



A message from the Mayor of Tower Hamlets



I'd like to start by thanking all of you who continue to follow government guidelines. It's been a difficult six months which have had a huge impact on everyone, whether financially, emotionally or physically.

Despite a fall over the summer, we are seeing cases of Covid-19 rise and we need to accept that the situation is once again worsening. **Tower Hamlets now has one of the highest levels of Covid-19 in London.** As a second rise in infections hits us, we must take all steps necessary to limit the spread of the virus and protect those most at risk.

Last week, the government announced [new measures](#) in an effort to control the virus. I can't stress enough the importance of following these rules.

While the virus is a threat to everyone, we know it has a higher impact on older and medically vulnerable residents, as well as on some Black, Asian and minority ethnic groups. We also know that young people are catching and spreading the virus in growing numbers.

The diverse communities in Tower Hamlets are what make our borough great, but it also means Tower Hamlets is at greater risk. **Every single one of us must play our part to protect our communities and stop the virus spreading.**

With this in mind, **now is the time we must take further action.** I am clear that the **current national rules are a minimum** and my advice to you all is to do everything in your power to protect each other. Our individual actions have consequences for us all.



In addition to the national measures, we're asking residents to help reduce the spread of Covid-19 locally.

Many cases of Covid-19 in Tower Hamlets are as a result of **people visiting other households**, so we are asking residents to **avoid this unless absolutely necessary.**

This really is a matter of life and death and we need to act urgently.

The next few months will be very challenging. Without a vaccine or more effective treatment, our primary weapon against the virus is responsible behaviour. Measures to curb the spread of the virus will only work if people follow them.

If you haven't already, please download the [NHS Covid-19 app](#) now. The more of us who use the app, the more power we'll have to contain the virus locally and nationally.

Please do your bit to keep Tower Hamlets safe.

Mayor Biggs