

Date: 3 February 2021



Dear Resident

IMPORTANT INFORMATION COVID-19 variant identified in Woking

The Surrey Local Resilience Forum (SLRF) is working with Public Health England (PHE) and the Department of Health and Social Care to carry out a localised testing programme in your area of Woking.

This follows notification that a specific variant of COVID-19 has been identified from two positive tests in the area. The variant is known as the SARS-CoV-2 variant, which originated in South Africa.

Known contacts of the cases have been traced and informed already, but this localised testing programme will enable us to closely monitor any community spread of the new variant, and restrict further transmission.

Thank you for your cooperation. Together, we can keep Surrey safe.

What do you need to do?

- You do not need to travel to a testing site or book a test.
- The test is **free**, you will not be asked to pay or provide any financial information.
- You will be provided with instructions on how to register, carry out and repackage your test. You will need to test yourself and all others aged 18 or over in your household.
- The testing team will not be able to complete the testing for you and they will not need to enter your household.
- The testing team will leave enough kits for everyone in your household to complete the tests and will return later to collect the completed kits. Your sample will be taken to a laboratory so that we can test for the variant.
- If a member of your household has been unable to complete the test when the testing team visits to collect it, please inform the team.

Do the guidelines change as a result of this?

Residents in the selected area do not need to self-isolate unless they have symptoms, have tested positive and/or been in contact with someone who has tested positive and been contacted by Test and Trace.

The best way to control this virus is the same, whatever the variant. It will not spread if we avoid close contact with others. Wash your hands, wear a face covering, keep your distance from others, and reduce your social contacts.

For more information visit www.surreycc.gov.uk/wokingsurgetesting

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'AR Hutchinson'.

Ruth Hutchinson, Surrey Director of Public Health
(on behalf of the Department of Health and Social Care)

The Surrey Local Resilience Forum has been working on the COVID response for Surrey since March 2020 and is made up of local partners including Surrey County Council, Surrey Police, District & Borough Councils, Surrey Fire & Rescue Service, local health services, volunteer organisations and others.

Answers to some questions you may have.

- **How many cases of the SARS-CoV-2 variant VOC202012/02 have been detected in the UK?**

As of 30 January 2021, 105 genomically confirmed cases of the SARS-CoV-2 variant which originated in South Africa (called VOC202012/02 in the UK,) have been identified in the UK.

- **What is being done to detect the variant?**

Laboratory work has begun on the VOC 202012/02 in the UK and is routinely undertaken on all variants under investigation or of concern once samples are available.

- **What further information can you provide us about the cases?**

The identity of the cases is confidential, and we cannot provide any further information.

- **What can I do to prevent further spread?**

The best way to stop the spread of the virus is to wash your hands, wear a face covering and keep your distance from others. Whilst in lockdown, it is important that we also stay at home unless it is absolutely essential to go out.

- **What is a PCR test?**

Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests check for the genetic material (RNA) of the virus in the sample. The sample is tested in a laboratory.

- **I have recently had a PCR/LFD test, do I need another?**

Yes, because this sample is specifically being genome sequenced for the variant.

- **How will I receive my results?**

You'll usually get a text or email with your result when it's ready. Most people get their result the next day, but it may take up to 3 days.

- **What should I do if I develop symptoms after the test?**

If you have symptoms of COVID-19 (a high temperature, a new and persistent cough or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste), however mild, you should self-isolate for at least 10 days from when your symptoms started.

You should also get a test straight away through the NHS Test and Trace Service by calling 119 or visiting www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test.

Once you have received your test result, you should follow the guidance on test results.

- **I am an essential worker, can I go to work whilst awaiting my results?**

Yes. However, if you develop symptoms you must self-isolate.

- **Why are you only testing people aged over 18?**

We are testing as many people as possible over the age of 18 in the local area at this stage. This testing is offered over and above the existing testing strategy and will help us decide if further testing is needed.

- **Who can I contact if I have further questions?**

You can call the Surrey Community Helpline 0300 200 1008 Monday to Friday: 9am to 5pm, weekends 11am to 3pm. SMS: 0786 0053 465 for Deaf and hearing impaired residents only (Monday to Friday: 9am to 5pm).

Dear Resident,

You have been delivered a home test kit as part of the Covid19 community surveillance programme.

Please follow the instructions below to register your kit.

If after following these instructions you still cannot register please call this number:

0300 561 2508 or 0300 561 2509

We require you to register your testing kit following the instructions below.

To register your test kit go to: www.gov.uk/register-home-test

Register a home test kit

You can register a coronavirus (COVID-19) test for you or someone else. You must register your kit so that we can send your test results to you.

Check what you need

You should only register a home test kit after you've:

- received it
- found your nearest Royal Mail priority postbox or booked a courier to collect it
- got your order confirmation email containing your bold 10 character order ID (you received this when you ordered your test kit)

If you are taking a test before your hospital visit, you need to [register your kit here](#).

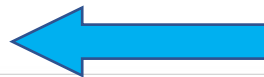
If people you live with have received a test kit

- you should register their test kit too
- each person must use the test kit they have registered to receive the correct results

How we use your data

To find out how we use your personal data when you register for a coronavirus test, [read the coronavirus privacy note](#).

Start now >



CLICK HERE

Do you know how you'll return your test kit?

It's very important that you follow the enclosed paper instructions on how to return your test kit.

You'll either need to find your nearest Royal Mail priority postbox or book your courier.



Yes



No

CLICK
HERE



Continue

**YOUR TEST WILL BE
COLLECTED BY A
VOLUNTEER, PLEASE
DO NOT POST.**

What's your order ID?

You'll find your 10-digit order ID at the top of the confirmation email you received when your test kit was ordered.

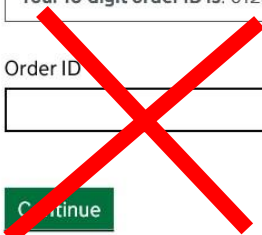
Entering your order ID is the quickest and easiest way to register your kit - you will not have to enter information previously provided.

Your order ID looks like this in the confirmation email. The email was sent from "Coronavirus Home Testing":

Your 10-digit order ID is: 0123456789 (example)

Order ID

Continue



If you did not receive an order ID, you need to [register your kit a different way](#). Please do not use the link if you have an order ID.



CLICK HERE

Use this service to register a coronavirus test for you or someone else.

You need to register each coronavirus test to get the results.

To complete this form, you'll need:

- the test kit barcode for the test you're registering
- a mobile number (for you or the person you're registering it for)
- the Royal Mail barcode on the return box (only if you are registering a home test kit)

If you are taking a test before your hospital visit, you need to [register your kit here](#).

Start now >



CLICK HERE

How we use your data

To find out how we use your personal data when you register for a coronavirus test, [read the coronavirus privacy note](#).

ALPHA This is a new service – your [feedback](#) will help us to improve it.

[< Back](#)

Who are you registering a test for?



Myself



Someone else

Continue

Sign up for a coronavirus testing account

A coronavirus testing account lets you save your details, so you do not need to enter them each time you register a test.

Your testing account uses NHS login. This makes it easier and quicker for you to securely access online health and care services with one username and password.

To register your coronavirus test, you can:

- use your existing NHS login details, if you have them
- create your NHS login using your email address and UK mobile phone number
- continue without using NHS login

You only need to create your NHS account once.

NHS Register using NHS login

Register without using NHS login



**CLICK
HERE**

Enter the unique test kit barcode

Use the camera on your phone or computer to scan the test kit barcode.

Or you can manually enter the 11 character reference below the barcode.

If you're using a home test kit, you'll find the identical barcodes inside the home test kit, either attached to the plastic vial, biohazard bag and return box or loose for you to stick on yourself (please read instructions).

These are different from your pre-paid Royal Mail return package barcode on your box.

► [What does the barcode look like?](#)

Scan my barcode

Test kit barcode reference

Confirm test kit barcode reference

Continue

▼ What does the barcode look like?



CHE00000501

[< Back](#)

Where are you taking the test?



At home



At a test site

[Continue](#)

Enter the Royal Mail barcode

Use your phone or computer's camera to scan the unique Royal Mail barcode in the home test kit.

This appears on the right-hand side of the label. Do not scan the QR code, which is on the left.

The Royal Mail barcode is also different from the home test kit barcode.

You can also manually enter the 13 character reference below the barcode.

▶ [What does the barcode look like?](#)

[Scan barcode](#)

Royal Mail barcode reference

For example, AA 1234 5678 9AA

Confirm Royal Mail barcode reference

[Continue](#)

[I do not know my Royal Mail barcode](#)



**CONTINUE THROUGH THE REST OF THE FORM
ENTERING YOUR OWN PERSONAL DETAILS**
**If you are still unable to register please call us on
0300 561 2508 or 0300 561 2509**