

Covid-19 recovery timeline

(Government announcements and the Council's response)

Key:

Government announcements

Rotherham response/decisions taken/activity

Other

Those highlighted are yet to take place.

| January | |
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| 5 th January | <p>National lockdown commenced and expected to last until mid-February.</p> <p>One-off top up grants of up to £9,000 announced by Chancellor for leisure, retail and hospitality businesses.</p> <p>UK surpassed 60,000 daily Covid cases for the first time.</p> <p>Resident's bulletin outlined current restrictions under lockdown and signposted information on current Council service status and support for residents and businesses.</p> |
| 4 th January | <p>Primary school pupils, secondary aged students identified as vulnerable; children of critical (key) workers returned to school.</p> <p>First Oxford University/AstraZeneca vaccine administered.</p> <p>UK Covid Alert raised to Level 5 for the first time.</p> <p>PM announced a national lockdown from 5th January until mid-February under which all must stay at home (with some permitted exceptions) while schools will close to most pupils.</p> <p>Message from Chief Executive shared with staff following lockdown announcement advising staff of what they need to do if they are clinically extremely vulnerable or if they have questions or concerns.</p> |
| December | |
| 30 th December | <p>Oxford University/AstraZeneca vaccine authorised by MHRA.</p> <p>Formal tiering review moved the Midlands, the North East, parts of the North West and parts of the South West to Tier 4, while almost all remaining areas escalated to Tier 3. Rotherham to remain in Tier 3.</p> <p>Confirmed primary school children may return from 4 January, while exam year pupils in secondary schools will learn remotely for the first week of term before returning on 11 January, and others will return from 18 January.</p> <p>Public encouraged to stay at home on New Year's Eve.</p> <p>MPs approved post-Brexit trade deal.</p> <p>Rotherham residents asked to stay at home for New Year's Eve, and again reminded of Tier 3 restrictions as well as the arrangements put in place by the government for a staggered return to schools.</p> |

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| 29 th December | Announced that military are to support testing of secondary school and college students after the Christmas break. |
| 25 th December | For areas in Tiers 1-3, up to three households allowed to mix on Christmas Day. |
| 24 th December | <p>Confirmed that between 8 and 20 December, 616,933 people have received the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine in the UK.</p> <p>Post-Brexit trade deal announced.</p> <p>Christmas Eve bell-ringing.</p> <p>Christmas messages from Rotherham's MPs shared, thanking staff for their hard work this year.</p> |
| 23 rd December | <p>Confirmed that further areas in the south of England are to move to Tier 4 from Boxing Day. Rotherham to remain in Tier 3.</p> <p>France eases travel ban with UK, allowing travel for those who have a recent negative test.</p> <p>Travel ban implemented for passengers from South Africa due to a new strain of the virus detected in the country. Two cases of the new variant confirmed to have been found in the UK.</p> <p>£149 million government funding announced to support increased care home testing.</p> <p>Rotherham residents reminded of Tier 3 and Christmas rules and urged to follow these over the festive period.</p> <p>A virtual Christmas message from pupils at Harthill Primary School is shared on social media, while 500 children from schools across the borough took part in a virtual performance of two Christmas songs.</p> |
| 21 st December | <p>Emergency committee meeting held by government following France's closure of its border with the UK for 48 hours.</p> <p>Announced that national cases have nearly doubled during the past week to 35,928.</p> <p>New advice for clinically extremely vulnerable people in Tier 4 areas published.</p> <p>Council confirmed that the Riverside House Café will be the location the rollout of DPH lateral flow tests (rapid testing for asymptomatic frontline workers).</p> |
| 20 th December | <p>Confirmed that 350,000 people have now received the Covid-19 vaccine in the UK.</p> <p>Countries across Europe and the world, including Germany, Italy, Belgium, Canada, Switzerland, the Irish Republic, Turkey, Hong Kong, Bulgaria and Austria, announced they are suspending UK flights over concerns around the prevalence of the new variant in the UK. France announced it will close its border with the UK for 48 hours.</p> |
| 19 th December | Announced that new strain of Covid-19 is now considered by the New and Emerging Respiratory Virus Threats Advisory Group to be able to spread |

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| | <p>more quickly, with data continuing to be analysed to improve understanding. The new strain has been reported to the WHO.</p> <p>PM confirmed that the Christmas relaxation of Covid restrictions will not go ahead as planned as a result of rising cases and concerns around the new variant. Up to three households may now meet on Christmas Day only, rather than the previous five days set out. In addition, those areas of London, the South East and East of England which are in Tier 3 will enter a new Tier 4 'Stay at Home' Alert Level. Those in Tier 4 will not be allowed to mix with other households on Christmas Day (though support bubbles remain in place).</p> |
| 17 th December | <p>Review of local tier allocations shared. Confirmed that Rotherham will remain in Tier 3 for at least the next fortnight, like most areas previously in Tier 3. A much wider area of the East and South East of England also brought under Tier 3.</p> <p>Government confirms a round of targeted testing of secondary school and college pupils following the Christmas holidays.</p> <p>New Ways of Working workshop with Judith Badger and Lee Mann.</p> <p>A Christmas message from the Leader of the Council was shared with staff, praising them for their hard work through the pandemic across all Council services.</p> <p>The Leader of the Council shared a video message with residents in response to the government's decision to retain Rotherham's Tier 3 status and the first Covid vaccinations in the borough, sharing a message of hope for the coming year whilst also reminding residents of the need to take care in light of current infection rates.</p> <p>Resident reminded in a Covid update email of the restrictions which Rotherham is currently under, with the infection rate again on the rise in Rotherham. Residents were again urged not to contact their GP surgery about the vaccine and asked to wait to be contacted. Business were also urged to check if they are entitled to Covid-19 financial support. Residents directed to information about opening hours and emergency arrangements for the Council over Christmas.</p> <p>Announced that from 4th January 2021, East Herringthorpe Crematorium will be reducing service times and costs to create greater capacity for an increase in demand.</p> <p>Rotherham Christmas Market and Imperial Buildings opening times shared with residents.</p> |
| 16 th December | <p>Announced that relaxing of rules for Christmas to allow a bubble of three households between 23 – 27 December will go ahead, but guidance amended to urge extreme caution ahead of mixing, with the public asked in a Joint statement on staying safe at Christmas from the UK Government, Scottish Government, and Welsh Government to minimise the people they meet five days beforehand and elderly or CEV people urged not to mix indoors with other until they are vaccinated.</p> <p>PM's statement at Covid press conference welcomes the ongoing vaccination programme but also emphasised the rises in cases in many</p> |

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| | <p>parts of the country and urged caution over Christmas.</p> <p>Announced that local authorities in Tier 2 areas will also be offered community testing in addition to those in Tier 3 areas.</p> |
| 15 th December | <p>A 94-year-old resident becomes the first in Rotherham to be given the Covid-19 vaccine at his local GP-led vaccination service.</p> <p>'Big Hearts, Big Changes' Virtual Awards held.</p> <p>Final set of reports by Ofsted on the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on children and young people published.</p> |
| 14 th December | <p>Hope and Confidence workshop with Sharon Kemp, Leanne Buchan and Tom Smith.</p> <p>Announced that households affected by Covid-related disruption to the garden waste collection service in 2020 will receive a £5 discount on their subscription for the coming year (beginning March 2021).</p> <p>Statement by Health and Social Care Secretary to the House of Commons praises ongoing vaccination efforts, but warns of need to remain vigilant and follow the restrictions, particularly in light of the identification of a new variant of the virus potentially associated with spread in South East England, and the rapidly rising case numbers in areas such as London, Kent, parts of Essex and Hertfordshire.</p> <p>Confirmed that a number of areas will be moving into Tier 3 from 16th December, including Greater London and Essex.</p> <p>PHE announced that it is investigating novel strain of Covid-19 emerging in the South and East of England, but emphasised that there is not yet any evidence to suggest that the strain is more severe or contagious.</p> <p>The Government issued a direction to the Royal London Borough of Greenwich requiring it to withdraw a letter sent to local schools on 13th December which asked them to close for the coming week, and instead ensure schools remain open until the end of term.</p> |
| 11 th December | <p>Announced that NHS Test and Trace will be open every day over Christmas and New Year.</p> <p>Self-isolation period reduced from 14 days to 10 days from 14th December.</p> <p>Announced that Rotherham's infection rate has continued to fall, but that the infection rate for over 60s is still higher than the overall rate. Residents reminded to take care to keep each other safe. Resident also asked to remain patient with regard to the rollout of vaccines.</p> <p>Resident's Covid story shared in the Resident's Bulletin.</p> |
| 10 th December | <p>Health and Wellbeing workshop with Anne Marie Lubanski and Suzanne Joyner.</p> <p>Rearranged Q&A session with Chief Executive.</p> <p>Cabinet approved allocation plans for Covid Winter Grant Scheme fund.</p> |

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| | <p>NHS Test and Trace business plan published, with next phase focusing on partnering with local leaders.</p> <p>Secretary of State for Health and Social Care Matt Hancock gave a statement at the coronavirus press conference highlighting the national increase of cases and outlining the next steps, including expanding vaccination.</p> |
| 9 th December | Economic Recovery workshop with Paul Woodcock, Simon Moss and Tim O'Connell. |
| 8 th December | Vaccination begins as first Covid vaccine (Pfizer/BioNTech) is administered in the UK. |
| 7 th December | <p>Year Ahead Plan workshops to be held throughout next two weeks.</p> <p>Thriving Neighbourhoods workshop with Sharon Kemp, Jackie Mould and Martin Hughes.</p> |
| 4 th December | <p>Ofsted Focus Assurance visit letter published. The letter praised the Council's rapid and effective response to Covid in early 2020 and said that senior leaders have continued to respond to need as before the pandemic.</p> <p>Fall in Covid cases in Rotherham continues, but the infection rate among over-60s is higher.</p> <p>Video shared on social media showing the rapid rise of infections across Rotherham on a map during the second wave, reminding residents of the need to keep each other safe.</p> <p>Letter from the Minister for Care to local authorities, directors of adult social services and managers of care homes for older adults published, outlining plans for getting the Covid vaccine to care home staff.</p> |
| 2 nd December | <p>National restrictions ended. Rotherham moved into Tier 3: Very High restrictions.</p> <p>Pfizer/BioNTech approved by MHRA for use in UK.</p> <p>Leisure centres and Herringthorpe Athletics stadium open, and non-essential retail on all Rotherham markets able to trade.</p> <p>Clifton Park Museum, Waleswood Camping site and the Civic Theatre remain closed. Libraries also remain closed but the order and collect and online library service remains available.</p> <p>Microsoft Teams Q&A sessions with Chief Executive.</p> |
| 1 st December | <p>Residents reminded of the tier 3 restrictions and urged to follow these. FAQ page around the current restrictions provided.</p> <p>Another resident's Covid story shared in a video.</p> <p>Chief Executive's Christmas Card competition for children launched, focusing on messages of hope seen this year.</p> |
| November | |
| 27 th November | Announced that infection rates are continuing to fall in Rotherham, but the pressure on the NHS remains acute. Residents again urged to follow the restrictions. |

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| | <p>Story of another local resident affected by Covid shared.</p> <p>Applications now open for a fund to support businesses in South Yorkshire affected because they supply companies forced to close by the national lockdown or affected by tier two and three restrictions.</p> <p>Council appeals to mourners to respect the restrictions in place during burials, following reports of large gatherings at some services.</p> <p>MHRA review of Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine begins.</p> |
| 26 th November | <p>Tiering decisions announced under Winter Plan. Rotherham confirmed to be in Tier 3: Very High once restrictions end on 2 December. To be reviewed on 16th December and then every 2 weeks.</p> <p>Financial support available under the 'supply chain support scheme' (up to £6m to support businesses in South Yorkshire forced to close in the national lockdown or tier two and three restrictions. Targeted at hospitality, accommodation, leisure and entertainment sectors).</p> <p>Residents urged to follow current restrictions and those under Tier 3 when national restrictions are lifted in e-bulletin.</p> <p>Leader responded to government announcement stating that Rotherham will be in Tier 3, urging residents to follow the rules.</p> <p>Snore-venber workshop to share ideas to help staff sleep better.</p> |
| 25 th November | <p>Government spending plans for coming year unveiled in Spending Review. Key points include a wage freeze for public sector workers other than NHS workers and those earning under £24,000, £300m extra grant funding for councils for social care, £3bn extra funding for local authorities (a 4.5% increase in spending power) and a new £4bn 'levelling up' for upgrading local infrastructure. The UK economy is expected to shrink by 11.3% this year.</p> <p>Virtual Reclaim the Night event held.</p> <p>Residents urged to answer the call if they are contacted by the Rotherham local test and trace team.</p> |
| 24 th November | <p>Christmas arrangements agreed by Government and Devolved Administrations announced: travel restrictions are to be lifted across country and tiers to allow households to meet between 23rd and 27th December. Up to 3 households can form an exclusive 'bubble' and can meet at home, a place of worship or in an outdoor public place, but more restrictive rules for hospitality and other venues will be maintained. Caution urged by leaders of four nations, with people advised to 'think carefully' about their Christmas plans.</p> |
| 23 rd November | <p>AstraZeneca Oxford vaccine interim data suggests it offers 70% protection on average against Covid-19.</p> <p>Covid Winter Plan published and PM statement detailing what will happen when national restrictions end on 2nd December. England is to move back into a regional three-tiered approach, announcement on Thursday 26th November re which areas will be in which tiers. The 'stay at home' order will end on 2nd December, and shops, gyms, personal care the leisure sector will</p> |

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| | <p>reopen. The rule of six will also again apply in outdoor settings. Some changes have been made to the previous tiered restrictions, including a hospitality curfew of 11pm rather than 10pm, and in Tier 1 people will be encouraged to minimise travel and work from home where possible. Tier 3 areas are to be able to participate in a six-week community testing programme to identify asymptomatic cases. Tier allocations are reviewed every 14 days, and tiering regulations will expire at the end of March.</p> <p>Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) begin review of Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine data to evaluate its quality, safety and effectiveness.</p> <p>New Wellbeing survey shared for staff to complete.</p> |
| 21 st November | <p>Vaccine centres across UK begin being set up.</p> <p>New Covid testing site opened in Maltby in Maltby Leisure Centre car park.</p> |
| 20 th November | <p>Homecare workers to be able to access weekly Covid tests from 23rd November.</p> <p>Joint HSE, FOM and PHE statement on best approach to reduce occupational Covid risks, with a focus on ethnic minority groups, issued.</p> <p>Announced that infection rate in Rotherham has continued to stabilise down from previous continuous rise. Residents reminded to follow national restrictions.</p> <p>Microsoft Teams Q&A sessions with Chief Executive announced for December.</p> <p>Rotherham local Test and Trace service launched contacting those the national NHS Test and Trace have been unable to get in touch with. Residents advised to answer the call and follow the instructions.</p> <p>Video shared with one resident's Covid story, asking residents to follow the guidelines in place.</p> <p>Christmas light switch on shared virtually, with a message from Cllr Jenny Andrews, Mayor of Rotherham.</p> |
| 19 th November | <p>New technology 'Voicescape' being used to keep in touch with tenants.</p> |
| 16 th November | <p>Programme of virtual events for Safeguarding Awareness Week begins.</p> <p>Moderna vaccine results show that it offers nearly 95% protection against Covid-19 for recipients.</p> |
| 14 th November | <p>New Covid testing centre opened in Dinnington.</p> |
| 13 th November | <p>Funding for small businesses (Local Restrictions Support Grants and Additional Restrictions Grants) to help them through current restrictions transferred to councils in England to be distributed.</p> <p>Coronavirus Community Support Fund awarded to 8,250 charities across England.</p> <p>Covid figures for Rotherham indicated that infection rate started to stabilise down from previous week. Residents reminded to follow national restrictions.</p> |

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| | <p>Staff reminded to follow guidance when working in or visiting Council buildings.</p> <p>Easy-to-follow guide to when to keep children off school shared.</p> <p>Easy-to-follow guide to national restrictions shared.</p> <p>Business support grants made available on Council website.</p> |
| 11 th November | <p>Virtual service held to commemorate Remembrance Day.</p> <p>Video shared on Council social media on importance of wearing a face covering.</p> <p>Shielding calls resumed to vulnerable residents.</p> |
| 10 th November | <p>Announced that the increase of cases in Rotherham is starting to slow, but the peak of the second wave is still expected to be some weeks away. Residents reminded to follow the guidance.</p> |
| 9 th November | <p>Many Directors of Public Health across England set to receive rapid test kits to test local people as part of the government's asymptomatic testing strategy (Rotherham not included).</p> <p>Pfizer and BioNTech vaccine results show that it is 90% effective in protecting recipients against Covid-19.</p> |
| 8 th November | <p>£170m Covid Winter Grant Scheme announced to support children, families and the most vulnerable over winter. Holiday Activities and Food programme to be expanded, covering Easter, Summer and Christmas in 2021.</p> <p>Virtual Remembrance Sunday service held.</p> |
| 5 th November | <p>National lockdown commenced.</p> <p>New scheme (Protect Programme) announced to support rough sleepers during pandemic with some Councils set to receive extra targeted support and funding. All Councils need to update rough sleeping plans by the end of the year, and will also be asked to carry out a rapid assessment of need for everyone they accommodate, considering time limited interventions for those rough sleeping.</p> <p>Announced that renters will be protected during national restrictions, with no bailiff enforcement actions and a pause on evictions.</p> <p>Rotherham Libraries revert back to Order and Collect Service until 2 December and leisure centres closed.</p> |
| 4 th November | <p>Reviewed guidance for individuals at high risk (clinically extremely vulnerable individuals) published. These individuals also received a letter during the same week providing them with further detail on the guidance and how to access support.</p> <p>New guidance to support safe care home visits during lockdown shared by Department of Health and Social Care.</p> <p>Clinically Extremely Vulnerable Staff Guidance reviewed, and discussions with line managers to ensure appropriate actions were put in place.</p> |
| 3 rd November | <p>Announced that whole city testing to be launched in Liverpool, with tests</p> |

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| | <p>provided through a Liverpool City Council, NHS Test and Trace and Ministry of Defence partnership.</p> <p>Housing Secretary letter to housing industry shared, making it clear that house building and relating activities should continue, working securely in line with public health guidance.</p> |
| 2 nd November | <p>Support increased under Self-Employment Income Support Scheme.</p> <p>Announced that UK testing capacity has been increased.</p> <p>Announced that this year's traditional civic ceremony to mark Remembrance Sunday will not take place as usual and an online event will instead be held.</p> |
| 1 st November | <p>Job Support Scheme launched.</p> <p>Council Household Waste and Recycling Centres now open seven days a week.</p> <p>First Covid Local Restrictions Support Grants made available to those eligible businesses which had to close on 24th October following the imposition of Tier 3 restrictions.</p> |
| October | |
| 31 st October | <p>PM announced new national lockdown restrictions (from 5th November) stating everyone must stay at home, and may leave only for a limited set of reasons (education; work if you cannot work from home; exercise and recreation outdoors, with your household, support bubble or on your own with one person from another household; all medical reasons, appointments and to escape injury or harm; shop for food and essentials; to provide care for vulnerable people, or as a volunteer)</p> |
| 28 th October | <p>Council confirmed plans for half-term free school meals, announcing it will work alongside local schools to offer £15 in supermarket vouchers for all eligible children.</p> |
| 26 th October | <p>Video shared featuring Rotherham-born former Arsenal and England goalkeeper David Seaman, asking residents to follow the current restrictions in Rotherham and do all they can to stop the spread of Covid. The video is to be broadcast on the sides of digital display van which will tour Rotherham streets and shopping centre car parks, with people encouraged to take a picture and share the message.</p> |
| 24 th October | <p>South Yorkshire moved to Tier 3.</p> |
| 23 rd October | <p>Announced that Council supporting the Marcus Rashford campaign to end child food poverty and will fund free school meals during next week's half term holiday.</p> <p>Video shared with residents in partnership with Age UK and Rotherham Older People's Forum on how older residents can prepare for the winter months.</p> <p>Updated easy-to-follow guide re restrictions shared.</p> <p>Local testing sites reporting good availability and residents urged to get a test if they are showing any symptoms.</p> <p>New Rotherham Pathways Programme launched to support local people into education, training and employment.</p> <p>Statement by the Leader of the Council reaffirmed the need for Rotherham's</p> |

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| | <p>move into Tier 3, described the restrictions in place and directed residents towards sources of support.</p> |
| 22 nd October | <p>Government announced increase in financial support for businesses and workers.</p> <p>Quarterly report on Government progress to address COVID-19 health inequalities published.</p> <p>Ofsted Focused Visit concluded.</p> |
| 21 st October | <p>Government announced that South Yorkshire is to move Tier Three from Saturday 24th October, outlining that in South Yorkshire rates are among the highest in the country and continuing to rise rapidly, with case rates ranging from 285 people per 100,000 in Doncaster up to 402 people per 100,000 in Sheffield. Financial support to be provided to local authorities, with full details being worked on. The funding for South Yorkshire includes £30m to support the region's businesses, and £11m for local authorities to support public health measures such as Test and Trace to stop the spread of the virus.</p> <p>Letter sent to LAs setting out arrangements for CQC designated premises scheme for people discharged to a care home with a positive Covid test.</p> <p>Allocations confirmed for individual councils from £1bn package of support PM had promised earlier in month.</p> <p>Statement issued by the Leader confirmed the need for these restrictions to protect Rotherham's residents, and welcomed support for business and employees. Frustrations also expressed re the way the Government conducted its negotiations with local leaders.</p> <p>Rotherham residents urged to comply with new restrictions.</p> <p>Ofsted Focused Visit commenced.</p> |
| 20 th October | <p>Following unsuccessful talks with local leaders in Greater Manchester around moving into Tier Three with a support package, PM statement confirmed that the R number still above 1 and emphasises importance of taking action in the parts of the UK which have the highest infection rates, with discussions ongoing with local leaders in South Yorkshire, West Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire and the North East.</p> |
| 16 th October | <p>PM emphasised the need for the local restrictions in place and urged people to follow rules and guidance, while also detailing advances in testing which will soon allow health and social care workers to be tested more frequently.</p> <p>Chief Executive announced that the first two Q&A sessions around The Year Ahead Plan were successful, and that similar sessions are being planned for the future.</p> <p>Local Covid restrictions guide shared for local communities, explaining what the current rules are for Rotherham while it is at High Alert Level.</p> <p>2,000 paper copies of leaflets for older people about keeping themselves safe during this winter and reducing the Covid infection rate available for Members to distribute in their local communities, created by Rotherham Older People's Forum, Age UK and the Council in partnership.</p> |
| 15 th October | <p>Chief Executive hosted question and answer sessions focused around The</p> |

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| | <p>Year Ahead Plan (15th, 16th and 19th October).</p> <p>Council announced that financial support for some self-isolating families under the Government's Test and Trace Support Payment Scheme is now live. Online form available to access £500 lump sum for those eligible.</p> |
| 14 th October | <p>Council staff asked to continue working from home until at least January 2021 unless told otherwise by line manager. New homeworking guide shared to help staff make the best of this, and staff asked to complete a Homeworking Risk Assessment and Display Screen Equipment Risk Assessment.</p> |
| 13 th October | <p>Government announced package of support to help keep rough sleepers and those at risk of homelessness safe, including comprehensive guidance, £2m for faith and community groups and a new £10m Cold Weather fund to support Councils in providing more self-contained accommodation.</p> <p>Big Hearts, Big Changes awards nominations opened ahead of a virtual event in December to recognise the work Council staff have been doing.</p> |
| 12 th October | <p>Government announced new three-tier system of local Covid Alert Levels in England – medium, high and very high. Medium consists of current national measures – Rule of Six and closure of hospitality at 10pm – while high reflects many current local interventions, preventing mixing between households or support bubbles indoors. Very High also prohibits social mixing indoors and in private gardens, advises against travel in and out of area affected, and requires pubs and bars to close unless they are operating as if they were a restaurant.</p> <p>Announced that Rotherham at Local Alert Level High and relevant restrictions will apply from the 14th October.</p> <p>Leader issued statement regarding the new 'High' alert level to take effect from Wednesday 14th October, reminding residents of the importance of following the new rules and warning of the potential for additional restrictions in the coming weeks if infections are not reduced, while also highlighting that council leaders from across the region are lobbying the government for economic support.</p> <p>Elections staff to visit homes as part of Annual Canvass in next two weeks, with these visits being conducted in a new, socially distanced manner.</p> |
| 9 th October | <p>Announced that Government's Job Support Scheme will be expanded to protect jobs and support businesses required to close due to Covid restrictions.</p> <p>Thorpe Hesley library reopened</p> <p>Director of Public Health appointment announced.</p> <p>Members and stakeholders reminded of flyers, posters and digital resources available on the Council's Covid Outbreak Toolkit page for distributing in communities.</p> <p>Staff encouraged to take part in virtual a 'Tea and Talk' session ahead of World Mental Health Day.</p> |
| 8 th October | <p>Announced that lab capacity has now been boosted through lab partnerships, with the target of 500 test sites in the UK now reached and the median distance travelled for an in-person test now 3.7 miles. Median time to receive a result is 27 to 31 hours.</p> |

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| | <p>October school governance update issued by the Department for Education.</p> <p>Swinton library reopened</p> |
| 7 th October | Rawmarsh library reopened |
| 6 th October | <p>Dinnington library reopened</p> <p>Ofsted Notification of focus visit inspection in CYPS as part of their assurance visit restart programme, this was to look at the impact on vulnerable children and young people during the pandemic which will be a virtual inspection and will commence on 20th October until 22nd October</p> |
| 5 th October | Aston library reopened |
| 4 th October | Technical issue resolved (15,841 cases between 25 September and 2 October not included in the reported daily cases). |
| 2 nd October | <p>Rotherham added to the Government's national watch list as an 'area of concern' following rise in infection rates. 7-day infection rate increased to more than 80 cases per 100,000 people, up from 49.1 per 100,000 previous week. 220 cases also reported over the 7-day period, with 25 hospital admissions.</p> <p>1 in 8 people received a Covid test at least once since the launch of NHS Test and Trace on 28 May.</p> <p>UK Government testing site opening in Glasgow.</p> <p>Guidance on £9b Job Retention Bonus to support employers who have kept on furloughed workers. Will work alongside newly announced Job Support Scheme and businesses can claim from 15th February – end March.</p> <p>Statement issued by the Leader and Public Health consultant Jacqueline Wiltschinsky (included video) and a "walk-thru" video at the local test site to give residents a clearer picture of what happens inside.</p> <p>People urged to play their part to Keep Rotherham open.</p> |
| 1 st October | New campaign launched on the International Day of Older Persons, to support older people to stay safe and healthy this winter. Included video discussing how older residents can continue with their normal routines while following Government guidelines and keeping safe. |
| September | |
| 30 th September | PM statement - Public Reminded to follow guidance. On track to hit target of 500,000 tests a day by the end October. Over 2,000 beds available across seven Nightingale hospitals. 32 billion items of PPE ordered and 4 months stockpile. Trebled availability of ventilators to 31,500. |
| 29 th September | <p>Notice to modify pupil registration requirements for temporary pupils during the outbreak.</p> <p>Notice about changes to state-funded school inspections requirements during the outbreak. Duty on LA to prepare statement of action following an Ofsted inspection which finds that the school requires special measures or significant improvement.</p> <p>UK statement on sustainable recovery at the UN General Assembly setting out 3 priorities (strong and resilient health systems, green recovery that lives up to the ambitions of the Paris Agreement; global recovery must be inclusive</p> |

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| | <p>and support the most vulnerable and climate change).</p> <p>Virtual consultation launched to ask people across the borough about their thoughts on plans to invest £25m into the town through the Towns Fund Programme.</p> <p>ICON campaign launched to support new parents with crying babies and raise awareness about Shaken Baby Syndrome.</p> |
| 28 th September | <p>People required to self-isolate law (£500 financial support available for people on low incomes unable to work; fines for those breaking the rules (£1,000 - £10,000 for repeat offenders)</p> <p>Maximum of 15 people able to attend weddings ceremonies and receptions; rule of six extended to all adult indoor team sports.</p> <p>Large stockpiles in place for PPE items such as face masks, visors and gowns.</p> <p>Greasbrough library reopened.</p> <p>Rotherham residents urged to protect each other as Covid-19 hospital admissions increased.</p> |
| 25 th September | <p>10,000 volunteers to take part in new trial.</p> <p>Guidance to parents and guardians re when you should book a Covid test for your child.</p> <p>Social distancing flyer produced to encourage residents to follow government guidance.</p> |
| 24 th September | <p>New NHS COVID-19 app launched to help control the transmission (as of 27th September it has been downloaded 10m times).</p> <p>NHS track and trace reached almost 500,000 people testing positive and their contacts and more than 1 in 10 people in England have been tested at least once since launched.</p> <p>Winter Economy Plan unveiled to protect jobs and support businesses over the coming months (included new Jobs Support Scheme to protect returning workers, extending the Self Employment Income Support Scheme; 15% VAT cut for the hospitality and tourism sectors, and help for businesses in repaying government-backed loans).</p> |
| 22 nd September | <p>PM addressed the nation – tougher measures set out including early closing of pubs and bars, table service only, closing businesses not covid secure, expanding the use of face coverings, new fines up to £10,000; office workers asked to work from home.</p> |
| 21 st September | <p>Wickersley library to re-open.</p> <p>The Year Ahead Plan to be agreed by Cabinet.</p> <p>Q4 Performance Report to be presented to Cabinet - 38 measures (57%) had either met or had exceeded the target set in the Council Plan. This is a higher number than 2018-19 when 34 measures met or exceeded the targets set.</p> |

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| | <p>Work started to improve the look and feel of the town centre's open spaces.</p> <p>Informal childcare and caring arrangements allowed to continue in local areas of intervention.</p> |
| 20 th September | New support package to support and enforce self-isolation (£500 for those on lower incomes who cannot work from home and have lost income as a result) |
| 18 th September | <p>Venues required by law to record contact details.</p> <p>Awareness raising activity in local communities to commence (rolling programme). Starting in neighbourhoods with low recorded testing (Swallownest, Dinnington and Kiveton Park).</p> <p>New ASC winter plan will aim to curb the spread of infections in care settings throughout the winter months. Letter sent to LA outlining expectations.</p> |
| 17 th September | <p>£91.5m allocated to 274 councils to provide housing support to vulnerable people. Additional £13.5m will be used to enable local authorities to tackle new or emerging challenges. Bids also submitted for £161m to help secure 3,300 longer-term homes.</p> <p>Care providers to be given an extra £546m to bolster infection control and help protect residents and staff throughout winter.</p> |
| 15 th September | <p>Launch of new Rotherham education, health and care Hub.</p> <p>Rotherham residents urged to be cautious as infection rates increased.</p> |
| 16 th September | <p>Further 25 charities will receive a share of £1 million boost as part of the government's £10 million emergency fund.</p> <p>Support extended to stop business evictions until the end of 2020.</p> <p>Plans to invest £24 million in local transport over the next four years as part of the "£24m to '24" Roads Programme.</p> |
| 14 th September | <p>Social gatherings of more than 6 people banned (in any setting, indoors or outdoors, at home or in the pub)</p> <p>Gyms, leisure centres and swimming pools at Aston-cum-Aughton, Maltby and Wath upon Dearne Leisure Centres, as well as Rotherham Leisure Complex reopened.</p> <p>Maltby library re-opened.</p> |
| 10 th September | <p>Update on new social distancing rules.</p> <p>Mental health small grants available for up to £3,000 for charities, community groups and not for profit organisations.</p> |
| 9 th September | <p>PM press conference statement introducing the new rule of 6. Premises also legally required to request contact details, support LA's to make faster use of powers and boost enforcement capacity, restricted opening hours in premises.</p> <p>New campaign to prevent spread of coronavirus indoors during winter.</p> <p>Every Mind Matters campaign launched (Mental health campaign supports the wellbeing of children, young people and their parents).</p> |
| 8 th September | Awareness raising activity in Rotherham College commenced (over 3 weeks). |
| 7 th September | Letter sent to LA's re residential tenancies and extension of emergency |

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| | <p>measures regarding notice periods which came into force 29 August 2020.</p> <p>Ofqual confirmed arrangements for vocational and technical qualification assessments in 2021.</p> <p>Worked with Rotherham College to promote COVID safety to young people throughout September.</p> |
| 5 th September | <p>Government delivered 250,000 clear face masks to support people with hearing loss.</p> <p>£7.2m invested in 20 new research projects to address the impact of COVID-19 on the world's most vulnerable communities.</p> <p>Diversity Festival online due to Rotherham Show being cancelled.</p> <p>Wildflower Park launched - a giant 180m land art maze by Landmark Collective at Clifton Park.</p> <p>Clifton Park museum reopened, offering new exhibitions and transformed gallery spaces.</p> <p>Phased re-opening of Rotherham libraries commenced - Brinsworth, Thurcroft and Wath reopened.</p> |
| 4 th September | <p>Seven-day rate of infection in Rotherham increased to 9.8 per 100,000 from 6.4 previous week. There were also 29 positive cases, compared to 16 previous week.</p> <p>MHCLG released claim form for Covid income compensation scheme for loss of fees and charges income. Claims to be submitted by 30th September.</p> <p>August Covid Financial Monitoring return submitted to MHCLG.</p> <p>Seven-month programme has been launched, aimed at bringing residents and communities together (cultural events and installations, including talks, performances and screenings, plus a series of toolkits and guides.</p> <p>Primark's Meadowhall donated £1,800 worth of board games to the Rotherham Food for People in Crisis Partnership.</p> <p>Listening Ear South Yorkshire Bereavement Service extended until December to help people who lost loved ones during the pandemic.</p> <p>Began local reverse contact tracing for clusters of cases.</p> |
| 3 rd September | <p>New Lighthouse Lab set to open near Loughborough by the end of September to increase test and trace capacity.</p> <p>Letter sent to schools and college leaders from Public Health England and NHS Test and Trace with further advice regarding coronavirus testing and shielding.</p> <p>£500 million funding package to be invested in next generation testing technology and increased testing capacity.</p> |
| 2 nd September | <p>New kickstart scheme opened for employer applications - £2b scheme offering 6-month placements for those ages 16-24 claiming UC and at risk of long term unemployment. First placements from Nov.</p> <p>Awareness raising activity in Broom Valley for 2 days (2nd and 4th Sept).</p> |
| 1 st September | <p>CCGs resumed NHS Continuing Healthcare assessments.</p> <p>Rotherham residents praised after drop in Covid cases.</p> |
| August | |

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| w/c 31 st August | Children started to return to schools across Rotherham. |
| 29 th August | Changes to residential tenancy regulations brought into force requiring landlords to give tenants six months' notice of their intention to seek possession, except in the most serious cases. |
| 28 th August | New contingency planning guidance published for education settings in local lockdown areas. |
| 27 th August | <p>New payment for people self-isolating in highest risk areas - those eligible who test positive for the virus will receive £130 for their 10-day period of self-isolation. Other members of their household, who have to self-isolate for 14 days, will be entitled to a payment of £182. Non-household contacts advised to self-isolate through NHS Test and Trace will also be entitled to a payment of up to £182, tailored to the individual length of their isolation period.</p> <p>Test and trace reached almost 300,000 people.</p> <p>Rotherham hospital discharged the remaining covid patient – for the first time since March 0 covid patients.</p> <p>All notices seeking possession had the notice period extended from 3 to 6 months with immediate effect.</p> <p>Play areas re-opened.</p> |
| 25 th August | Over 64m meals claimed Eat Out to Help Out Scheme. |
| 24 th August | <p>Income compensation scheme announced for lost sales, fees and charges – LAs to absorb 5% of losses and Government to compensate 75p in every pound thereafter.</p> <p>Rotherham East Incident Management Team set up in response to local community COVID outbreak.</p> |
| w/c 24 th August | <p>Rates of infection in Rotherham decreased, with the seven-day average infection rate reducing to 6.4 per 100,000, falling from a rate of 20 previous week which is considerably lower than those on the watchlist. Average for England 11.3.</p> <p>New Adult Social Care Skills Academy established to support adult social care employers find, recruit and train local people who want to start a career caring for adults at home or in residential care homes.</p> |
| 23 rd August | Statement on the evidence of risks and benefits to health from schools and childcare settings reopening. |
| 21 st August | <p>People needing additional follow-on care after being discharged from hospital to be supported by £588m fund to cover adult social care or the immediate costs of care in their own home from 1st Sept.</p> <p>Ban on evictions extended for 4 weeks and new 6-month notice periods to be in place until at least 31 March 2021.</p> <p>MTU and information stand (over two days) in Maltby following community cluster of positive cases.</p> |
| 20 th August | <p>GCSE results announced.</p> <p>Awareness raising activity in Maltby for 2 days.</p> |
| 19 th August | 10,000 people signed up to COVID-19 immunity study. |

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| | Annual elections canvass begun. |
| 18 th August | Statement on grading vocational and technical qualifications. The forming of The National Institute for Health Protection. |
| 17 th August | Government and Ofqual, the exam regulator, announced that teacher predicted grades will now be used both for A Level and GCSE results. Public encouraged to register for COVID-19 vaccine trials 100,000 signed up. Rotherham patients needing hospitalisation for Covid-19 now treated at the Hallamshire's centre for infectious diseases. Pop up libraries in parks throughout August. Daily update on positive test information provided to the CEX. |
| 16 th August | The National Academy for Social Prescribing (NASP) awarded £5m in funding to support people to stay connected and maintain their health and wellbeing. Business rates and grant support to local businesses scheme closed. 586 new homelessness cases since 30th March/prevented from rough sleeping. 184 staff off sick (4) covid related sickness and 119 staff at home and unable to work. |
| 15 th August | Re-opening of indoor play centres, casinos, bowling alleys, skating rinks, close contact beauty treatments, some indoor performances, including theatres and music venues and wedding receptions for up to 30 guests resumed. Small number of sporting events and business events/conferences with limited spectators also piloted to resume from 1 st October. Playgrounds in Clifton Park and Rother Valley Country Park reopened. Others to follow |
| 14 th August | UK government secures new COVID-19 vaccines and backs global clinical trial. Working with schools to put social distancing measures in place for the new academic year. |
| 13 th August | Series of tough new enforcement measures targeting serious breaches of social distancing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fines doubles to a maximum of £3,200 for those who repeatedly flout face rules • New fines for people hosting raves or other unlawful gatherings of more than 30 people <p>Test and Trace service reaches more than 250,000 people since launch.</p> <p>Findings published by Imperial College London today suggest that 6% of the population in England, around 3.4m people, have been infected with COVID-</p> |

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| | <p>19.</p> <p>A level results announced.</p> |
| 12 th August | <p>Daily reported COVID deaths changed to deaths that occurred within 28 days of the first laboratory-confirmed positive COVID test.</p> <p>£8m additional funding for LAs to support pupils' and students' wellbeing and psychosocial recovery as they return to full-time education in autumn 2020.</p> <p>Ofsted will start carrying out visits to some nurseries and childminders from September 2020.</p> <p>Approval to stock 4 months PPE, rather than 3, to ensure adequate supply for winter period.</p> <p>Pixel Phones (35) donated by Sheffield University distributed to Adult 65+ care homes in 'lockdown' to support residents with video calling and to maintain contact with families.</p> |
| 11 th August | <p>Rotherham removed from the Government's Covid-19 area of concern watchlist.</p> <p>Yorkshire councils joined forces in bid for extra funds to support care homes and low-income families.</p> <p>Maltby Incident Management Team set up in response to local community COVID outbreak.</p> |
| 10 th August | <p>NHS Test and Trace and Public Health England to extend partnership with LAs to reach more people testing positive and their contacts.</p> <p>Shoppers urged to visit their local high street and support businesses during Shop Local Week.</p> <p>Davies Court closed for admissions.</p> |
| 8 th August | <p>Face coverings became compulsory in more indoor venues, including museums and places of worship.</p> <p>New funding for LAs to ease pressure on public transport as children return in September - local transport authorities to receive £40m funding for the autumn term</p> |
| 7 th August | <p>One of the world's largest comprehensive research studies into the long-term health impacts of COVID-19 on hospitalised patients launched.</p> <p>Register for DEFRA food delivery referrals scheme (priority online shopping with Tesco & Iceland).</p> |
| 6 th August | <p>Arrangements confirmed for appeals on AS, A level and GCSE grading in summer 2020.</p> <p>Home Office stated move-on will resume and those with positive decisions will need to move on from their accommodation.</p> <p>Repairs returned to a 90% normal service, with the exception of large internal works.</p> <p>Communal cleaning reinstated.</p> |

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| | Local covid response activity in Broom Valley for 2 days. |
| 4 th August | Agreed use for the LA Emergency Assistance Grant for food and essential supplies by DEFRA. |
| 3 rd August | <p>Eat Out to Help Out scheme launched (offering discount Mon – Weds throughout August in participating outlets).</p> <p>New leadership programmes to help small businesses including small business training; £20 million.</p> <p>Ofqual confirmed changes to GCSEs, AS and A levels for 2021.</p> <p>New 'order and collect' service available to library users at 11 of Rotherham Libraries.</p> <p>CYPS Social Care pilot commenced focussed around staff returning to Riverside House on a rota basis.</p> <p>Housing marketing and sales activity resumed.</p> |
| 1 st August | <p>Shielding guidance for the clinically extremely vulnerable paused.</p> <p>Mandatory MOT testing reintroduced.</p> |
| July | |
| 31 st July | <p>Re-opening of casinos, bowling alleys, skating rinks, close contact beauty treatments and some indoor performance postponed for two weeks, including wedding receptions for 30 guests.</p> <p>Registered health and care professionals travelling to the England from high-risk countries required to self-isolate for 14 days.</p> <p>New Job Retention Bonus were unveiled.</p> <p>Changes to the growth rate and R value - latest growth rate for the whole of the UK between -1% to -4% and the R estimate for the UK is between 0.8-0.9.</p> <p>Sharp decline in infection rate but Rotherham still 'area of concern' - 7-day infection rate fell from 23.8 per 100,000 to 11.3 per 100,000 since previous week.</p> |
| 30 th July | <p>NHS Test and Trace launches campaign to encourage everyone with symptoms to get a free test.</p> <p>Self-isolation period extended to 10 days for those in the community with COVID-19 symptoms or a positive test result.</p> <p>Modification notice - registration requirements for temporary pupils during the coronavirus.</p> <p>Disapply offences for non-attendance in schools during the coronavirus.</p> <p>School inspection legislative changes.</p> <p>£20m new grants to boost recovery of small businesses.</p> |
| 29 th July | Deal announced to secure early access to a promising new vaccine. |

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| | <p>Forge Island walk-in testing centre opened.</p> |
| 27 th July | <p>New national campaign to encourage millions of adults to kick start their health and reduce their risk of serious illness.</p> <p>Adult Social Care Infection Control Fund.</p> <p>The Year Ahead Plan themes agreed.</p> |
| 25 th July | <p>Indoor gyms, pools and leisure centres reopened</p> |
| 24 th July | <p>Face coverings became mandatory in shops.</p> <p>Set out a list of face covering exemptions.</p> <p>CYPS social work virtual visits ceased (can continue as an addition, but not instead of physical visits).</p> |
| 23 rd July | <p>Rotherham is highlighted as 'area of concern' by government.</p> <p>Awareness raising activity in Broom Valley for 2 days.</p> <p>First COVID Outbreak Delivery Group (Bronze) meeting (daily meetings)</p> |
| 22 nd July | <p>Care home residents reunited with friends and family following the publication of new guidance.</p> <p>Car driving tests restarted.</p> |
| 21 st July | <p>Ofqual Summer Symposium 2020 Annual event covering arrangements for awarding and standardising grades in GCSEs, AS and A levels.</p> <p>Broom Valley Incident Management Team set up in response to local community COVID outbreak</p> |
| 20 th July | <p>Early years settings no longer have to operate in 'bubbles'.</p> <p>10,000 people came forward to get tested at the two drive-through Mobile Testing Units (MTU's) set up in the Borough.</p> <p>Postponed the re-opening of Rotherham Civic Theatre until Spring 2021.</p> <p>Marriages and Civil Partnerships able to take place at licensed venues across the Rotherham Borough.</p> <p>Launch of Wellbeing Survey for staff.</p> |
| 18 th July | <p>Next Steps Accommodation Programme launched £266m housing fund for vulnerable people to help ensure 15,000 people continue to have a safe place to stay.</p> |
| 17 th July | <p>New framework setting out how to manage COVID-19 outbreaks through the use of national and local expertise published.</p> <p>Business events and conferences given go ahead to resume from 1st October.</p> <p>Restrictions on the length of funeral services and the number of mourners allowed to attend services relaxed in line with the latest Government advice – 45 minutes allocations; 30 mourners.</p> |
| 16 th July | <p>£500m additional funding for LAs</p> <p>Scheme launched to support English universities at risk of insolvency.</p> |

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| | Plans announced for all children to return to school in September. |
| 15 th July | Over 120,000 volunteers tested across England between 1 May and 1 June as part of the country's largest study into coronavirus |
| 14 th July | 87.45% CYPS social work visits to children/young people since lockdown completed in person (social worker has seen the child/young person physically) WhatsApp aided effective communication between CYPS social workers, children, young people and their carers. |
| 13 th July | Awarded £373,328.79 LA Emergency Assistance Grant for Food and essential supplies by DEFRA. Beauty salons, nail bars and tattoo studios reopened. People in Rotherham urged to get tested for COVID-19, whether they have symptoms or not. Test centres at Herringthorpe and at Midland Road. Planning relaxations to support local businesses. |
| 12 th July | New planning rules to protect our cultural heritage |
| 11 th July | Performing arts outdoor performances resumed. Outdoor pools reopened. Gulliver's Valley opened |
| 10 th July | Self-isolation lifted for lower risk countries. Reducing the risk in adult social care guidance. |
| 9 th July | Recovery Advice for Business scheme launched providing small firms access to free, one-to-one advice with an expert adviser. |
| 6 th July | Those shielding allowed to meet up to 5 other people outside home; may form support bubble with one other single adult household. Housing mutual exchange services offer restarted. |
| 5 th July | NHS 72 nd Birthday LA discretionary business grant fund closed. |
| 4 th July | Number of establishments opened: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hotels, B&Bs, self-contained holiday accommodation, caravan parks and campsites • Places of worship and libraries • Restaurants and cafes • Bars, pubs and social clubs • Cinemas and bingo halls • Museums and galleries • Hair salons and barbers • Outdoor playground and gyms • Theme parks and arcades • Community centres. Driving lessons and theory tests restarted. Public asked to leave a name and number with venues to help stop the spread. |

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| | <p>Social distancing 1m plus.</p> <p>Able to meet in groups of 6 outside or 2 households in any setting.</p> <p>Household will be able to meet with one other household at a time, including staying over.</p> <p>Nightclubs, swimming pools and indoor gyms to remain closed.</p> <p>Waleswood Caravan and Camping site reopened. Licensing officers worked with South Yorkshire Police and the Community Protection Unit to ensure licensed premises complied with the guidance.</p> |
| 3 rd July | <p>Local Government Association annual conference 2020: Minister for Regional Growth and Local Government's speech.</p> <p>National statistics for the fourth week of the NHS Test & Trace service published. Between 18th - 24 June, 297,427 people tested for COVID-19. Of these, 6,183 people tested positive, a decrease of 740 on the previous week.</p> <p>Regular retesting for care homes staff and residents.</p> <p>First Outbreak Engagement Board took place.</p> <p>Launch of Your Wellbeing & Rotherham Leader Wellbeing Guides for staff.</p> |
| 2 nd July | <p>Guidance published for fully opening schools and higher education facilities.</p> <p>More than 130,000 people at risk of unknowingly spreading coronavirus have been contacted by NHS Test and Trace.</p> <p>Ofqual launches consultation on 2021 exams and assessments.</p> <p>Arrangement for examination and assessments in 2020/21.</p> <p>New Homelessness statutory code of guidance issued.</p> <p>New statutory guidance issued on social housing for members of the Armed Forces community.</p> <p>Rotherham Show cancelled.</p> <p>Area Housing Teams resumed external inspections in relation to boundary checks.</p> <p>Agreement to increase temporary accommodation portfolio by 25 in October 2020.</p> |
| 1 st July | <p>Businesses had flexibility to bring furloughed employees back to work part time as part of the plans to re-open the UK</p> <p>Rotherham mentioned in press coverage re areas with relatively high covid infection rates.</p> |
| June | |
| 30 th June | <p>Office for National Statistics published figures showing the occupations of people who have passed away due to Covid-19.</p> <p>Ward Plans and priorities agreed (capturing local response from Members to the pandemic)</p> |

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| 29 th June | <p>SAGE rate of infection decreased to manageable levels. Seven-day rolling average of new positive cases 1,147 down from 1,543 two weeks previous, and down from a peak of 5,195 on 14th April.</p> <p>87,000 people told to self-isolate who might otherwise have unwittingly transmitted the virus through the new NHS Test and Trace service.</p> <p>Leicester became the first city in Britain to be placed in a local lockdown.</p> <p>NHS test and trace surveillance data for Rotherham included in weekly data situation report.</p> <p>Local Outbreak Control Plan went live.</p> <p>Housing valuations/inspections resumed external only.</p> |
| 28 th June | Letter sent to LA's urging to ensure proper public access to tips and toilets. |
| 27 th June | £200m to help innovative businesses bounce back |
| 26 th June | <p>£22m of emergency funding to help organisations providing support for victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence.</p> <p>2 billion items of PPE delivered to frontline services since the start of the pandemic.</p> <p>Corporate Insolvency and Governance Act came into force.</p> <p>Agreed to maintain payments and support to suppliers to pay suppliers as quickly as possible; consider relief/additional payments where needed until October 2020.</p> |
| 25 th June | More pubs, restaurants and cafes to be able to serve customers outdoors in plans announced |
| 24 th June | <p>£105m announced to keep rough sleepers safe and off the streets during pandemic.</p> <p>£16 million in funding will be made available this financial year – bringing the total to £23 million – to tackle the substance dependence treatment needs.</p> <p>Support for EEA rough sleepers - Suspending an EU derogation to enable LA's to accommodate and support a specific group of rough sleeping EEA nationals for up to 12 weeks.</p> |
| 23 rd June | PM announced further relaxations. |
| 22 nd June | Some School Crossing patrol operations resumed. |
| 20 th June | Hundreds of people have gathered for Black Lives Matter protests in cities across England. |
| 19 th June | <p>Growth rate for the UK as a whole is -4% to -2% and the R estimate for the UK, as a whole, remains at 0.7-0.9.</p> <p>Alert level has been reduced from Level 4 (A COVID-19 epidemic is in general circulation; transmission is high or rising exponentially) to Level 3 (A COVID-19 epidemic is in general circulation).</p> |
| 15 th June | <p>Face coverings became mandatory on public transport.</p> <p>Face masks and coverings to be worn by all NHS hospital staff and visitors.</p> <p>Reopening of non-essential retail, ranging from department stores to small,</p> |

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| | <p>independent shops.</p> <p>Secondary schools began to provide some face-to-face contact time for years 10 and 12.</p> <p>Places of worship able to reopen for individual prayer.</p> <p>Government-funded Imperial College COVID-19 vaccine moves into first human trials.</p> |
| 13 th June | <p>Single household “support bubble” allowed.</p> <p>Places of worship limited opening.</p> |
| 12 th June | <p>Letters authorising the early release of 2 grants to LA’s totalling £3.4 billion to support businesses.</p> |
| 11 th June | <p>Allocations of £300m for LAs to support test and trace services and develop local plans.</p> <p>£63 million for local authorities to assist those struggling to afford food and other essentials.</p> |
| 9 th June | <p>Procurement Policy Note set out information and guidance for public bodies on payment of suppliers to ensure service continuity.</p> <p>Tuesday street market returned.</p> <p>First COVID-19 Health Protection Board took place.</p> |
| 8 th June | <p>Travelling to the UK requires 14-day isolation.</p> <p>Dental practices reopen.</p> <p>Testing for care home residents (under 65).</p> <p>Hotel accommodation acquired for asylum seekers.</p> |
| 7 th June | <p>Over 130 charities to benefit from £6m of government funding to continue work with rough sleepers.</p> |
| 6 th June | <p>Target date for test kits to every care home for over-65s.</p> |
| 5 th June | <p>Over 100 charities providing services for domestic abuse survivors to benefit from £8.1m for 1,500 refuge spaces and specialist support.</p> <p>Ban on evictions extended until 23rd August.</p> <p>In total 5,214,277 tests carried out.</p> <p>Death toll exceeded 40,000.</p> <p>PDR deadline extended to end September.</p> |
| 4 th June | <p>Reports show inequalities in covid-19 death rates.</p> <p>Rotherham Hub responded to almost 3,000 requests.</p> <p>First virtual Planning Board.</p> |
| 3 rd June | <p>First full Council meeting online</p> |
| 1 st June | <p>Lockdown measures eased:</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary schools Yr 1 and Yr 6 • Nurseries and early years • Outdoor markets and car showrooms • Six people able to meet outdoors if remain two metres apart • Those shielding able to spend time outdoors <p>Resumed competitive sport safely behind closed doors.</p> <p>Final grant announced for those self-employed (Self-Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS), up to a maximum of £6,570.</p> <p>Outdoor covered market reopened.</p> <p>51 of the 63 local primaries confirmed providing children from at least one of the Y6, Y1 or reception year groups.</p> <p>Lettings recommenced.</p> |
| May | |
| 30 th May | UK reached the 200,000 testing capacity target, including capacity for 40,000 antibody tests a day |
| 29 th May | <p>£5m funding given to mental health community projects.</p> <p>Rotherham Council's Museums, Arts and Heritage team successful in securing £38,174 from Historic England as part of its COVID-19 Emergency Funding.</p> |
| 28 th May | <p>Government launched new test and trace service.</p> <p>Letter sent to LA's regarding rough sleepers to protect the most vulnerable and start planning the next steps for accommodating and supporting people to move on from emergency accommodation.</p> <p>The first black lives matter protests in the United Kingdom.</p> <p>First virtual Licensing Board Sub-Committee.</p> |
| 27 th May | Safer Rotherham Partnership raised awareness about radicalisation |
| 26 th May | <p>Hundreds of Rotherham children joined forces to create a touching musical tribute to everyone in the local education community.</p> <p>First Covid death at Rotherham Hospice.</p> |
| 24 th May | <p>£50m announced to boost to support the recovery of high streets</p> <p>Radical plans to provide thousands of long-term, safe homes for vulnerable rough sleepers taken off the streets</p> <p>£300m additional funding for LA's to develop tailored outbreak control plans and support test and trace</p> |
| 22 nd May | <p>£22m announced for Mental health, ambulance, social care, learning disabilities, autism and dementia charities.</p> <p>Ofqual arrangements for awarding calculated grades in GCSEs, AS and A levels published.</p> <p>New measures at the UK border to guard against a second wave announced.</p> |
| 21 st May | New antibody tests announced and available to NHS and care staff, eligible patients and care residents to see if they have had coronavirus. |

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| | <p>Tenancy notice periods have been extended to three months in the Coronavirus Act legislation 2020.</p> <p>Bin lorries have a colourful new look and thank you message</p> |
| 20 th May | <p>£150m to help charities, social enterprises and vulnerable individuals during the coronavirus outbreak.</p> <p>Changes to the Care Act 2014 to help local authorities prioritise care and support.</p> |
| 19 th May | <p>£37m settlement to help low-income families with seriously ill or disabled children with the cost of equipment, goods or services - £10m committed to address difficulties presented by pandemic.</p> <p>Small and medium-sized employers to recover Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) payments they have made to their employees from 26th May.</p> |
| 19 th May | <p>Death toll exceeded 35,000</p> <p>Preparations underway to assist schools to reopen on 1st June.</p> <p>First unpaid carers meetings.</p> |
| 18 th May | <p>Any person over the age of five can now be tested.</p> <p>Graphical snapshot of response produced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,233 volunteers • 435 organisations joined hub • 2,333 requests for support • 1,335 food parcels delivered • 6,319 rent support calls • 113 emergency homes to prevent homelessness • 57,289 calls answered • 963,640 PPE items supplied • 4,889 safe and well calls • 535 council tax deferrals • 3,189 business grants paid, totalling £36.1m <p>1,310 contacts a week with vulnerable children and families.</p> |
| 15 th May | <p>Parks are re-opened with an increased staffing presence</p> |
| 13 th May | <p>Lockdown measures formally eased:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two people from different households able to meet in outdoor settings and parks • Some people returned to work who were unable to work from home • Garden centres able to open, golf courses, outdoor tennis and basketball courts can be used, and people able to swim in lakes and sea • Able to drive to outdoor open spaces with members of the same household • Able to sunbath and relax in a public place <p>Self-employment income support scheme opened.</p> |
| 12 th May | <p>Furlough scheme extended until October.</p> <p>Council agreed £1.5 million care sector support.</p> <p>Agreed to transfer ownership of digital devices for children and young people</p> |

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| | <p>to individual schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 963 to support for care leavers and children with social workers who do not currently have a laptop or tablet to access social care services <p>27 to provide digital devices for the most disadvantaged yr 10 children who would otherwise not have access</p> |
| 11 th May | <p>50-page document published giving details for lifting lockdown/roadmap to recovery.</p> <p>First virtual meeting of Cabinet.</p> <p>Garden Waste service resumed.</p> |
| 10 th May | <p>PM announces conditional plan to reopen society. 'Stay alert. Control the virus. Save lives', including COVID Alert Level System, consisting of 5 levels, based on the R value and the number of new cases.</p> |
| 9 th May | <p>Increased the number of services available at East Herringthorpe Crematorium.</p> |
| 6 th May | <p>Death toll exceeded 30,000.</p> <p>Household Waste Recycling Centres re-open for essential waste</p> |
| 5 th May | <p>NHS contact tracing app deployed in Isle of Wight.</p> <p>Sub-Scheme of Delegation for Director of R&E amended to discharge planning functions of Council.</p> <p>Letter sent to the parents and carers of all children with an EHCP with details of support arrangements.</p> |
| 4 th May | <p>Mobile Testing Unit at New York Stadium's car park for three days.</p> |
| 1 st May | <p>The Special Educational Needs and Disability (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020.</p> |
| April | |
| 29 th April | <p>Care home deaths included in daily reporting for first time.</p> <p>First Silver Recovery meeting.</p> <p>Rainbow painted outside Rotherham Hospital to say thank you to our NHS colleagues and key workers.</p> <p>Over 1,800 requests for support since the Community Hub was launched a month ago.</p> <p>More than 1,000 emergency food parcels have now been distributed.</p> <p>Online Ward Housing Hubs Platform introduced.</p> |
| 27 th April | <p>Landlords given longer to complete new selective licensing scheme applications.</p> <p>CYPS practice, responses and timescales constantly reviewed in line with staffing levels and service demand.</p> <p>Sheffield County Court suspended all new possession claims for further six months until October 2020.</p> <p>Shopping Voucher Scheme established with Tesco and Morrisons.</p> |
| 25 th April | <p>Death toll exceeded 20,000</p> |

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| 24 th April | <p>The Adoption and Children (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 bill until 24th September.</p> <p>First virtual scrutiny meeting.</p> |
| 23 rd April | <p>All key workers eligible for testing.</p> <p>Drive through test centres increased</p> |
| 23 rd April | <p>East Herringthorpe cemetery reopened.</p> <p>Seven Rotherham businesses have been served with Prohibition Notices by Rotherham Council for breaching restrictions.</p> <p>2,700 businesses received Covid-19 financial support worth over £30 million.</p> |
| 21 st April | <p>First HoC video-link debate</p> <p>Seven of eight cemeteries reopened - East Herringthorpe Cemetery and Crematorium remained closed apart from when funerals are taking place.</p> <p>Police launched new online portal to report Domestic Abuse.</p> <p>Rotherham Heroes Volunteer expenses process agreed.</p> |
| 20 th April | <p>Future fund announced - loans between £125,000 to £5m for innovative companies which are facing financing difficulties.</p> <p>Testing for Key Workers available in Rotherham.</p> <p>New bereavement support service launched in partnership with SY LAs.</p> <p>Significant increase in the number of vulnerable and key worker's children attending school - 540 children attended, the highest number since early April.</p> <p>Government data published demonstrated Rotherham ahead in paying business rates relief and grant support measures – Rotherham 59% in comparison to 51% nationwide.</p> <p>Virtual Ward Member briefings commenced.</p> |
| 19 th April | <p>Vulnerable and disadvantaged young people across the country will receive free laptops.</p> <p>Deaths peaked in Rotherham w/e 19th April (58 deaths).</p> |
| 18 th April | <p>Death toll exceeded 15,000</p> <p>Second round of LA funding announced.</p> |
| 17 th April | <p>Contingency plans agreed for Waverley Academy.</p> <p>New domestic abuse web chat facility for those that find it safer to communicate online.</p> <p>Agreement between South and West Yorkshire authorities to procure PPE jointly (through Bradford Council).</p> |
| 16 th April | <p>Lockdown extended by three weeks.</p> <p>Burial grounds re-opened.</p> <p>Yorkshire Day cancelled.</p> |

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| 15 th April | <p>Testing to be offered to “everyone who needs one” in social care settings.</p> <p>COVID-19 adult social care action plan.</p> <p>Plan to ensure that critical personal protective equipment (PPE) is delivered to those on the frontline.</p> <p>New arrangements to ensure continued support and protection for victims of Domestic Abuse.</p> |
| 14 th April | <p>New positive cases across the UK peaked at 5,195; the number of daily deaths peaked at 943 (seven-day rolling average).</p> <p>Home working guidance updated.</p> |
| 12 th April | <p>Death toll exceeded 10,000</p> |
| 9 th April | <p>Enacted social care guidance from Ofsted.</p> <p>Over the last few weeks housed 48 homeless households.</p> <p>Hotline established to report businesses breaching regulations.</p> <p>Financial support for local businesses topped £19.1m.</p> <p>First PPE distributed to Care Homes from the Council as the Supplier of Last Resort.</p> <p>First TRFT hospital surveillance report.</p> |
| 8 th April | <p>Payment and support to suppliers agreed to pay suppliers as quickly as possible; consider relief/additional payments.</p> <p>Reduced public transport services.</p> <p>Adult Social Care Micro Site Developed to support care and support independent/voluntary sector providers (Links to National Guidance, Local Guidance, Local links eg webforms, Newsfeed)</p> <p>Online web form produced to support care and support providers to order/access PPE via the Council where supply chains unable to support.</p> |
| 7 th April | <p>First weekly update from the Director of Public Health.</p> <p>First death in the community.</p> |
| 6 th April | <p>Death toll exceeded 5,000</p> <p>PM enters intensive care.</p> <p>Emergency food supplies - distribution of 15.52 tonnes of food from Fairshare, with a retail value of £27,022 to people across Rotherham.</p> <p>Support for Rotherham businesses topped £12m.</p> <p>Death registration and funeral protocol (Covid-19) published.</p> <p>Housing on-site valuations/inspections not possible.</p> |
| 3 rd April | <p>NHS Nightingale London opened.</p> <p>£200 discount per household offered to Rotherham residents hardest hit financially to help with Council Tax – discount made to more than 13,000 households. Those who lost a significant part of their household income also</p> |

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| | <p>eligible to apply for support.</p> <p>Schools to remain open throughout the Easter break for vulnerable children and the children of key workers.</p> <p>Updated guidance for Council tenants and leaseholders.</p> <p>Number not in work and unable to work from home due to COVID-19 peaked at 324 w/e 3/4/20.</p> <p>Temporary closure of Neighbourhood Centres.</p> |
| 2 nd April | <p>Council Tax Hardship Support agreed.</p> <p>First care home death.</p> <p>Housing lettings postponed.</p> |
| 1 st April | <p>Notification to healthcare organisations, GPs, local authorities and arm's length bodies that they should share information (updated 6th August)</p> <p>Home Care Provider payments agreed (95% planned hours on a weekly basis for 12 weeks; £200k contingency fund established)</p> <p>Over 600 people signed up to be Rotherham Heroes and responded to 235 requests for assistance, majority emergency food parcel deliveries.</p> <p>More than £7.26m paid to 661 businesses through various coronavirus support grants in the last two days.</p> |
| March | |
| 31 st March | <p>Guidance for care of the deceased with suspected or confirmed coronavirus.</p> <p>Housing Contractors reduced to working on urgent jobs only.</p> |
| 30 th March | <p>Licensing Service postpone testing of vehicles and applicants.</p> <p>Staff redeployed to keep critical services going.</p> <p>Cemeteries, burial grounds and crematoria closed to the public (except for funeral services) and the number of people allowed to attend funeral services restricted.</p> <p>Opening of Riverside House foodbank.</p> <p>First Rotherham Community Hub Tactical Group meeting.</p> |
| 28 th March | <p>PM letter to the nation outlining guidance to follow.</p> |
| 27 th March | <p>New Right to Buy legislation Introduced.</p> <p>Closure of Household Waste Recycling Centres for six weeks.</p> <p>Garden waste service suspended.</p> <p>Suspension of School Crossing Patrols.</p> <p>Armed forces event cancelled.</p> <p>Decrease in vulnerable children and children of key workers in school to around 700.</p> |

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| | <p>First items of PPE distributed to Council services from specific Covid-19 stores.</p> <p>Staff sickness peaked w/e 27/3/20 - 270 staff off sick (39 covid related).</p> |
| 26 th March | <p>First 'clap for carers' evening.</p> <p>Support for self employed – to be paid 80% of profits, up to £2,500 a month.</p> <p>Markets opening hours reduced.</p> <p>Free parking given to NHS and police.</p> <p>Adult Social Care – Frequently Asked Questions – Established for Independent/voluntary sector care and support provider services.</p> <p>Daily Situation Report for front facing critical services developed (care homes and home care services).</p> |
| 25 th March | <p>Arts Council has announced a £160m national funding package to support venues and individuals.</p> <p>First Directorate Situation Reports presented to Gold Group.</p> <p>Launch of the Rotherham Community Hub and Rotherham Heroes Volunteer Programme.</p> <p>Business rate bill recalculated for those already receiving retail relief and online claim form created for those not yet claiming relief.</p> |
| 24 th March | <p>NHS Nightingale programme announced.</p> <p>£500m Hardship Fund to provide council tax relief to vulnerable people and households - Rotherham to receive a grant of £2.864m.</p> <p>Closure of a number of buildings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rotherham Town Hall • Libraries and Community Hubs • Joint service centres at Maltby, Rawmarsh and Aston. GP services remained contactable • All housing neighbourhood buildings close for community events • Customer service centres • Civic Theatre • Museum <p>Temporary closure of Adult Social Care buildings.</p> <p>Face to face customer services closed and Contact Centre capacity increased.</p> <p>Customers signposted to telephone and online services.</p> <p>Imposed strict social distancing measures at Household Waste sites.</p> <p>Imposed strict social distancing measures at parks, including closing play areas and suspending activities.</p> <p>Postponed all wedding and ceremonial services.</p> |

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| | <p>Cancelled markets, except those selling food or essential cleaning products.</p> <p>Postponed all events until further notice.</p> <p>School Crossing patrol operations suspended until further notice.</p> |
| 23 rd March | <p>Lockdown announced. 'Stay at Home. Protect the NHS. Save Lives'</p> <p>Moved to home working where appropriate.</p> <p>Parish Council liaison conference calls commenced (fortnightly).</p> |
| 20 th March | <p>Furlough scheme announced and schools, pubs and restaurants closed.</p> <p>Supplier Relief due to coronavirus (Covid-19) Procurement Policy Note set out information and guidance for public bodies on payment of their suppliers to ensure service continuity during and after the outbreak.</p> <p>Aston Leisure Centre, Maltby Leisure Centre, Rotherham Leisure Centre, Wath Leisure Centre; Riverside Café closed.</p> <p>First death in Rotherham (occurred in hospital).</p> |
| 19 th March | <p>First round of funding for LAs.</p> <p>Free school meals national voucher scheme announced (£15 a week per child).</p> <p>First Gold meeting.</p> <p>First Daily data situation report produced for Gold Group.</p> <p>E form but in place for businesses to request support.</p> <p>First care home situation report.</p> |
| 18 th March | <p>First Tactical Group meeting.</p> <p>Council closed several public-facing council services (including All Children's Centres, Crowden Outdoor Education Centre, Rotherham Civic Theatre, Herringthorpe Stadium, caravan park and soft play Thrybergh Country Park).</p> <p>Integrated Discharge Team (IDT) Implemented new 3 hr discharge as per government guidance.</p> |
| 17 th March | <p>Financial package to support large and small business.</p> <p>People facing financial difficulty offered a three-month mortgage holiday.</p> <p>Critical Services document approved by Cabinet.</p> <p>First daily Covid update to staff.</p> |
| 16 th March | <p>People urged to work from home and 'avoid' pubs and restaurants by PM.</p> |
| 15 th March | <p>Vulnerable and over 70s told they may have to isolate in the coming weeks</p> <p>Supermarkets urge caution over panic buying.</p> <p>Incident Management hierarchy agreed by Gold.</p> |
| 11 th March | <p>First funding announced by Chancellor, increasing SSP and changing</p> |

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| | unemployment benefits. |
| | WHO declares global pandemic |
| 5 th March | First recorded death in the UK. |

Notes:

This document is constantly being updated to include new announcements and developments.

Businesses only able to open once risk assessment complete, in consultation with trade union representatives or workers, and confidence in risks being managed. Necessary steps required to ensure COVID-19 secure in line with the Health and Safety legislation.

Social distancing measures remain in place.