

# Welcome!

**Today's Public Health team are:**

Rachael Williams

Julia Chisnell

Sarah Aston

Amber Forrest

Eileen Wicks



# Outline of the session

- Welcome and introduction
- COVID Champs overview
- Update on Covid-19 in Torbay
- Back to School with Rachael Williams
- Quiz with Sarah
- Your mission.....
- Your questions

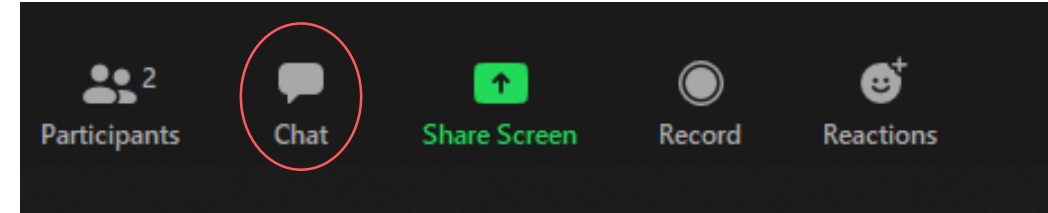


# Webinar Etiquette

- Please stay on mute unless speaking
- If you want to speak please raise your hand (further slide gives instructions)
- If your signal is poor, the host may disable your video (if on) as this helps with band width
- Please post questions in the chat
- Open forum, please be friendly and kind
- If not relevant to others, please email [Champions@torbay.gov.uk](mailto:Champions@torbay.gov.uk)

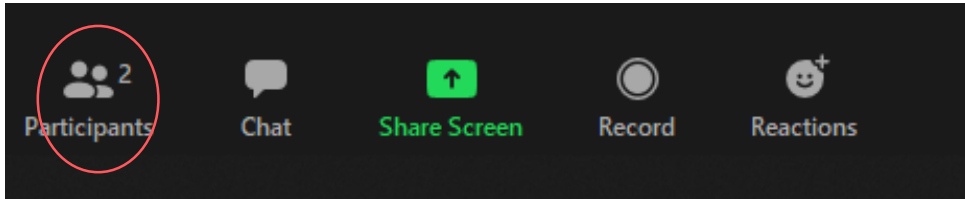
# If you have a question...

If you have a question please write it in the chat:

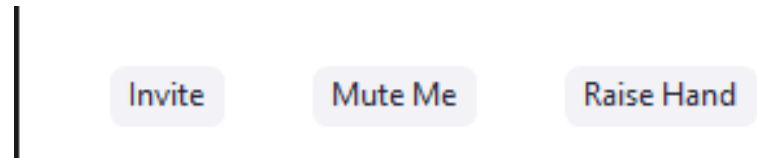


If you want to speak, please raise your hand by:

1) Click on participants at the bottom of your screen



2) Your participant screen will pop up with the option to 'raise hand'



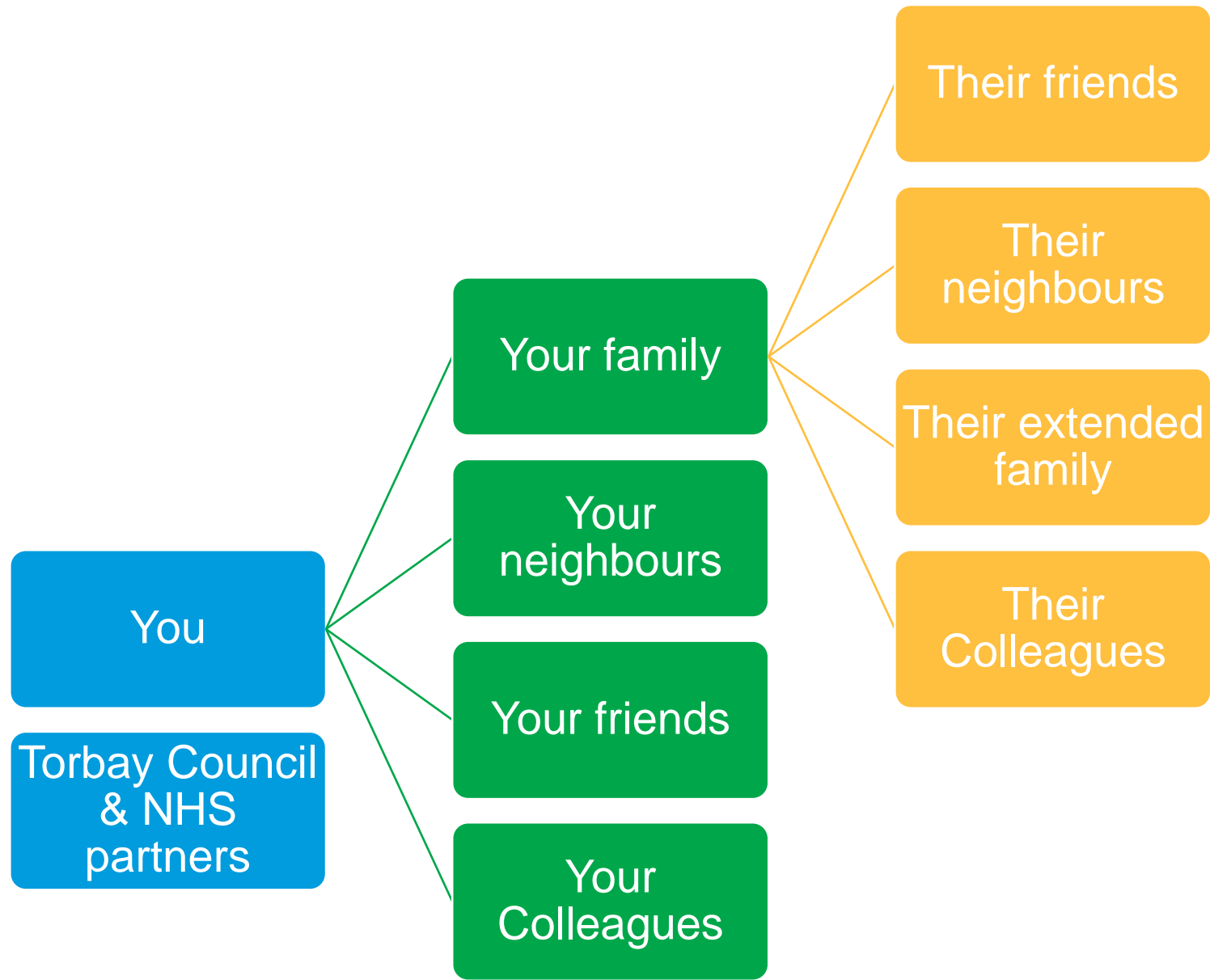
3) Click on 'Raise Hand' to enable the host to see you; a blue hand will then appear



4) The host will unmute you after inviting you to speak

**What are we  
asking you to do?**





# Share credible COVID-19 information, however you want!



- Learn about COVID-19 and how to stop the spread
- Share credible information with others
- Support others to access credible information, advice and support.

# Feedback – you champions!

Devon CCG vaccine insight report – 24 Nov-24 Dec 2020

- Helped understand how local people view vaccinations and how we can work with those who are hesitating in taking their offer up.
- Champions and role models are important, **you** are an important trusted source...
- Campaign and plans underway – we may come and ask you to help get the local messages about vaccines out
- <https://www.togetherfordevon.uk/download/mass-vaccination-engagement-and-insight-highlight-report-january-2021/>





COVID Community Champions

**TORBAY COUNCIL**

# Torbay and COVID-19



# COVID Cases – Local

## Number of Torbay cases

315



1st to 7th Jan

172



1st to 7th Feb

51

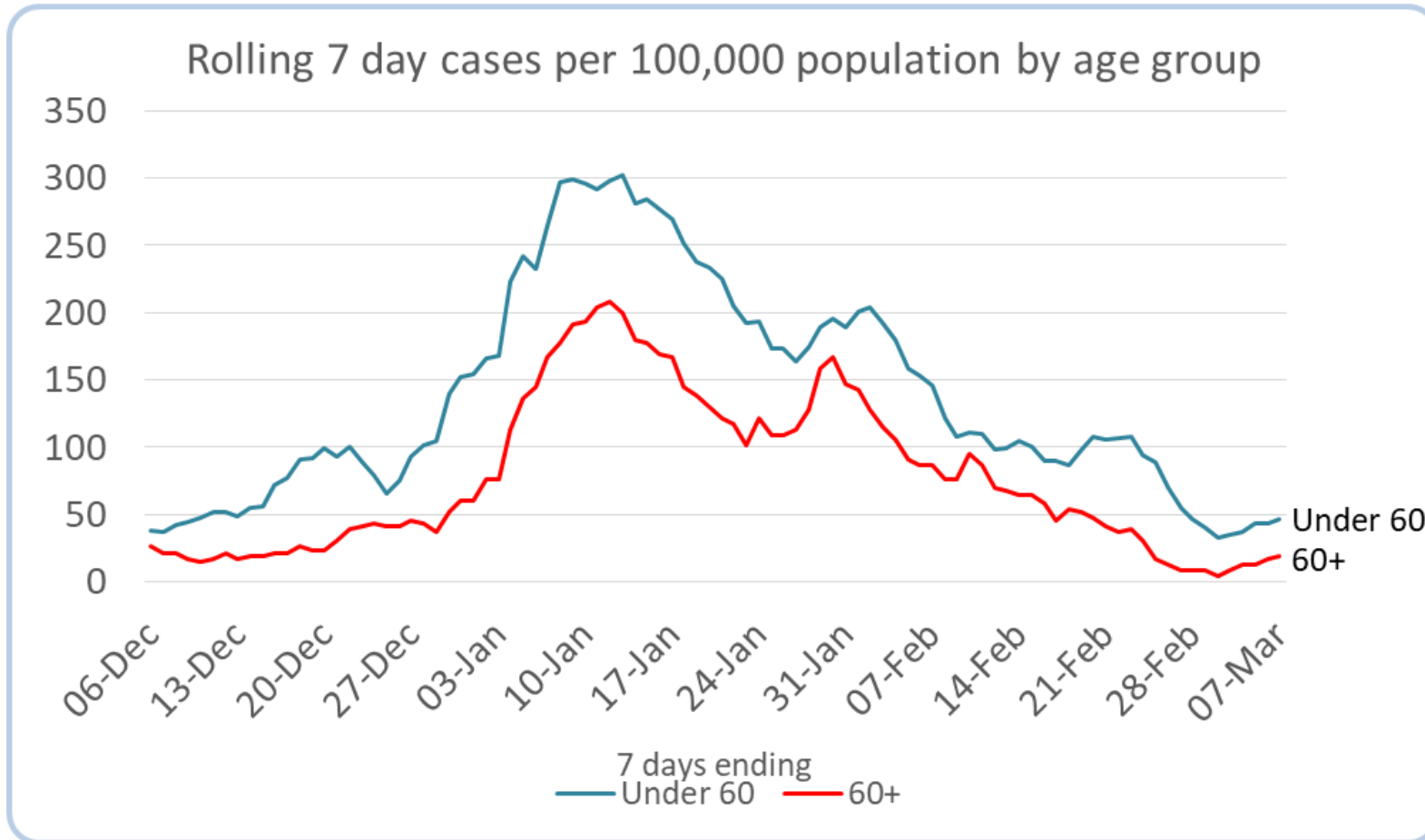


1st to 7th Mar

- Rates are currently 16% of the rates at the start of January.
- The latest data is for the 7 day period ending 7<sup>th</sup> March. Number of cases is 51 (37.4 per 100,000 people).
- We have experienced a small rise over the last week due to a Care Home outbreak. Almost half of the cases over the 7 days relate to this Care Home.

Source: <https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/>

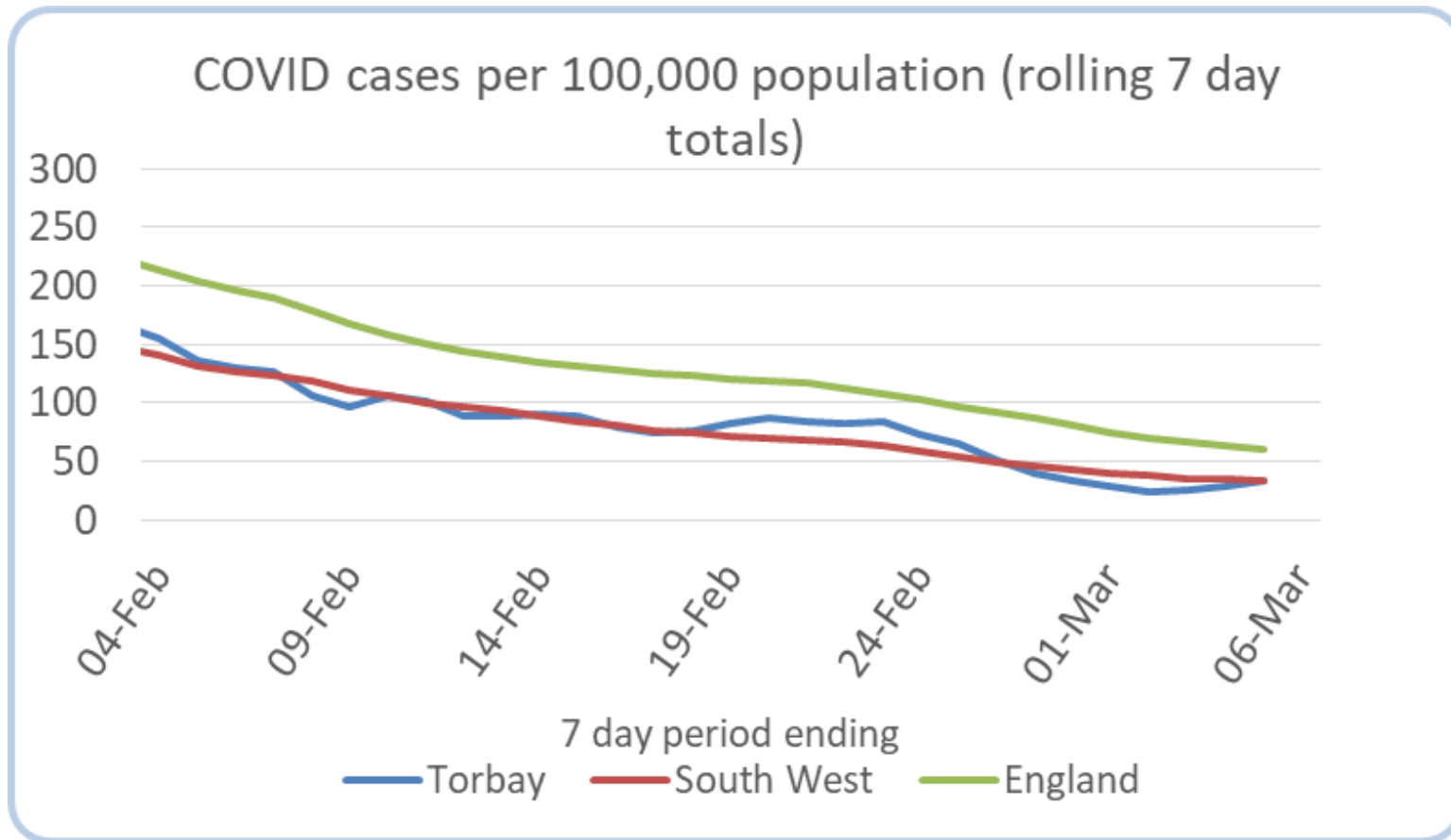
# COVID Cases – Local



Source: <https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/>

- Those aged 60 and over have consistently had **lower** case rates than those under 60.
- In general, the highest rates have been amongst the working age population.
- Over the last week, there has been a rise in the number of cases amongst those aged 40 and over. This is due to a Care Home outbreak amongst staff and residents.

# COVID Cases – Comparison

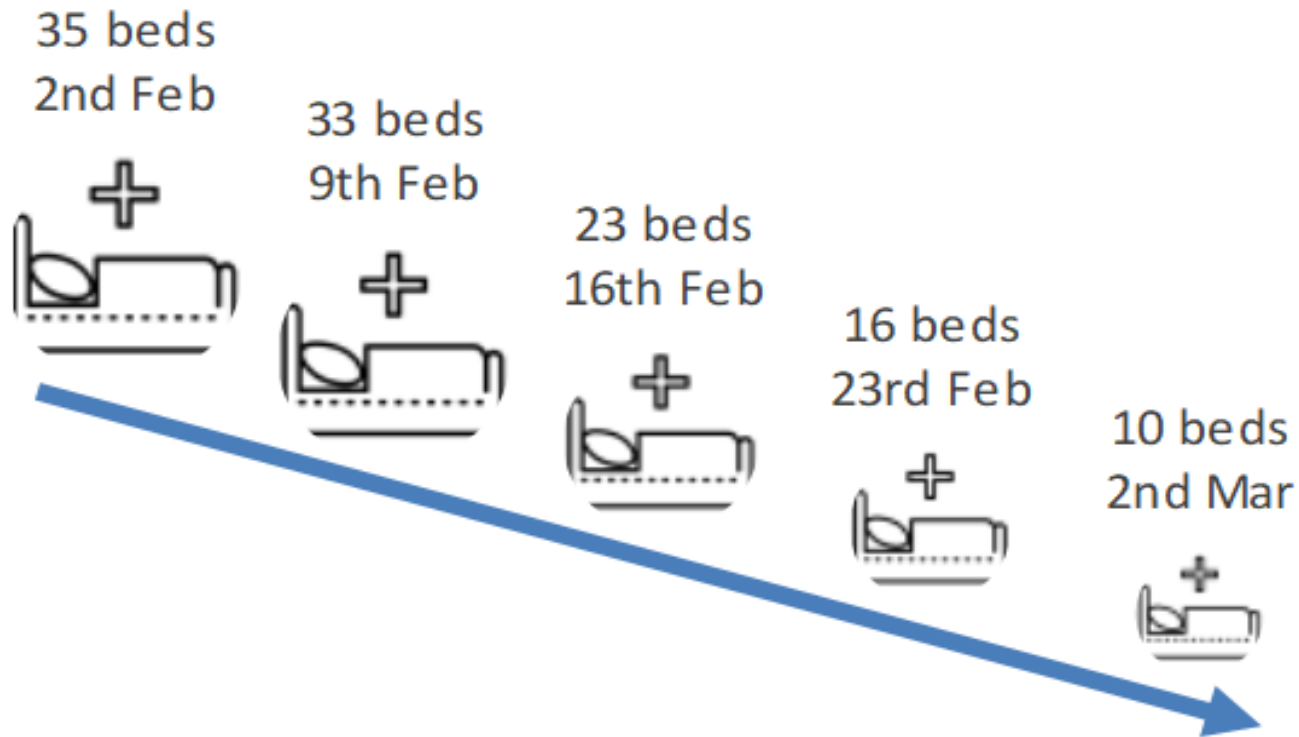


- The difference between Torbay, South West and England rates continues to narrow.
- Since late January, Torbay's rates have been broadly equivalent to the South West average.

Source: <https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/>

# COVID Hospitalisations – Torbay

Total Beds occupied by confirmed COVID-19 patients – Torbay & South Devon Foundation Trust  
(Includes non-Torbay residents)



- As of 2<sup>nd</sup> March, there were 10 confirmed COVID-19 patients at Torbay & South Devon NHS Foundation Trust. This total includes non Torbay residents.
- This equates to a 57% fall in patients at the Trust over the last 2 weeks.
- This is the latest publically held data available.

Source: [NHS England](#)

# COVID Deaths

This data relates to those who have COVID-19 on their death certificate by the date registered. The figures are from the Office for National Statistics.

There have been 47 COVID related deaths for Torbay residents in the last 6 weeks. The majority of these deaths relate to Care Home residents.

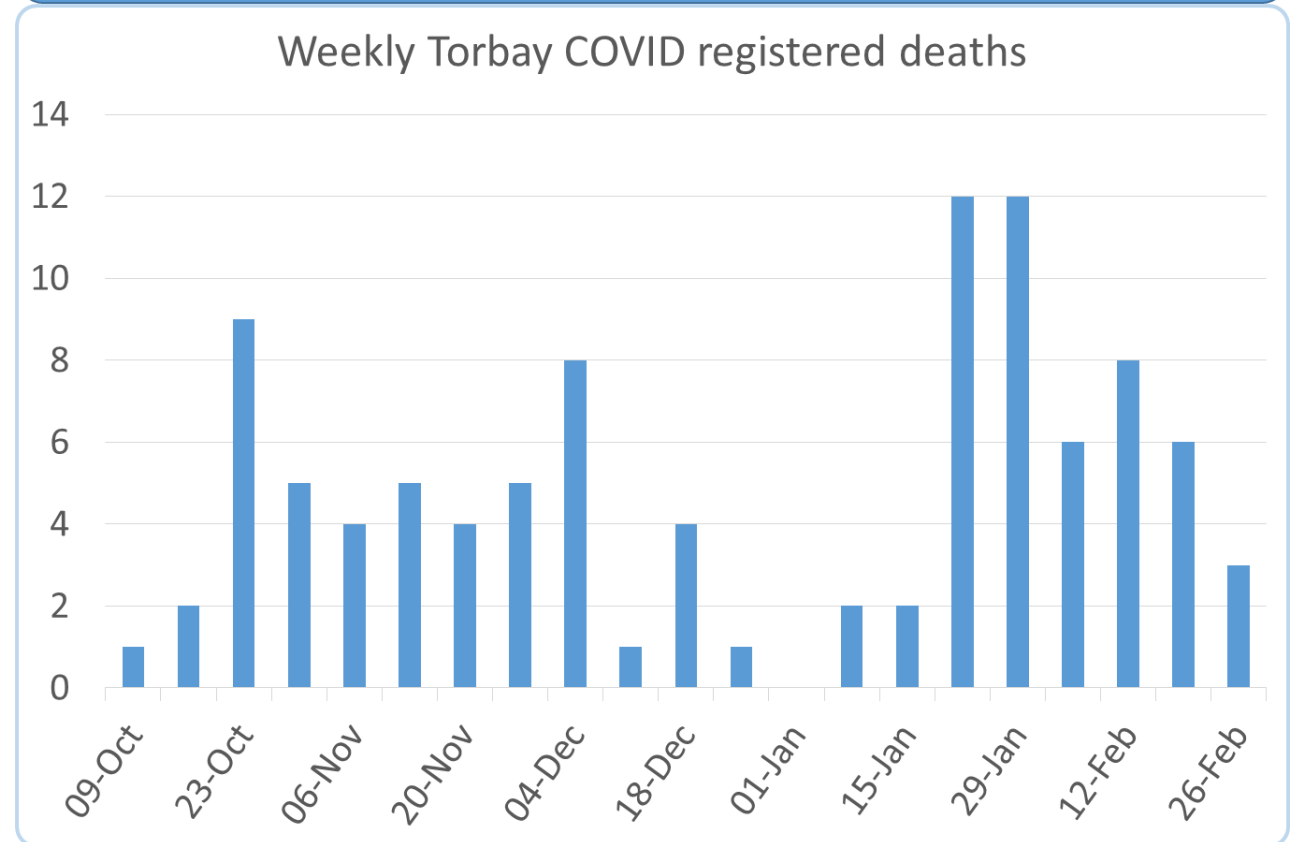
There have more COVID related deaths in the period since October (100) than the first wave from March until June (58).

Rises in deaths lag significantly behind rises in cases

Source: [Office for National Statistics](#)

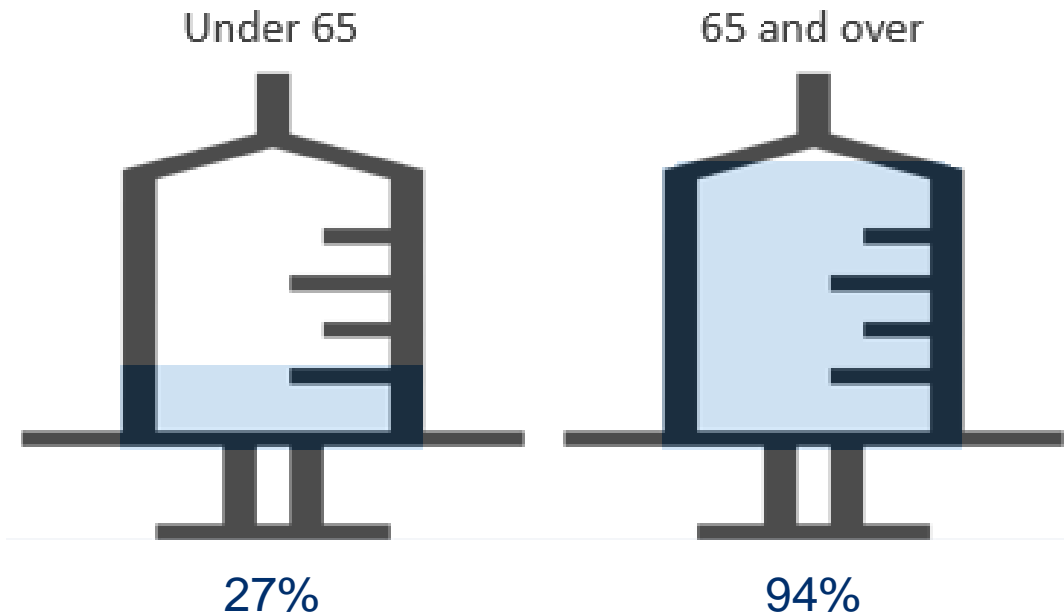
3

Torbay Covid deaths in the last week (20th to 26th Feb)



# COVID Vaccinations

Vaccine update within Torbay as of 7th March



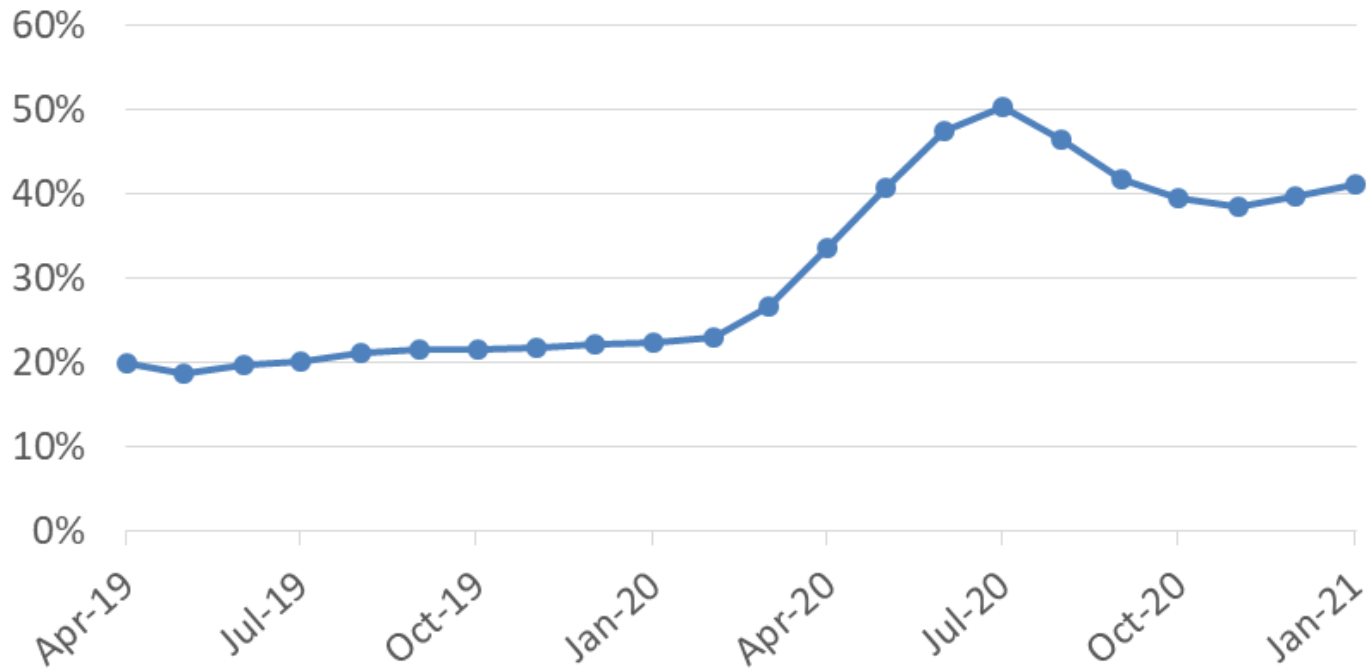
Source: <https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/>

- This is the latest publically available data, the number of people within Torbay vaccinated with at least 1 dose is 94% or more for all age groups aged 65 and over.
- First Dose Vaccinations for England (2<sup>nd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> March) – 1,825,849. 208,554 people had their second dose in that 7 day period.
- In total 19,199,233 people in England have had their first vaccination dose. This represents approximately 43% of the adult population within England.



# NHS Waiting Times

NHS Devon CCG - percentage of patients waiting more than 18 weeks to start treatment



Source: [NHS England](#)

- This shows the percentage of patients waiting more than 18 weeks to start treatment within Devon CCG.
- This peaked in July 2020 when 50% of patients had waited 18 weeks or more to start treatment.
- Numbers are particularly high amongst Trauma & Orthopaedic patients. Orthopaedic treatments on the whole enhance life, but are not life threatening and are therefore not prioritised as highly as life threatening conditions.

# Questions from the Champions

## Is there any research at the moment as to whether pregnant people can receive the vaccine?

- There is no known risk with giving inactivated virus or bacterial vaccines or toxoids during pregnancy or whilst breast-feeding. However, the COVID-19 vaccines have not yet been tested in pregnancy, so it has been advised that until more information is available, pregnant women should not routinely have these vaccines. As a matter of caution, COVID-19 vaccine is therefore not routinely advised in pregnancy but there are some circumstances in which the potential benefits of vaccination are particularly important for pregnant women. This may include women who are at very high risk of catching the infection or those with certain medical conditions that put them at high risk of suffering serious complications from COVID-19 infection. In such circumstances, a woman may choose to have COVID-19 vaccine in pregnancy following a discussion with her doctor or nurse.
- [Safety of COVID-19 vaccines when given in pregnancy - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)
- <https://www.devonsexualhealth.nhs.uk/misinformation-about-covid-19-vaccine-and-fertility/>
- <https://www.rcog.org.uk/globalassets/documents/guidelines/2021-01-12-covid-19-vaccine-info-sheet.pdf>



**Return to  
School**

# Covid Response - Education

## March 2020

- Partial opening of schools and education provision
- Majority of children and young people accessing remote education.
- For the majority of this time only keyworker and vulnerable children in school. (approx. 16% of school population)

## Autumn 2020

- Full opening of schools and education provision
- Majority of children and young people accessing education – average attendance over 90%
- Isolating children provided online learning and live teaching

## Winter 2021

- Full opening of early years provision, partial opening of schools and education provision
- Majority of children and young people accessing remote education, with a government prescribed offer.
- Keyworker and vulnerable children in school. (approx. 24% of school population)

## 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021

- Full opening of all provision for all pupils.
- Staggered start for secondary pupils to enable asymptomatic testing.

# Returning safely – recommended prevention measures

- **You must always:**
- 1) Minimise contact with individuals who are required to self-isolate by ensuring they do not attend the school.
- 2) Ensure face coverings are used in recommended circumstances.
- 3) Ensure everyone is advised to clean their hands thoroughly and more often than usual.
- 4) Ensure good respiratory hygiene for everyone by promoting the ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’ approach.
- 5) Maintain enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents.
- 6) Consider how to minimise contact across the site and maintain social distancing wherever possible – bubbles!
- 7) Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
- **In specific circumstances:**
- 8) Ensure individuals wear the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) where necessary.
- 9) Promote and engage in asymptomatic testing, where available.

## Asymptomatic Testing – Lateral Flow Testing Devices (LFD)

- All staff within early years, schools and college will test at home twice a week.
- Secondary aged pupils will test three times at school and then move to a home testing model from the 15<sup>th</sup> March onwards. We are recommending locally that testing is conducted on Sunday and Wednesday evening after 6pm.
- There is no testing of early years or primary aged pupils.
- Parents/carers and childcare bubbles are able to access home test kits. This enables the adults to test twice weekly.

# Key Messages for the Community

- Only send your child/young person to school if they are well.
- If any member of the household/support bubble has symptoms, isolate and get a test.
- If you are eligible engage in asymptomatic testing.
- Arrive at school at your given drop off and collection times and depart promptly.
- Wear face masks when required.
- Continue to socially distance and limit contact outside of the school day.

# Parents with children at nurseries, schools and colleges

## A guide to regular rapid Covid-19 testing



## Regular rapid testing is now available for parents, their households and bubbles.

**Regular rapid testing is a fast and easy way to find out if you have coronavirus and help protect your loved ones and community. It's free and takes around 30 minutes.**

## Why introduce regular rapid testing?

**Up to 1 in 3 people** who have Covid-19 have no symptoms and could be spreading it without knowing.

**Regular rapid testing is now available for parents of nursery, school children and college students.** As well as adults in their households, childcare and support bubbles.

Regular testing for people without symptoms is already taking place across the country. Thousands of people who didn't know they had the virus have been able to take action to stop the spread of the disease.

As lockdown restrictions ease, getting into the **regular habit of twice weekly testing** will play an important role in getting back to normal; **alongside the vaccine, following the hands, face, space guidance, and social distancing measures.**

## Regular testing for school staff and students

Regular rapid testing is already available to **all staff** at nursery, primary and secondary schools and colleges.

Secondary school and college students aged 11 and above will continue to access regular rapid tests directly through their school or college. And we continue to encourage them to get tested.

On return they will initially be supervised while testing at school and then continue to test themselves at home with test kits they will get from school or college.

**Nursery and primary school children are not being asked to be tested** as evidence continues to show that children and young people are at low risk from Covid-19 and are very unlikely to get seriously ill.

## What is the benefit to you?

By taking part in regular rapid testing, you'll be protecting yourself and your loved ones. And helping us all get back to a more normal way of life.





## How does it work?

It's a simple swab test you can do at home, school, work or test site, using a Lateral Flow Device (LFD). It takes around 30 minutes to find out if you have the virus.

The test detects viral proteins that are present when someone has Covid-19. Research from Public Health England and Oxford University shows that they pick up the vast majority of people in the most infectious stage of the disease. With up to 1 in 3 people who have the virus showing no symptoms – they could be spreading it without knowing.

**Testing should take place twice a week, every three – five days, ideally in the morning. Why not add this to your morning routine?**

If you test negative, you can continue to go to work. You should still strictly follow all other government guidelines and avoid all unnecessary contact. If you, your household or bubble test positive, you should all self-isolate immediately. And then the person who has tested positive should also take a confirmatory PCR test and follow latest government guidance.

For more information visit [gov.uk/guidance/understanding-lateral-flow-antigen-testing-for-people-without-symptoms](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/understanding-lateral-flow-antigen-testing-for-people-without-symptoms)



YouTube Introduction to Rapid Lateral Flow testing



## Reporting your test

You should report your results online straight away, even if your result is negative or void. It's easy to do at: [gov.uk/report-covid19-result](https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result)

Results can also be reported via telephone by calling 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day, 7am to 11pm.

If you have tested positive, you can also check to see if you are eligible for the £500 Test and Trace Support Payment.



## Where can I get tested?

If you are a parent or adult of a household, childcare or support bubble you can either:

1. Get an assisted test at work if it is available.
2. Attend a test site to get tested (where you will be able to see how to take the test) or pick up tests to do at home.
3. Order a test online to do at home.

To find out how to get a free rapid Covid-19 test visit [gov.uk/coronavirus-school-household-testing](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus-school-household-testing)

Regular rapid testing is for those without symptoms of Coronavirus. If you have symptoms, you should continue to book through [nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)

# Key messages

1. Testing staff and students weekly will help to pick up the one in three people who show no symptoms
2. The PCR and Lateral Flow Tests work well as part of a combination approach, alongside other key behaviours and vaccinations. We need all parts to keep working together.
3. Self-isolation for close contacts of people with positive Covid tests is still **essential** for breaking chains of transmission
4. Please keep to the rules, we are so close but still a way to go...let's not lose the gains we have all made

# Your Mission.....



# COVID Champions

The word "COVID" is written in large, white, sans-serif capital letters. Below it, the word "Champions" is written in white, sans-serif lowercase letters inside a blue, rounded rectangular shape. The background is a dark blue. There are several small illustrations: a woman in a pink vest and white mask walking a dog, a man in a green shirt and white mask holding a cardboard box, a woman in a yellow shirt and white mask holding a blue speech bubble, and a small child in a red dress.

TORBAY COUNCIL

# We need your help with three things please

1. Share a fact with a friend
2. Share a post with your people (if you're on any social media)
3. Recruit a champion – could be a school, business, individual...

And..

**#COVIDCHAMPIONS**

**#TORBAY**

# And if you are feeling brave...

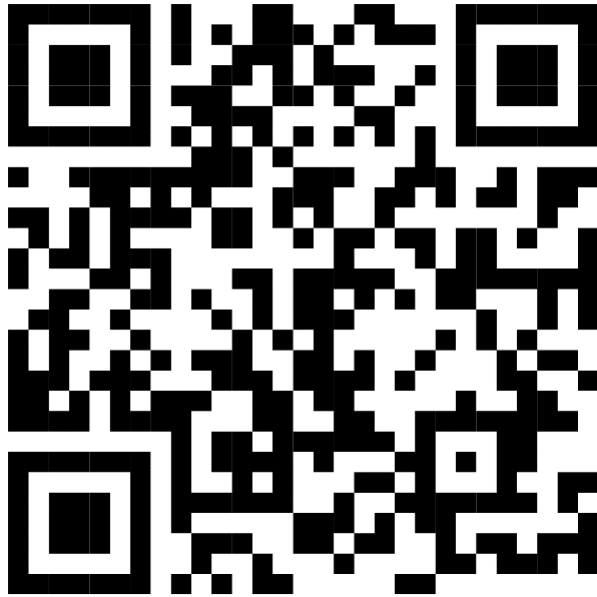
- 1:1 chat with a team member to help us understand how to improve your champs experience and make it better for your community
- Take a photo of yourself or make a short film for us – using your phone, tell us what you've done with your knowledge, how you influence your community and what champs has done for you!



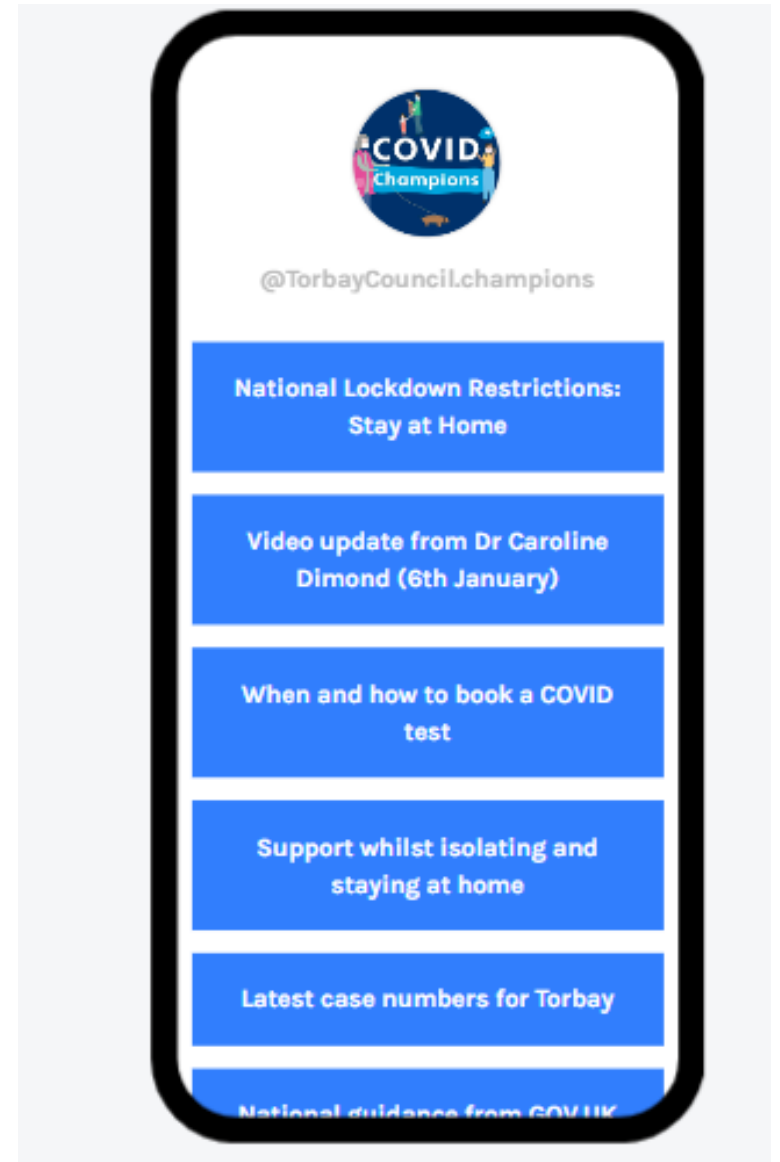
# Resources and next steps



# COVID Champions Linktree



Visit and/or share the link - <https://linktr.ee/TorbayCouncil.champions>



# Credible sources of information to visit and share

- [www.torbay.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.torbay.gov.uk/coronavirus)
- [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)
- [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)
- [www.who.int/coronavirus](http://www.who.int/coronavirus)
  
- Like our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/torbaycouncil](http://www.facebook.com/torbaycouncil)
- Follow us on twitter: @Torbay\_Council
- Email us [Champions@torbay.gov.uk](mailto:Champions@torbay.gov.uk)



# What do you get as a Champion?

- A fortnightly bulletin, which will update you with the latest developments and guidance
- A fortnightly online forum meet-up, to enable you to participate in discussions, share ideas and have opportunity to feedback what you have found to work or not work so well
- Access to resources
- Support from us via [Champions@torbay.gov.uk](mailto:Champions@torbay.gov.uk)

