

Weekly note on COVID in Bolton – 5th August 2020

This note brings together a summary of the information from a range of indicators of cases of COVID-19 amongst residents of Bolton. The information is based on data from official sources. It presents the picture of our understanding according to the latest available data on the date of the note's release. No single indicator gives the complete picture; counts and rates will vary from day to day and are interpreted alongside other indicators and contextual information including testing rates, positivity, our understanding of what's driving transmission locally and within neighbouring areas. The period to which the indicators apply may vary and are stated within the text.

Data on COVID-19 in Bolton is available at <https://www.boltonjsna.org.uk/coronavirus>

Positive cases from swab testing (Pillar 1 and Pillar 2)

- Numbers of positive cases have risen in Bolton over the last week with an average of 8.3 per day in the week to 1st August. Most positive cases have come through community swab testing (known as Pillar 2)
- We are seeing patterns that suggest transmission within the community, and within and between households. Recent cases have mostly been working-age adults, particularly younger adults aged 16-44; many cases are from the most disadvantaged parts of the town, and around half are of Asian/Asian British ethnicity

7 day rate of cases per 100,000 population

- The current rate of 22.3 for the period ending 1st August is higher than the previous week.

Test numbers and Positivity

- We are seeing increases in the number of people going for testing. The proportion of tests reported as positive, known as 'positivity', is slightly higher than last week.

Community outbreaks

- We have managed one community outbreak in the hospitality sector, and two outbreaks in care homes with specialist guidance given on infection prevention control, hygiene and isolations of contacts to limit further spread.

Regional R

- The R value for the North West is 0.8-1.1 as of Friday 31st July. The most likely true value is somewhere towards the middle of this range. However, this latest figure for the North West is noted to be insufficiently robust to inform policy.

NHS activity

- Data available to us internally indicate that calls to NHS 111 and admissions to hospital are low

Deaths with COVID-19 and deaths from all causes

- Sadly, there have been a total of 321 deaths with COVID-19 occurrent amongst Bolton residents up to 24th July (registered up to 1st August)
- Weekly figures for deaths with COVID-19 are relatively low with less than 5 deaths a week in recent weeks, with no deaths recorded for the last 2 weeks. Weekly deaths from all causes for the last 3 weeks are at or below the average for the same week in recent years

Prepared by Lynn Donkin, Consultant in Public Health, Bolton Council with support from Bolton COVID-19 Data Cell. Queries should be sent to: PublicHealthDirectorate@bolton.gov.uk

Definitions:

Pillar 1: swab testing in Public Health England (PHE) labs and NHS hospitals for those with a clinical need, and health and care worker

Pillar 2: swab testing for the wider population, as set out in government guidance and delivered with Deloitte

Outbreak: two or more confirmed cases associated with a workplace, care home or educational setting with onset dates within 14 days

Figure 1.

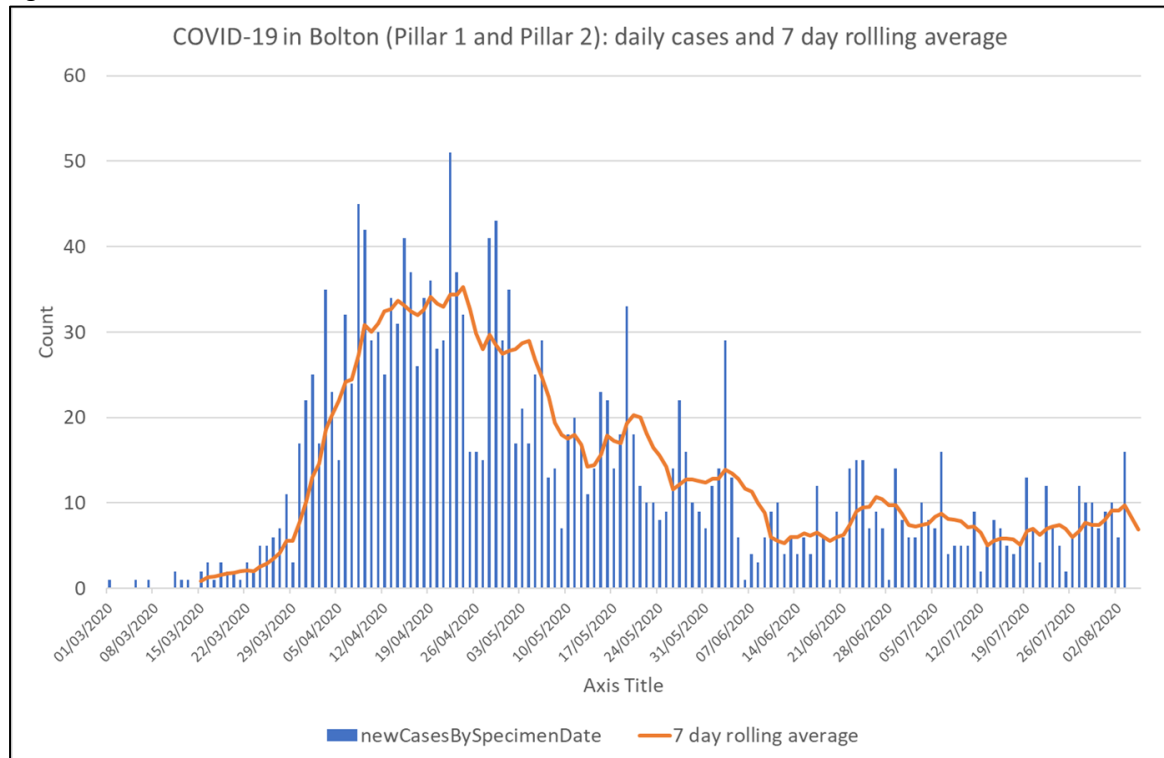
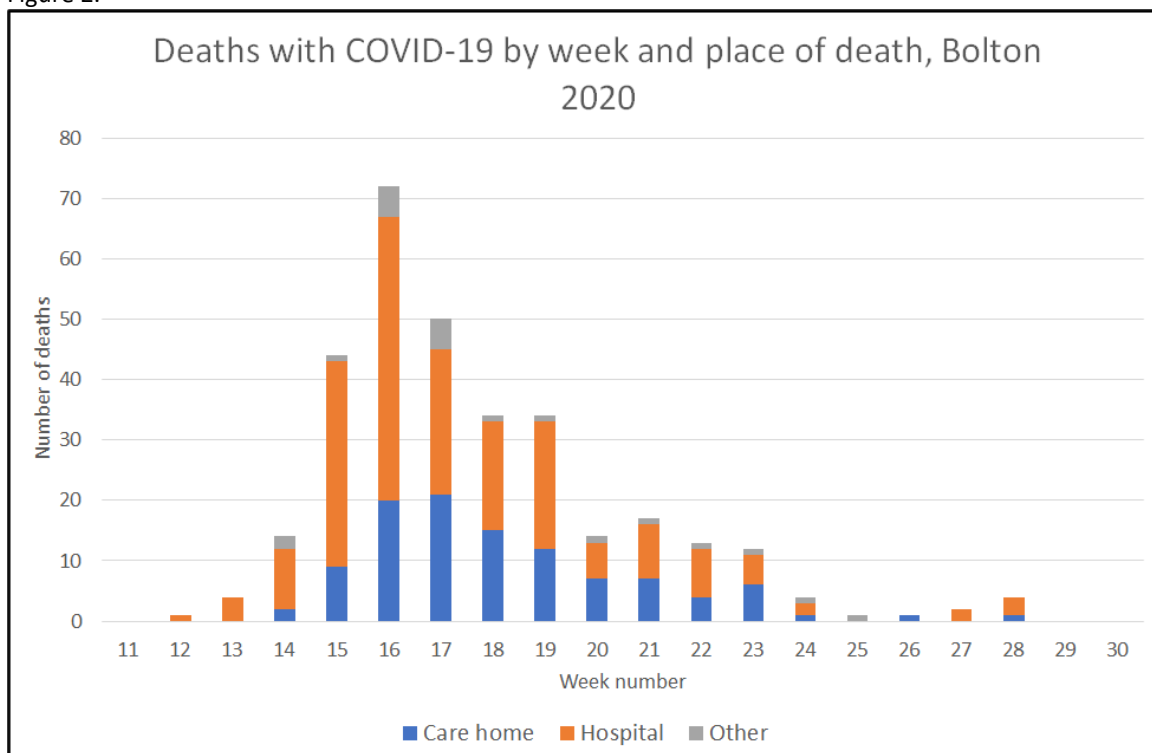


Figure 2.



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