

Appendix A – COVID 19 Status Update

Responsible officers:

- Liz Brutus, Service Lead Public Health
- Ginny de Haan, Service Lead Regulatory Services

Council Powers

The council has a number of existing powers and some new specific COVID 19 related powers to respond swiftly and in line with the national 'Contain Framework' to control local COVID19 risks and support the Slough LOMP.

The emphasis is very much upon an Engage/Educate/Prevent approach as we understand supporting behaviour change is vital in helping us to reduce COVID 19 transmission in Slough and for our communities to remain safe. More details can be found at: (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/containing-and-managing-local-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreaks>)

Six principles support effective implementation of an integrated national response and our Local Outbreak Management Plan as outline below :

- the primary responsibility is to make the public safe
- build on public health expertise and use a systems approach
- be open with data and insight so everyone can protect themselves and others
- build consensus between decision-makers to secure trust, confidence and consent
- follow well-established emergency management principles
- consider equality, economic, social and health-related impacts of decisions

Should our behaviour change approach (describes more in Appendix B) prove ineffective and/or there is a significant increase in COVID 19 infections in Slough the council does have new powers under The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (Amendment) (No.3) Regulations 2020 came into force at 12.01 a.m. on Saturday 18 July 2020. These No. 3 Regs give local authorities powers in prescribed circumstances, to give directions (to close or restrict) for individual premises, events and public outdoor places, to curb the incidence and spread of the pandemic. Local authorities may give such directions only if the authority considers that the following conditions are met:

- that giving such a direction responds to a serious and imminent threat to public health
- that the direction is necessary for the purpose of preventing, protecting against, controlling or providing a public health response to the incidence or spread of infection by coronavirus in the authority's area; and

- that the prohibitions, requirements or restrictions imposed by the direction are a proportionate means of achieving that purpose.

At present we do not have these conditions in Slough and we continue to be vigilant and aware of the local situation through the Daily and Weekly Outbreak Cell meetings and the SBC Safer Public Spaces Group.

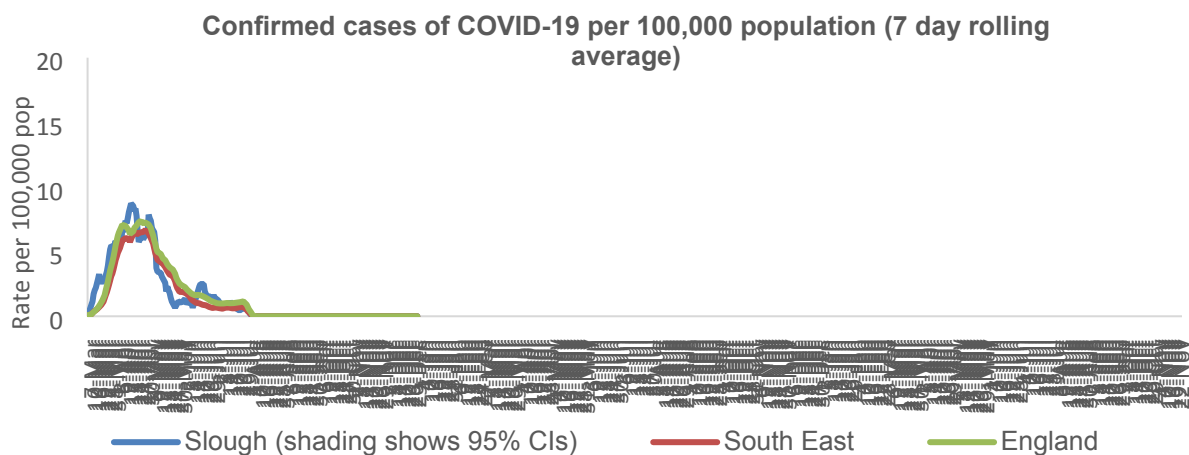
Data update

These data were reported to the Local Outbreak Management Cell on 3rd August 2020 by the Public Health team at Slough Borough Council. These data are received on a daily basis and are contextualised by the knowledge of the attendees at the Cell meetings.

Overall – No Covid concerns at present in Slough:

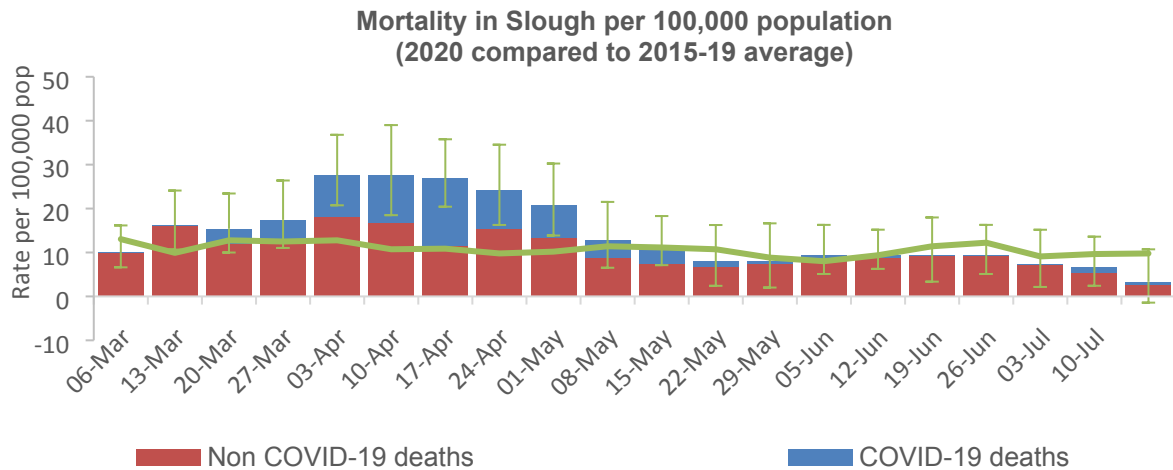
Infection rates

- Rate of new cases in Slough continues to fall week on week with 7-day rolling average rate of new cases similar to SE and England average
- No rise in 111 or 999 call rates
- Cases peaked in April and they have been steadily declining throughout May, June and July



Death rates

- All cause mortality rate remains currently below the seasonal with one new deaths in last reported week of death data (w/e 17 Jul)



Testing at the Montem centre

- The number of tests being taken at the Montem centre have been increasing
- The daily rate based on a 7-day rolling average shows that the number of tests is now regularly over 300 per day at the centre

