
Wolverhampton

Please bring your NHS number, Proof of ID and Date of Birth. If you are not eligible you will be turned away.

Please stay safe in our parks and green spaces

Please continue to follow the rules and help stop the spread of Covid-19





HM Government

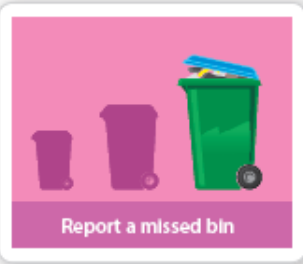
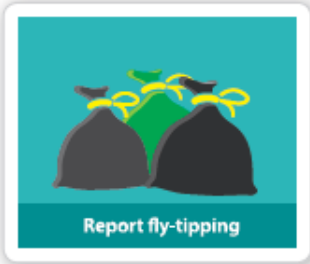
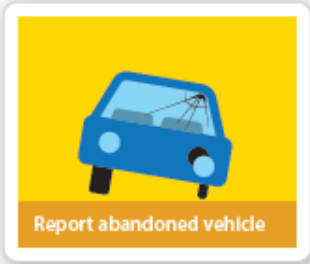
NHS

**Every
covered face
is making
a difference**

Covering your nose and mouth is helping stop the spread of COVID-19.

Let's keep going

STAY HOME ▶ PROTECT THE NHS ▶ SAVE LIVES



my.sandwell.gov.uk