

Dorrington Gardens – Local Testing Site (LTS)

As you will likely be aware, Dorrington Gardens has hosted a Mobile Testing Unit (MTU) regularly since 12th December 2020. We can now share the good news that given the success of this arrangement, the Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) have offered to locate a permanent local testing site there, which has been accepted.

The introduction of a fourth permanent Testing facility will mean Havering residents have some of the best access to COVID-19 testing across London – a fundamental step in preventing transmission of the disease. Testing is now available to all whether symptomatic or asymptomatic. See further information below:

Dorrington Gardens Car Park Local Testing Site – Walk through site

- **Location:** Dorrington Gardens, Hornchurch RM12 4HX
- **Operational hours:** 8am to 8pm, seven days a week
- **Booking system:** Booking online is required from GOV testing portal, available [here](#). If individuals cannot book they can walk up and get tested.
- **Site type:** walk through
- **What type of testing:** This is PCR testing which means the test is sent to a laboratory for analysis.
- **How long will it be here:** 6+ months
- **Test site capacity:** The capacity will be 288 tests per day

Local Testing Sites (LTS) such as the Dorrington Garden site are designed to be placed in communities to increase access to testing. This site will be placed on the upper level of Dorrington Gardens car park, leaving the lower level available for car parking. Testing sites are subject to stringent health and safety regulations thus there is no increased risk to residents. We have written to residents in the surrounding area, please see map attached, which will be delivered on Tuesday 26 January, and further information has also been made available through the Living in Havering newsletter on Friday 22 January.

Testing Options

Testing helps us to find who has been infected with COVID-19 and to take the right action to prevent further spread of infection. Please support us by sharing the following information on testing with your constituents.

Symptomatic testing

- Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms, should self-isolate immediately and book a PCR test online [here](#) or by calling 119.

Asymptomatic twice weekly testing

- Anyone who cannot work from home (paid or voluntary) is invited to get regular rapid tests
- Rapid testing gives a result in under an hour
- All eligible for rapid testing can book twice weekly slots at one of three sites in the borough: Elm Park, Harold Wood or Collier Row.
- Some non-bookable slots are available on a first come first served basis

Asymptomatic PCR testing

London Borough of Havering

- Anyone not eligible for twice weekly rapid testing can still get an asymptomatic test, by booking a PCR test and choosing the option "My local council or health protection team has asked me (or someone I live with) to get a test, even though I do not have symptoms'. Book online [here](#)

More information about testing options for Havering residents here:

<https://www.havering.gov.uk/covid19testing>

Frequently Asked Questions – Local Testing Sites (LTS)

Testing is available for anyone with COVID-19 symptoms, with additional support for vulnerable groups and people with disabilities. Those who have been asked to get tested by a doctor, public health professional or by their local council may also get a test.

The symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous cough
- A loss or change to sense or taste.

Do I need to book an appointment for the test centre?

Yes, anyone who visits the testing site will be recommended to make an appointment before attending the walk-through sites. If they cannot book online then they can walk-up to this site. Please find information [here](#). If a resident is not confident with a computer or does not have access to the computer, they may call 119 to book a test.

What does a test involve?

The test involves taking a swab of the inside of your nose and the back of your throat, using a long cotton bud. You will receive supervision when doing the test to provide advice and ensure the process is comfortable. Parents or guardians have to swab test children aged 11 or under.

How will someone get their result?

Residents will receive their result via text or email when the result is ready. Most people get their test result the day after taking the test. Due to national capacity, some results might take longer, but they should arrive in 72 hours.

There are 3 types of result someone can get:

- negative
- positive
- unclear, void, borderline or inconclusive

What is a walk-through site/ Local Testing Site?

These sites are designed for people to walk-through rather than attend in a car. People must walk through the site, they cannot drive in to the test site. These sites are placed in urban residential areas to provide anyone access to a testing site.

Do Havering residents get preferential access to local test centres?

All testing sites go on to the national testing portal which is available when someone signs up for a test. Then when booking the test, the closest site with available tests will be put forward.