



Northumberland
County Council

Covid 19 Public Health Update

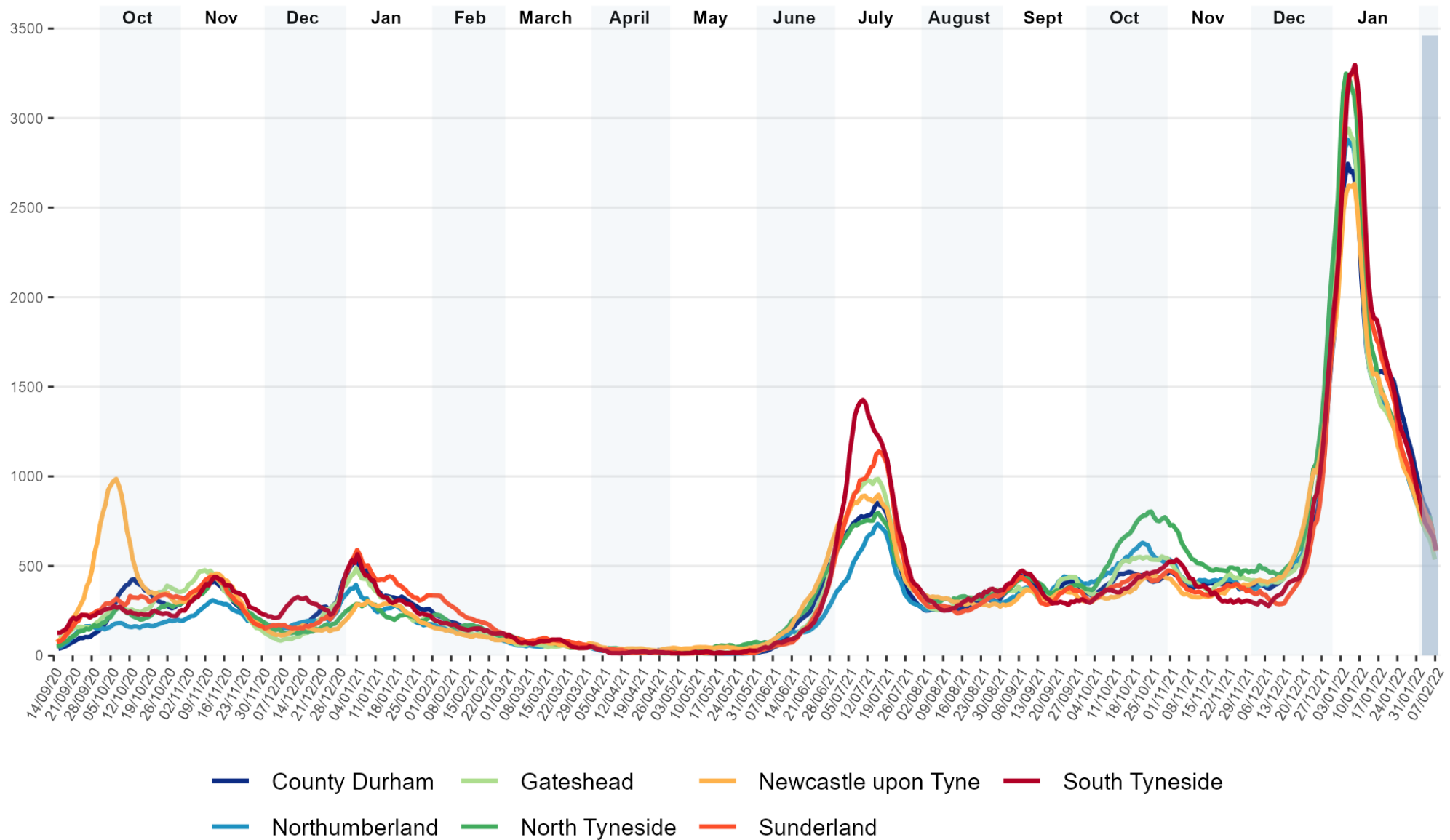
Health and Wellbeing Board

Liz Morgan – Interim Executive Director of Public Health and Community Services

10th Feb 2022

www.northumberland.gov.uk

Infection episodes as a 7 day rolling rate per 100,000 population (2019 estimates), of North East local authorities.
 Most recent days liable to change due to reporting delays. Includes results announced 08 Feb, 2022.



Weekly Change in Rate per 100,000 - week beginning

6 December 2021	13 December 2021	20 December 2021	27 December 2021	3 January 2022	10 January 2022	17 January 2022	24 January 2022	31 January 2022
440.99	542.89	969.67	2,176.21	2,722.81	1,503.00	1,287.75	915.01	695.14

Rate of Positive Cases per 100,000 - 31/01/2022 to 06/02/2022

695.1

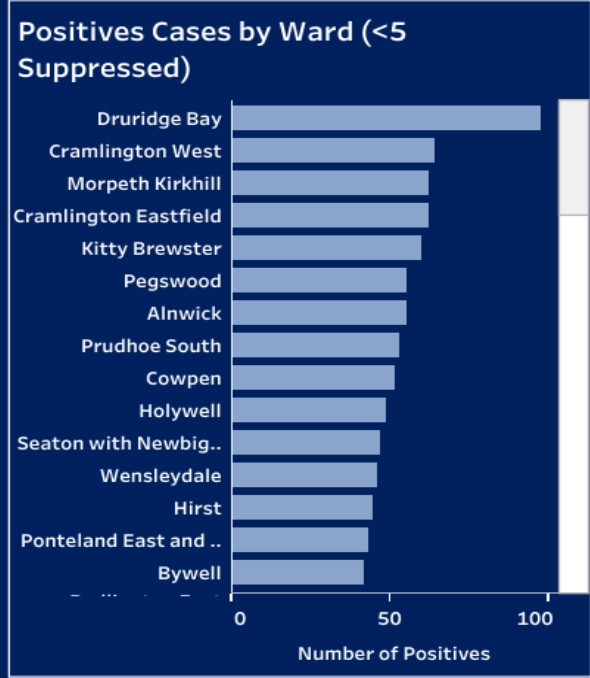
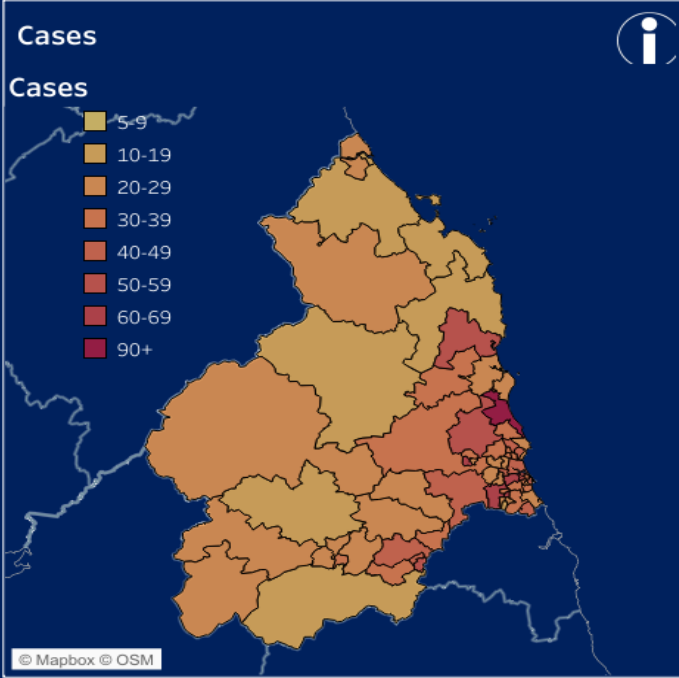
New Confirmed Positive Cases - 31/01/2022 to 06/02/2022

2,251

Epidemic Curve - Click below to select view

Possible Reinfections

Date	Number of Cases
6 February 2022	36
5 February 2022	20
4 February 2022	21
3 February 2022	28
2 February 2022	36
1 February 2022	50
31 January 2022	46



Daily Cases - This data is subject to change and cases will be added retrospectively on a daily basis

6 February 2022	275	▲
5 February 2022	219	▼
4 February 2022	262	▼
3 February 2022	299	▼
2 February 2022	326	▼
1 February 2022	429	▼
31 January 2022	441	

Where are we now?

- Very different to 2021. Vaccination and booster, extensive test and trace (including local provision), treatments, communication
 - Still high rates ONS survey 1 in 19 in England positive and significant response was required to Omicron variant. Significant disruption to people's lives and services
 - Less severe disease but 8 times more likely to be hospitalised if unvaccinated than vaccinated and boosted ([UKHSA](#)); lower hospital admissions and deaths
 - Outbreaks across key settings including schools and care homes
 - Continued vaccination programme
 - Local outbreak management plans continue to provide framework and COMF funding in place
- **Spring Plan** – expected 21st Feb
 - All remaining legislation relating to covid restrictions likely to end on 24 March (if not before)
 - Restrictions on visits to care homes in England likely to be eased further.
 - Best defence remains vaccination; expecting guidance on next steps



Is covid-19 endemic?

- What do we mean by endemic?
- Uncertainty about long term patterns but we should expect future waves
- Pattern determined by:
 - New variants.
 - Changes in number and age distribution of susceptible individuals
 - Seasonality
 - Extent of social mixing
- UK pattern likely to be temporary until global disease distribution settles.
- Not there yet with covid-19

LA7 Covid-19 current priorities

1. Equitable and rapid deployment of covid and flu vaccination programmes
2. Encouraging good infection prevention and control measures including hand washing, respiratory hygiene, good ventilation and face coverings where appropriate
3. Coordinated Test, Trace and Isolate programme and management of outbreaks via Local Outbreak Management Plans
4. Taking our communities with us
5. Protection of vulnerable individuals in the community;
6. Continued monitoring and surveillance
7. To re-focus work on health inequalities

Things to consider

- What will test trace and isolate look like once the need to self-isolate is removed
- Will we need to test and what will 'high risk' settings require
- What will happen to NHS Test and Trace at end of March
- How can we effectively promote IPC measures that are of benefit
- Can we utilise other mechanisms e.g waste water testing for disease surveillance
- We need to be prepared to stand up interventions again if needed – vaccination, testing, support for self-isolation
- How we 'pivot' to other health inequalities, existing and those exacerbated by covid-19

Next steps

- Short term 'living safely with covid-19' - joint workshop with ADASS, ADCS, UKHSA, OHID and NHS to build detail into the priorities, actions and timescales. Set up for 14th February
- Develop a strategic framework for living safely with covid-19 and update Local Outbreak Management Plan
- Review our priorities and identify where we can work together at scale building on what we have learnt and existing work
- Agree a shared programme of work for LA7 to close the gap in health inequalities

Key messages

[BeatCovidNE.co.uk](https://www.beatcovidne.co.uk)

- Case rates are falling but still remain high, especially in primary school age children.
- We are likely to experience further waves of infection which we need to prepare for.
- Vaccination remains the lynchpin of protection from severe disease and death.
- Continuing with the basic measures – hands, face, space, self-isolation have little impact on our daily lives but are effective at reducing transmission (of many respiratory infections).