

ONS figures show a fifth of workers are exclusively working from home

The latest [Office for National Statistics figures](#) showing the impacts of the Covid pandemic on society suggest that more people are returning to the workplace with 57% of working adults reporting that they had travelled to work, either exclusively or in combination with working from home.

Of all working adults, 77% said they had either worked at home or travelled to work this week whilst 20% had worked exclusively at home.

Guidance updated on coronavirus testing

The Government has updated its [guidance on testing](#) to include a section on registering a home test kit. The guidance includes information about who is eligible for a test and how to get tested.

With the latest [coronavirus data](#) showing that the number of cases is increasing and demand for testing expected to rise, the Government is encouraging only those with symptoms to get tested.

The 'R' rate across the UK is between 0.9 and 1.1 and the growth rate between -1% and +2% meaning that the number of new infections is between shrinking by 1% and growing by 2% every day.

England introduces more targeted approach to travel corridors

England has introduced a new more targeted approach to placing countries and territories on the travel corridor, now enabling islands belonging to a country to be added or removed from the list.

As of 4am today, those returning from Crete, Lesvos, Mykonos, Santorini, Serifos, Tinos and Zakynthos will have to isolate for 14 days. Anybody planning to travel should [check the guidance on the Gov.UK website](#) and be mindful that the status of a territory or country can change at short notice.

Kickstart Scheme attracts criticism from small businesses

The Government's new [Kickstart Scheme](#), launched last week to provide funds to firms giving jobs to young unemployed people, has attracted criticism from the [Federation of Small Businesses](#) by only making it available to companies offering a minimum of 30 job placements, rendering it inaccessible.

The Department for Work and Pensions has published a [list of local and national contacts](#) for those interested in the taking up the new scheme and has also published new information for public sector organisations and charities.

Government places e-commerce at heart of retail 'Bounce-back plan'

[A 'bounce-back' plan of trade measures](#) for the consumer and retail industry has been announced by the Department for International Trade to help support businesses impacted by Coronavirus.

The new measures will offer immediate support to businesses by ensuring specialists provide advice on online retail and international market-places. Additionally, the launch of a new Consumer and Retail Export Academy will provide businesses with the critical knowledge, skills and networks needed to increase exports.

New report shows the impact of Covid on the nation's mental health

Public Health England has published its [Mental health and wellbeing surveillance report](#) sharing insights into the population's wellbeing during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The report compiles routinely updated indicators from multiple sources and summarises important findings from ongoing surveys.