

Tuesday, 7 December 2021

Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District COVID-19 update

The Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District (ISLHD) has recorded 12 new cases of COVID-19 in the 24 hours to 8pm last night. The LHD is urging the community to maintain vigilance and to continue to come forward for testing and vaccination.

Of the 12 new cases:

- Eight are in the Wollongong Local Government Area (LGA) and one is linked to a known case.
Postcodes – 2515 (5), 2517 (1), 2525 (1) 2530 (1)
- Three are in the Shellharbour LGA - two are linked to known cases.
Postcodes – 2528 (1), 2529 (2)
- One is in the Kiama LGA postcode of 2533.

There were more than 24,280 COVID-19 tests carried out in the Illawarra Shoalhaven for the week ending Sunday, 5 December.

There have been 2,623 cases of COVID-19 in the Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District since June.

Following the issue of [Public Health Alerts](#) last week, the community is being reminded that anyone who attended the venues at the times listed should come forward for testing immediately. Latest times and venues are on the [District's website](#) and [Facebook page](#).

Contact tracing continues, and close contacts are being notified directly by NSW Health. In line with the state-wide protocols, people who have been at a venue at the same time as a confirmed case will receive an alert through the ServiceNSW app.

There are a number of COVID-19 testing clinics across the Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District. Visit the [District's website](#) for a full list and updated opening hours and times. There are also more than 450 COVID-19 testing locations across NSW – visit the [NSW Government website](#) for details.

A reminder also that new rules for returning travellers regarding the Omicron B.1.1.529 variant of concern are now in place. In line with Commonwealth measures, all travellers arriving in NSW who have been in South Africa, Lesotho, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Namibia, Eswatini and Malawi during the 14-day period before their arrival in NSW must enter hotel quarantine for 14 days, irrespective of their vaccination status.

All fully vaccinated travellers who have been in any other overseas country during the 14-day period before their arrival in NSW must travel directly to their place of residence or accommodation and isolate for 72 hours. They will only be able to exit isolation at the end of the 72-hour period if they have received a negative COVID-19 PCR test result taken after arrival in NSW. These people must also complete a PCR test on day six after arrival.

Anyone who has already arrived in NSW who has been in any of the eight African countries within the previous 14 days must immediately get tested and isolate for 14 days, and call NSW Health on 1800 943 553. Remember to get tested if any symptoms appear, no matter how mild.

These include cold or flu-like symptoms such as fever, sore throat, cough or shortness of breath. People with mild symptoms, such as fatigue, new muscle aches or pains, a change in taste or smell or a runny nose should also arrange testing as quickly as possible.

NSW Health will continue to contact people diagnosed with COVID-19 and their close contacts, and people who need to follow specific health advice. If you receive a message from NSW Health, it is important that you follow the advice in that message.

Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District also urges the community to continue to come forward for vaccination. Everyone in Australia aged 12 and over can receive a COVID-19 vaccination. For more information visit www.health.gov.au.

The District's vaccination clinics are now offering a booster dose of the Pfizer vaccine to people aged 18 years and older, six months after their second dose. Appointments are preferred and can be made by calling the ISLHD Booking Team on 1300 096 365 during business hours, or online via the [ISLHD COVID-19 Vaccination Support form](#).

In addition to the District's clinics, booster shots are available at local general practitioners and pharmacies.