



Asymptomatic COVID-19 testing for people visiting our courts and tribunals (7 May 2021)

Over the last few months, we have been working with the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) to pilot and roll out rapid testing for court users. We have now been given the go-ahead by DHSC to provide home test kits across our whole estate.

We are in the process of planning the roll out of home-test kits for court users to collect across all our courts and tribunals.

Home test collection from courts and tribunals

Home testing kits are now available in all English and Welsh courts and tribunal sites. They will be offered to all regular court and tribunal users including legal professionals. Tests will be offered to all regular court and tribunal users (including legal professionals).

We are working closely with the Scottish Government to seek access to LFD testing for our Scottish tribunals and in the meantime invite staff and judiciary to access individual home collect test kits from the Test and Trace website.

The on-site testing pilots at Manchester Civil Justice Centre, Southwark Crown Court, Leeds Combined Court, Leicester Crown Court, Reading Crown Court, Winchester Combined Court and Northampton County Court Business Centre have now been converted to home-test kit collection sites.

Accessing tests in England

In England, those who don't visit a court or tribunal site regularly, work from home, or where home delivery is more convenient, are able to [order home-testing kits online via the new government scheme](#). Or you may be able to get a rapid test from an NHS site. The best way to find a location is to use the [NHS COVID-19 Test and Vaccination Site Finder](#).

Accessing tests in Wales

In Wales, home-test kits are now available from courts or tribunals. You can read more about testing in Wales on the [Gov.Wales website](#).

Accessing tests in Scotland

In Scotland, until home-test kits are available at courts or tribunals, if you have coronavirus symptoms, you can book a [PCR test through gov.uk](#). This is a full test, rather than a lateral flow device rapid test.

If you don't have any symptoms, you can access local community testing, which is being organised by a number of local authorities. You can see the latest list of community testing sites on the [Gov.Scotland website](#).

Surge testing

Surge testing is currently being used in areas of England where COVID-19 variants have been identified. In locations where new virus variants have been found the government [advises you to take a COVID test](#), whether you are showing symptoms or not.

Test results

It remains essential that anyone who gets a positive result from a lateral flow device result self-isolates immediately, as must other members of their household, while they get a confirmatory PCR test. Please see [government advice](#) for more info.