



Public Health  
England

CFA/040c/20

# Covid-19 Supplier Capacity Building Webinar

Thursday 9 April 2020

## **COVID-19, public health guidance and the food industry**

**Professor Virginia Murray**  
**COVID-19 Senior Public Health Adviser**  
**Public Health England**



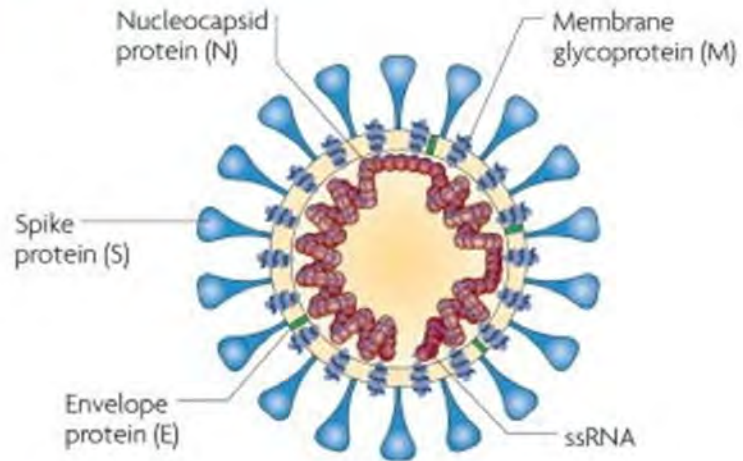
# Major respiratory virus outbreaks

Outbreak	Area of emergence	Estimated case fatality ratio	Estimated attributable excess mortality worldwide	Estimated attributable excess mortality in the UK	Age groups most affected
<b>Spanish Flu 1918 to 1919</b>	Unclear	≥ 2%	20 to 50 million	200,000	Young adults, elderly and young children
<b>Asian Flu 1957 to 1958</b>	Southern China	0.1 to 0.2%	1 to 4 million	33,000	Children
<b>Hong Kong Flu 1968 to 1969</b>	Southern China	0.2 to 0.4%	1 to 4 million	80,000	All age groups
<b>Swine Flu 2009 to 2010</b>	Mexico	<0.025%	18,000	457	Children, young adults and pregnant women
<b>Middle East Respiratory Syndrome 2012</b>	Middle East	>30%	861	0	Elderly (60+)
<b>Serious Acute Respiratory Syndrome 2002 to 2003</b>	China	<10%	774	0	Middle-aged adults (45 to 65)

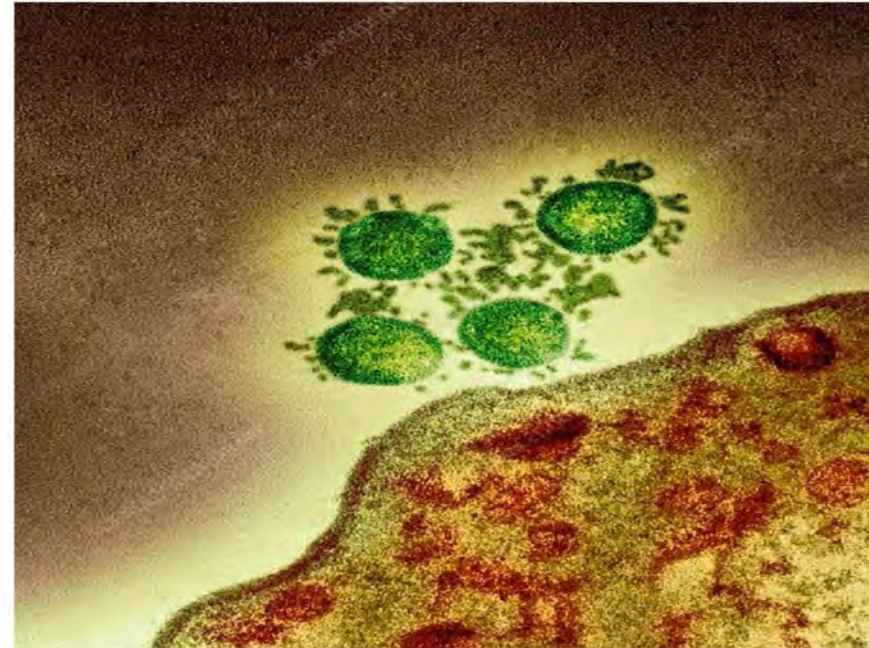


# Coronavirus biology

- Enveloped single stranded positive strand RNA viruses
- “Crown-like” morphology
- ~30Kb genome
- 80x160nm diameter



Perlman et al Nat Rev Microbiol. 2009

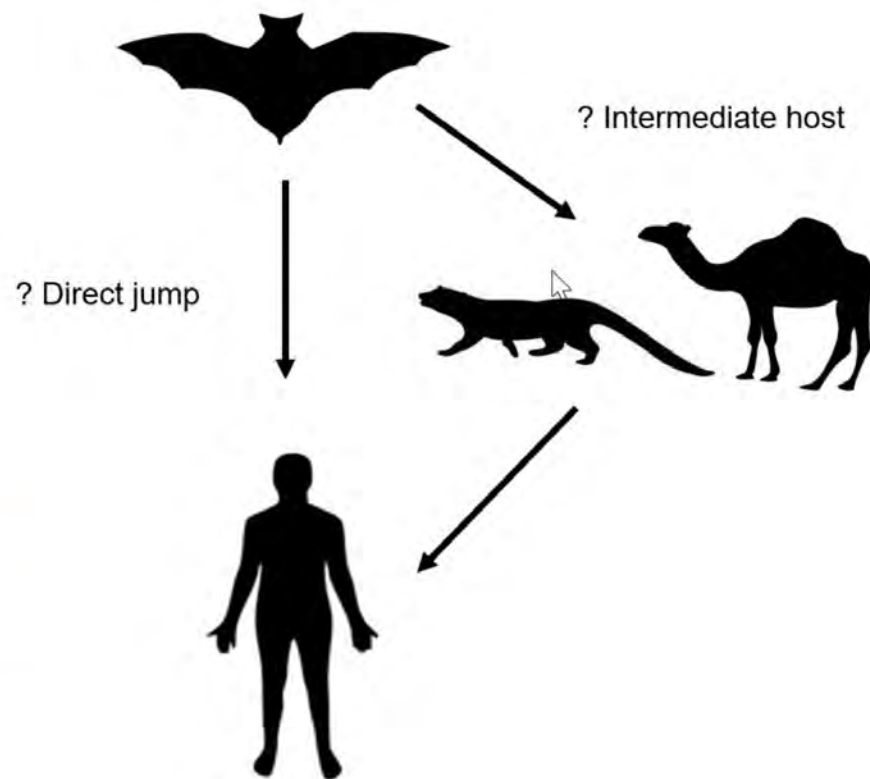


England 2/virus Cov taken at Colindale



# How do novel coronaviruses emerge?

- A coronavirus is a type of virus. As a group, coronaviruses are common across the world.
- Animals in live markets or farms can act as intermediate hosts
- Generally, coronavirus can cause more severe symptoms in people with weakened immune systems, older people, and those with long term conditions like diabetes, cancer and chronic lung disease.



## UK Cumulative Totals

# 55,242 cases

## 6,159 deaths

### England

## 45,968

### 5655

### Scotland

## 4,229

### 222

### Wales

## 3,790

### 212

### N. Ireland

## 1,255

### 70

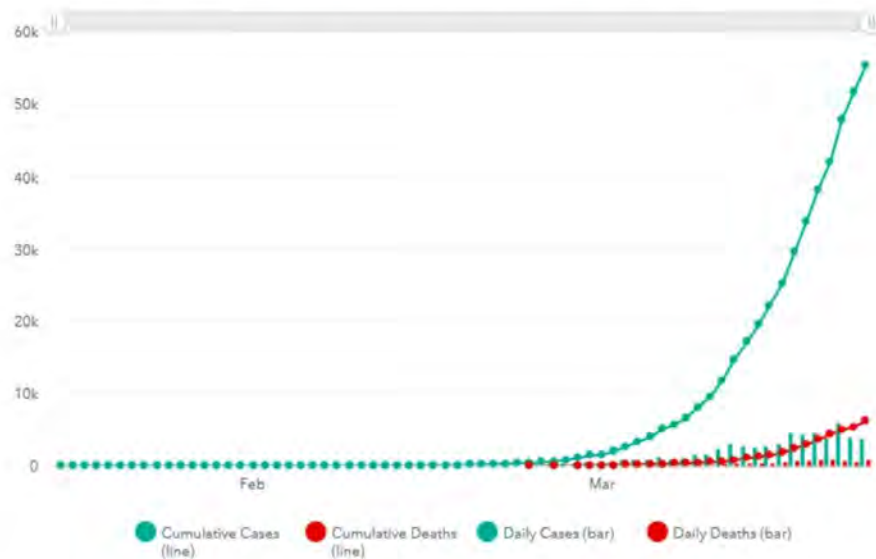
## UK Daily Totals

# 3,634 cases

## 786 deaths

## UK Cases and Deaths

Interact with the chart by selecting legend items to change the data shown and change the date range by moving the slider at the top of the chart



## Upper Tier Local Authorities (UTLA/ NHS Regions)

Birmingham: 1,372

Surrey: 1,917

Hampshire: 889

Essex: 938

Hertfordshire: 933

Kent: 923

Lancashire: 923

Sheffield: 883

Brent: 819

Cumbria: 864

Barnet: 717

Southwark: 710

Lambeth: 698

Croydon: 688

Staffordshire: 597

Wandsworth: 557

Liverpool: 552

Bromley: 547

Newham: 535

UTLA NHS Regions Legend



Public Health  
England

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-food-businesses/guidance-for-food-businesses-on-coronavirus-covid-19>

## Food hygiene guidance

A Food Safety Management System (FSMS) that includes [existing food hygiene guidance](#) and HACCP processes should be followed.

Employers should stress the importance of more frequent handwashing and maintaining good hygiene practices in food preparation and handling areas. Employees should wash their hands for 20 seconds, especially after being in a public place, blowing their nose, coughing or sneezing.

Frequently clean and disinfect objects and surfaces that are touched regularly, using your standard cleaning products. Food businesses can refer to the Food Standards Agency's [safer food, better business \(SFBB\)](#) guidance for further guidance on expected food hygiene standards.

Businesses can help reduce the spread of coronavirus by reminding everyone of the government's public health advice. [Posters, leaflets and other materials](#) are available online.

The FSA's [guidance on good hygiene practices](#) in food preparation and their HACCP processes guidance is intended to ensure staff follow good hygiene practices to prevent the spread of disease to food. Key safety points include being fit for work, washing hands and wearing aprons or other clean clothing as appropriate. The [FSA Safe Method checklist](#) allows employers to assess the personal hygiene and fitness to work practices in their workplace.



# Social distancing in the workplace during coronavirus (COVID-19): sector guidance

Advice for employers on social distancing during coronavirus (COVID-19).

Published 7 April 2020

From: [Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy](#)

## Contents

- Overview
- Shops running a pick-up or delivery service
- Tradespeople and working in people's homes
- Construction
- Manufacturing and processing businesses
- Retail
- Logistics businesses
- Outdoor businesses
- Farming: visiting farms for animal health and welfare
- Fishing or other short-term offshore work
- Cargo-shipping or other long-term offshore work
- Transport businesses
- Waste management businesses

[Shops running a pick-up or delivery service](#)

[Manufacturing and processing businesses](#)

[Retail](#)

[Logistics businesses](#)

[Farming: visiting farms for animal health and welfare](#)

[Outdoor businesses](#)

[Fishing or other short-term offshore work](#)

[Transport businesses](#)

[Waste management businesses](#)

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/social-distancing-in-the-workplace-during-coronavirus-covid-19-sector-guidance#transport-businesses>



## Use of private vehicles and car pooling

When using a private vehicle to make a journey that is essential, cars should only be shared by members of the same household. Those who normally share a car with people who are not members of their own household for a journey that is essential, e.g. getting to work, should consider alternatives such as walking, cycling and public transport where you maintain a distance of 2 metres from others.

If the journey is essential, such as travel to work, and there is no option but to share a car with people who are not part of the same household, journeys should be shared with the same individuals and with the minimum number of people at any one time.

Good ventilation (i.e. keeping the windows open) and facing away from each other may help to reduce the risk of transmission. Private vehicles that are used by people from multiple households should be cleaned regularly using gloves and standard cleaning products with particular emphasis on handles and other areas where passengers may touch surfaces.

[Read further advice for staff in the transport sector.](#)





Guidance

# COVID-19: cleaning in non-healthcare settings

Updated 26 March 2020

## Contents

[What you need to know](#)

[Background](#)

[Principles of cleaning after the case has left the setting or area](#)

## What you need to know

- cleaning an area with normal household disinfectant after someone with suspected coronavirus (COVID-19) has left will reduce the risk of passing the infection on to other people
- wear disposable or washing-up gloves and aprons for cleaning. These should be double-bagged, then stored securely for 72 hours then thrown away in the regular rubbish after cleaning is finished
- using a disposable cloth, first clean hard surfaces with warm soapy water. Then disinfect these surfaces with the cleaning products you normally use. Pay particular attention to frequently touched areas and surfaces, such as bathrooms, grab-rails in corridors and stairwells and door handles
- if an area has been heavily contaminated, such as with visible bodily fluids, from a person with coronavirus (COVID-19), use protection for the eyes, mouth and nose, as





<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings>

## Cleaning and disinfection

Public areas where a symptomatic individual has passed through and spent minimal time, such as corridors, but which are not visibly contaminated with body fluids can be cleaned thoroughly as normal.

All surfaces that the symptomatic person has come into contact with must be cleaned and disinfected, including:

- objects which are visibly contaminated with body fluids
- all potentially contaminated high-contact areas such as bathrooms, door handles, telephones, grab-rails in corridors and stairwells

Use disposable cloths or paper roll and disposable mop heads, to clean all hard surfaces, floors, chairs, door handles and sanitary fittings, following one of the options below:

- use either a combined detergent disinfectant solution at a dilution of 1,000 parts per million available chlorine

or

- a household detergent followed by disinfection (1000 ppm av.cl.). Follow manufacturer's instructions for dilution, application and contact times for all detergents and disinfectants

or

- if an alternative disinfectant is used within the organisation, this should be checked and ensure that it is effective against enveloped viruses

Avoid creating splashes and spray when cleaning.

Any cloths and mop heads used must be disposed of and should be put into waste bags as outlined below.

When items cannot be cleaned using detergents or laundered, for example, upholstered furniture and mattresses, steam cleaning should be used.



Public Health  
England

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19/guidance-for-employers-and-businesses-on-coronavirus-covid-19>

## Use of face masks in the community

There is very little evidence of widespread benefit from the use of face masks outside of the clinical or care settings, where they play a very important role. To be effective, face masks must be worn correctly, changed frequently, removed properly, disposed of safely and used in combination with good universal hygiene behaviour.

Research shows that compliance with these recommended behaviours reduces over time when wearing face masks for prolonged periods, such as in the community. Therefore, PHE does not advise masks in public places and for those working in supermarkets, waste collection, schools and similar settings.

PHE recommends that employers should ensure that:

- spaces in the workplace are optimised to allow social distancing to occur, wherever possible
- signs are visible in the workplace reminding employees not to attend work if they have a fever or cough and to avoid touching their eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- employees are provided with hand sanitiser for frequent use and regular breaks to allow them to wash their hands for 20 seconds

The UK does not currently advise use of face masks outside of care settings, in line with [PPE guidance](#).

PHE will continually review guidance in line with emerging evidence and World Health Organization (WHO) guidance, and update our guidance whenever new evidence suggests that we should do so.