

Dear Resident,

21/12/2020

I am writing to inform you there has been a spike in COVID-19 cases in the Trimdon area this week. I appreciate this may sound worrying but I can tell you the spike can be explained by recorded cases within two particular settings.

I can assure you action is already being taken to prevent further transmission within these settings and to reduce the risk of onward spread into the community. We have activated an Outbreak Control Team to manage the cases in the settings.

Public Health Outbreak Control Teams monitor spikes for evidence of community transmission, and in this instance, infection rates and numbers of new cases in areas around the settings remain low. However, I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone of the importance of the simple actions 'Hand, Face, Space' we can all take to protect ourselves. That is washing hands regularly, wearing a face covering where appropriate and keeping two metres from people from outside your household wherever possible.

With Christmas just round the corner we are encouraging everyone to carefully consider their plans and actions over the festive period. While the law says we can all meet three households on Christmas Day, it is worth remembering that increases in social contact and household mixing could see infections rise steeply again in the New Year.

Amanda Healy
Director of Public Health for County Durham
Durham County Council

