



Covid-19 Pandemic in Scotland: A Timeline of Key Dates

1 March 2020

The first instance of COVID-19 infection in Scotland was officially verified during a presentation delivered to the Scottish Parliament by Jeane Freeman, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport.

) 11 March 2020

Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, the Director-General of the World Health Organisation (WHO), announced the classification of the coronavirus as a pandemic, naming it 'COVID-19'.

13 March 2020

Catherine Calderwood, Chief Medical Officer for Scotland, announced the first confirmed death of a COVID-19 patient in Scotland.

17 March 2020

First Minister Nicola Sturgeon reiterated Scottish Government guidance on selfisolation, minimising social contact, and hygiene practices. A 'Shielding List' for vulnerable individuals was introduced.

20 March 2020

Deputy First Minister John Swinney confirmed the cancellation of 2020 exams and the closure of schools and nurseries without a set time limit.

22 March 2020

First Minister Nicola Sturgeon led the first televised COVID-19 daily media briefing for the Scottish Government.

24 March 2020

The first lockdown in Scotland commenced following a televised address by the First Minister and a meeting of the UK Government's COBR committee.

26 March 2020

The Scottish Government announced social distancing enforcement measures, rules on staying at home, and updated guidance for adult care homes.

• 4 April 2020

Guidance for businesses in Scotland on social distancing, including the closure of nonessential retailers, was published.

22 June 2020

Face coverings became mandatory on public transport.







10 July 2020

The UK Government exempted certain countries from the requirement to self-isolate for 14 days upon arrival.

11 August 2020

Pupils started to return to schools in Scotland.

25 September 2020

A 10 pm curfew was introduced in the hospitality sector.

23 October 2020

Scotland's Strategic Framework, a five tiered framework, was published by the Scottish Government.

29 October 2020

The First Minister introduced Scotland's first set of regional protection levels under the Strategic Framework, which would come into effect on Monday 2 November 2020.

2 November 2020

Scotland's regional protection levels commenced with most local authorities in levels 1-3.

14 December 2020

The first COVID-19 vaccinations in care homes in Scotland were administered.

19 December 2020

New guidance limited the easing of restrictions around Christmas to Christmas Day only.

5 January 2021

Mainland Scotland went into lockdown.

18 January 2021

All travel corridors were suspended.

10 February 2021

One million first dose COVID-19 vaccinations had been administered in Scotland.

2 April 2021

Non-essential journeys within the local authority area were relaxed to "stay local".

e 26 April 2021

Scotland moved to Level 3 restrictions. Hospitality venues and tourist accommodation reopened.

8 September 2021







The legal requirements for physical distancing and limits on gatherings were removed.

20 September 2021 The Scottish Government launched the COVID-19 booster vaccination programme. Residents in care homes for older people were the first to be offered COVID-19 booster 29 November 2021 The first cases of the COVID-19 Omicron variant were identified in Scotland. 14 December 2021 Lady Poole was appointed Chair of the Scottish COVID-19 Public Inquiry.

27 December 2021

vaccinations.

1-metre physical distancing was reinstated in hospitality and indoor leisure settings to halt the spread of the Omicron variant.

14 January 2022

Over 10,000 people in Scotland had died within 28 days of testing positive for COVID-19.

18 March 2022

All international travel restrictions were removed in Scotland.

18 April 2022

The legal requirement to wear face coverings on public transport and in most indoor settings was lifted.

30 April 2022

Mass symptomatic PCR COVID-19 testing in Scotland ended, and testing sites closed.

28 June 2022

The Coronavirus (Recovery and Reform) (Scotland) Bill was passed in the Scottish Parliament.

27 October 2022

Lord Brailsford was appointed Chair of the Scottish COVID-19 Inquiry following the departure of the previous Chair.

5 May 2023

The World Health Organisation declared that COVID-19 no longer constituted a public health emergency of international concern.



Source: https://www.covid19inquiry.scot/covid-19-pandemic-scotland-timeline-key-dates

