

Coronavirus Update

This month we have focused on the success of the vaccine programme and the efforts being made to reach ethnic minorities and the younger people as the race between infections and vaccine uptake continues.

There is now of course the news that a booster jab will be used for the elderly and most vulnerable in the Autumn

4 in 5 adults receive first dose of coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine

More than 4 in 5 adults in the UK have received their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, as the vaccination programme continues at unprecedented pace and scale. With 72,891,861 doses administered in total, 42,216,654 people across the UK have now been vaccinated with a first dose (80%), while 30,675,207 people have had both doses (58%).

New analysis by Public Health England (PHE) shows for the first time that 2 doses of COVID-19 vaccines are highly effective against hospitalisation from the Delta (B.1.61.2) variant. The analysis suggests the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine is 96% effective and the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine is 92% effective against hospitalisation after both doses.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/4-in-5-adults-receive-first-dose-of-coronavirus-covid-19-vaccine>

3 in 5 UK adults receive both doses of COVID-19 vaccine

More than three in five adults in the UK have received a second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, securing the fullest possible protection, as the vaccination programme continues at unprecedented pace and scale.

With 75,188,795 million doses administered in total, 43,448,680 million people across the UK have now been vaccinated with a first dose (82.5%), while 31,740,115 million people have had both doses (60.3%).

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/3-in-5-uk-adults-receive-both-doses-of-covid-19-vaccine>

Encouraging BAME communities in Test Valley to get vaccinated

The TVBC Community Engagement team have been working with our diverse communities to create a video to share on social media in order to encourage uptake of the COVID-19 vaccines.

To produce this video, they worked closely with local NHS colleagues, the Andover Chinese Community, Andover Muslim Cultural Association, Andover Nepalese Community and the Silk Route Charity in Romsey. Whose volunteers input and contribution was incredibly valuable. The video will also be available to view in Nepali and Arabic in the coming days.



Click this link to see the video https://youtu.be/y0Nho3av_Xo

NHS App reaches over 6 million users

NHS App

- ✓ order repeat prescriptions
- ✓ book and cancel appointments at your GP surgery
- ✓ view your GP medical record
- ✓ access NHS 111 online
- ✓ access to a range of other NHS services

NHS COVID-19

- ✓ use the app's QR scanner to check into places like bars and restaurants
- ✓ alerts you if you've been near other app users who have tested positive for coronavirus
- ✓ check the level of risk in your postcode district
- ✓ check your symptoms, book a test and get your result

1200 + 676

There are two NHS apps. One specifically for Covid-19 track and trace and the other which carries all other NHS information including evidence of your vaccine status.

There have been over 2 million new NHS App users since the COVID-19 vaccination status service was added on 17 May, with almost 5 million distinct users logging into the app in the last month. The positive impact of this increase in downloads is potentially life-saving as over 51,000 people have registered their organ donation preference via the app since 17 May. This is over 5 times more than in the month of April.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nhs-app-reaches-over-6-million-users>

Leading social media platforms unite to support COVID-19 vaccine drive

Leading social media platforms popular with young people including Snapchat, Reddit, TikTok, and YouTube, are supporting the vaccination programme by encouraging their users to get coronavirus (COVID-19) jabs.

The partnerships come as all adults aged 18 and over are invited to receive a vaccine in England as the vaccination programme continues at unprecedented pace and scale.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/leading-social-media-platforms-unite-to-support-covid-19-vaccine-drive>

Other Borough News

King's Somborne Computer Café

With grants from the Borough Councillors and the Parish Council this useful community project will be able to start up again as and when the Covid-19. Operating from the Village Hall the café is run by volunteers and residents can drop in for IT advice with or without their own computer equipment.

West Dean and West Tytherley Neighbourhood Development Plan

Regulation 16 Consultation

West Tytherley, Frenchmoor and Buckholt Parish Council in Test Valley and West Dean Parish Council in Wiltshire have formally submitted their Neighbourhood Development Plan for consultation. Test Valley Borough Council is the lead authority and is undertaking the consultation on the proposed Neighbourhood Development Plan.

The consultation starts on Monday 21 June and responses must be received no later than Noon on Tuesday 10 August 2021. The documents are available at : West Tytherley, West Dean, Frenchmoor and Buckholt Neighbourhood Plan | Test Valley Borough Council

A reference copy of the West Dean and West Tytherley Neighbourhood Development Plan and supporting documents, along with paper copies of the representation form are also available at the following locations during their normal opening hours:

- Test Valley Borough Council, Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road, Andover, SP10 3AJ.
- Romsey Library, Station Rd, Romsey, SO51 8DN.

The evidence base documents to support the plan are available from the Parish Councils.

Following this consultation, the comments received will be passed to an independent examiner, to be appointed by the Council, who will consider the representations and recommend whether the Neighbourhood Development Plan should be put to a community referendum.



Romsey Rapids Sports Complex has, recently, introduced a new disability swim session on a Thursday from 2.30pm – 3.15pm. Spaces are £2.50 per person and carers go free, the session can be booked through the App or online.

In addition, this month, Knightwood Leisure Centre has added lane swimming at Romsey Rapids to its monthly membership as a new incentive.

As we head towards the next easing of restrictions, there will be a focus on building up memberships and revenue and we will share the current offers and bookable PAYG activities available at the sites with you.

Swimming lessons are already showing positive signs of filling back up towards the pre-pandemic levels, which is great news.

We also plan to help Places Leisure to promote the Exercise Referral Scheme to help tackle obesity and other underlying health conditions, which will include referrals for improving mental health.

A message from Hampshire charity, EnergiseMe:

EnergiseMe's 'We Can Be Active' began with a big online conversation open to everyone in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight about what helps them to be active, and what gets in the way.

The charity has matched these comments with evidence from around the world before bringing individuals and organisations together to help shape a plan to make it easier for everyone to be active.

Now EnergiseMe is asking the public to tell them if they've got it right. Will the goals in the We Can Be Active strategy help to be active in a way that suits the public?

The draft We Can Be Active strategy takes 15 minutes to read and can be found [here](#)

The charity is asking for this to be shared for feedback, with community members being asked to read it and tell them what you think. Residents can do this by completing the on-line questions and/or by joining one of four open door sessions to chat through your thoughts and comments.

Town pulls together for Climate Day of Action



Andover came together last week to help address the changing environment through the town's first Climate Day of Action.

Launched by community partnership Andover Vision, businesses, community groups and charities all took part and committed to how they can continue to make a difference in the face of climate change.

Residents left pledges at the Andover Vision stall in the high street, with school pupils across the town vowing to recycle more and help plant trees in the years to come. Partners of Andover Vision, including Test Valley Friends of the Earth and Andover Trees United, also held stalls in the town to help educate and inform members of the community on how to play their part now and in the future.

Organisations in the town, including Test Valley Borough Council, took part in the day, with the authority lending out litter-picking equipment and working with local nursery, Finkley Down Farm Nursery and Preschool to teach them how to make, and then plant, seed bombs.

Simplyhealth collected bags of waste, three shopping trolleys and a pallet among other items in their river clean, while media outlet Love Andover committed to a monthly litter pick.

Romsey has parkrun limbering up for move to Ganger Farm Sports Park



The parkrun in Romsey is ready in the starting blocks for a move to a new route at Test Valley Borough Council's state-of-the-art Ganger Farm Sports Park later this year.

Parkrun is a free weekly community event that encourages people to get moving and gives them the opportunity to take part in regular exercise in a friendly, supportive environment, with participants able to choose whether to be a volunteer, walk, jog or run the 5k route.

Previously based at Mountbatten School, parkrun in Romsey has been put on hold since March 2020 due to Covid-19, but hopes to restart at Ganger Farm later in 2021 once TVBC takes ownership of the facility.

The brand new Ganger Farm Sports Park offers several outdoor pitches, an exercise studio, boardroom, large community area in addition to several changing rooms. It will host a range of team sports and events by local clubs and is due to open later this year.

TVBC agrees deal to help protect habitats in the Solent



Test Valley Borough Council is moving forward with a new policy to help protect internationally designated habitats in the Solent.

The council has purchased 'credits' from countryside land in the south of the borough to help mitigate any increase in nutrients in the Solent from new development. Excessive nutrients in the water are having an adverse impact on habitats and species alike.

Over the past two years, following advice from Natural England, planning applications for residential development and overnight accommodation submitted to the council have required mitigation for any potential impact from the additional levels of nitrates they would generate from wastewater and land use change.

Now, TVBC has purchased credits from Roke Manor Ltd in relation to land at Roke Manor Farm, resulting from the cessation of nitrate inputs from the previous agricultural use. This means that applicants will be able to participate in the council's scheme, and have these credits allocated to them, mitigating against nitrogen increases that their application would produce. This in turn, will ensure future development is nitrate neutral in terms of its overall impact. For larger schemes, developers have the option of purchasing credits directly from Roke Manor Ltd.

The new policy means applicants can work with the council on a simpler basis and have a ready-made solution to achieve nutrient neutrality. The council has worked alongside Roke Manor Ltd and Natural England to agree a management plan that will ensure the proposal's success.

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