

APPENDIX A

Appendix A: Covid-19 Timeline

31 December	WHO informed of clusters in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China
7 January	Novel virus was named COVID-19
11 – 23 January	Virus spread across China, with the centre of the outbreak Wuhan placed under quarantine on 23 January
31 January	First cases of COVID-19 in UK (two from the same family). WHO declared a Public health emergency of international concern
7 February	Three cases in the UK
18 February	The notification cascade for the first case within the HIOW was agreed
28 February	After the death of a Briton aboard the Diamond Princess Cruise ship, Boris Johnson declared that the issue of coronavirus is the government's top priority.
2 March	COBR meeting – framework released is contain, delay, mitigate, research
3 March	Release of Coronavirus action plan. First confirmed case in HIOW in the HCC area.
6 March	2 confirmed cases in HIOW. WHO declared COVID-19 a very high global risk
9 March	Italy imposed restrictions across the whole country
10 March	9 confirmed cases. 1 on the Isle of Wight, 8 in Hampshire, 0 in Southampton and Portsmouth
11 March	NHS are at level 4 incident (the highest level). Budget released by Exchequer: £5bn for NHS and public services, those self-isolating are paid statutory sick pay, self-employed can claim contributory employment support allowance. £500m for councils to help the most vulnerable. Firms with less than 250 staff will be refunded for sick payments for 2 weeks.
12 March	Schools are to remain open. Move from contain phase into delay. UK Chief Medical Officer raised UK risk level from Moderate to High
13 March	People with a continuous new cough and high temperature must isolate for 7 days. People aged over 70 and those with serious medical conditions advised against going on cruises
16 March	PM to make daily media briefings. Significant escalation of social distancing and self-isolation and working from home where possible. All members within a household must self-isolate for 14 days if one member shows symptoms.
18 March	SCG declared a major incident
20 March	Schools closed, apart from for children of key workers. All businesses that encourage social gatherings ordered to close
22 March	Social distancing is key, as many people continued to go to the beach and parks. 1.5 million vulnerable people in the UK will be contacted to shield for 12 weeks
23 March	Nationwide 3-week lockdown announced. PM announces that people can only leave the house for following reasons: essential shopping as infrequently as possible, one form of exercise a day, medical need such as to provide care or help a vulnerable person and travelling to and from work – but only where necessary. 1.5 million people must shield who are particularly vulnerable with specific health conditions. Police will have powers to reinforce through fines and dispersal notices
24 March	Government announces hardship fund for vulnerable people
24 March	Block-booking of all private sector beds, upskilling staff and recruiting recently retired nurses and doctors, and provision of equipment (particularly ventilators). A three-week peak in the pandemic is expected at end of May/start of June. Death rate 22,995-60,150 people. There are 3750 acute beds in HIOW NHS. Worse case peak would require 11,600. 110 critical care beds but would require 4000. SCG agreed the unmitigated reasonable worst-case scenario:

26 March	Government announces financial package to assist the self employed
27 March	PM and Health Secretary test positive. Peak expected to be for three weeks occurring in Mid-May. Government aiming to test 10,000 people per day by end of March and 25,000 by mid-April. 500,000 volunteers have come forward and are coordinated nationally.
28 March	Solent Exclusion Order - Competition law suspended to allow IOW ferry operators to coordinate to maintain a crucial lifeline between the Island and mainland.
30 March	Peak of three weeks from Friday 17 th April. Deputy Chief Medical Officer advised that the country needs to be prepared for 6 months of social distancing measures.
31 March	Guidance published on handling of the deceased.
1 April	NHS predicting that the peak for the critical care bed capacity will be three weeks from 13-14 April.
7 April	A document outlining the approach to testing including possible methods and sites for testing. Still waiting on delivery of PPE, only 40% expected to arrive. Prime Minister's letter and leaflet released containing information such as spotting the symptoms, advice for the vulnerable group, and information about Government support for businesses and workers.
8 April	Military planners have been assisting the NHS to evaluate options for an increase in local bedded capacity if required.
11 April	National Testing Centre in SE is Radox at Gatwick Airport.
13 April	Modelling – the peak/plateau will be later, lower and longer than earlier predictions. Social distancing measures will not be lifted in the near future.
15 April	Press briefing led by Matt Hancock to focus on social care. All care home residents discharged from hospital will be tested and PPE will be provided to all symptomatic care home residents, care workers and their families when needed. Launch of a new online delivery system for PPE.
16 April	Lockdown has been extended by 3 weeks, announced in the daily briefing by Dominic Raab.
17 April	Test run of a Chinook from St Mary's HLS to Southampton.
18 April	MHCLG announced financial relief for council including ability to defer £2.6bil in business rates payments to central government and bring forward £850mil in social care grants
20 April	It was announced that lockdown has been extending until at least 1 st May. The Portsmouth Tipner testing site is open for key workers to drop in on 21 st and 22 nd .
24 April	The military send a mobile testing unit over to the IOW for the next 4 days to conduct 450 tests a day. A national online booking system was launched, however due to demand it was closed to further bookings.
24 April	The Secretary of state announced a package of financial support for Ferry links to the IOW.
27 April	1-minute silence at 11am for healthcare workers who have died of coronavirus. The number of care home with outbreaks has been highlighted.
28 April	Provisional counts of deaths in care home will be released every Tuesday. Boris Johnson plans to release information on preparations for a "second phase" of the battle against COVID-19, including the steps to re-opening offices, allowing people to see immediate family, football matches played behind doors. However, schools will remain closed for the foreseeable future. It is proposed that waste and recycling sites will be re-opened so local government warned to prepare.
29 April	Funding allocations were confirmed for councils by MHCLG. A letter from NHS England describes the second phase of the response, asking all local NHS organisation to step up non-Covid19 urgent services ASAP within next 6 weeks. Operating theatres and recovery suites will return to their normal use.

30 April	Oxford University is partnering with AstraZeneca to develop a vaccine.
1 May	All PPE purchased will be free from VAT for a three-month period. The importance of keeping the R value below 1 is stressed, which is one of the 5 tests that will allow the lockdown measures to be eased.
2 May	CCG chief nurses are asked to nominate a contact who can train care homes about PHE's recommended approach to infection prevention and control, after the second phase of the response was directed to local NHS systems to start preparing by NHS England. £76 million extra funding is being provided to support vulnerable people.
3 May	£617 million funding has been allocated to certain small businesses outside the scope of the business grants funds scheme.
4 May	The track and trace app will be ready to download on the Isle of Wight for NHS and IWC staff. £76 million has been allocated to support survivors of domestic abuse, sexual violence and vulnerable children and their families. Isle of Wight Satellite testing facility at Medina Leisure Centre received approval to go ahead.
7 May	Formal Launch of NHS COVID-19 Trace and Test app on the Isle of Wight.
10 May	Prime Minister announces easing of lockdown in a 3-step plan.
11 May	Guidance on easing lockdown and the government COVID-19 Strategy is published.