

Summary of FM speech 21-12-21

Nicola Sturgeon tells MSPs that Omicron has firmly established itself as the dominate strain - it is nearly 63% of all cases

Ms Sturgeon confirms cases increased by more than 50% in the past week - from over 3,500 a day to almost 5,500 a day.

And she adds there were increases across all age groups but the biggest - of 161% - was in 20 to 24-year-old age range.

1. The first minister has already said there will be no change to the rules or advice around Christmas Day, but she wants contacts to be limited from 27 December
2. She says that large-scale Hogmanay celebrations - including Edinburgh's famous street party - "will not proceed"
3. She adds that sporting fixtures, including football matches, will be "effectively spectator-free" for the next three weeks
4. Ms Sturgeon had already said there would be no change to the rules or advice around Christmas Day, but she reiterates guidance that people should limit their contacts from 27 December
5. People in Scotland have already been asked to stay at home as much as possible and to limit gatherings to groups of no more than three households
6. The FM's statement says that it remains the Scottish government's priority to "open schools as normal" after the holidays

The Scottish government intends to issue guidance that non-professional indoor contact sports for adults should not take place during the three-week period from 26 December. This is because these activities, where physical distancing is not possible, also create a heightened risk of transmission.

Table service only for all bars and restaurants

From 27 December for three weeks all hospitality venues in Scotland will have to operate on a table service only basis if they serve alcohol.

There will also be a rule on 1-metre physical distancing.

Groups of people will be limited to three households.

No crowds at large events for three weeks from 26 December

From 26 December, for up to three weeks, there will be a limit on the size of live public events in Scotland.

This will mean sports such as football matches will have to take place without spectators and large-scale Hogmanay celebrations will be cancelled.

The limits to size are:

- 100 people at indoor standing events
- 200 people at indoor seating events
- 500 people at outdoor events (seated or standing)

This does not apply to private life events such as weddings