

Surge testing to be deployed in Wakefield

Press release

Following the identification of a small number of confirmed cases of the Delta variant additional testing is being deployed in Wakefield.



NHS Test and Trace – in partnership with the local authority – is deploying additional testing and genomic sequencing in Wakefield.

Surge testing will commence on Thursday 24 June in Wakefield North, Wakefield South, Wakefield East, Pontefract North and Pontefract South, following the identification of a small number of confirmed cases of the Delta (B.1.617.2) variant. All the confirmed cases have been instructed to self-isolate and their contacts have been identified.

All adults aged 18 and over who live or work in these areas is strongly encouraged to take a COVID-19 PCR test, whether they are showing symptoms or not.

Enhanced contact tracing will be used for individuals testing positive with a variant of concern (VOC). This is where contact tracers look back over an extended period to determine the route of transmission.

By using PCR testing, positive results are sent for genomic sequencing at specialist laboratories, helping us to identify COVID-19 cases with a VOC and then prevent their spread.

If you have symptoms you should [book a free test online](#) or by phone. You can then go to a testing site or have a kit sent to your home. If you have no symptoms, you should visit your [local authority's website for more information](#).

People in this area should continue to make use of free twice-weekly rapid tests, commonly known as lateral flow devices, alongside the PCR test as part of surge testing.

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