

COVID 19 Position statement

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21.10.20

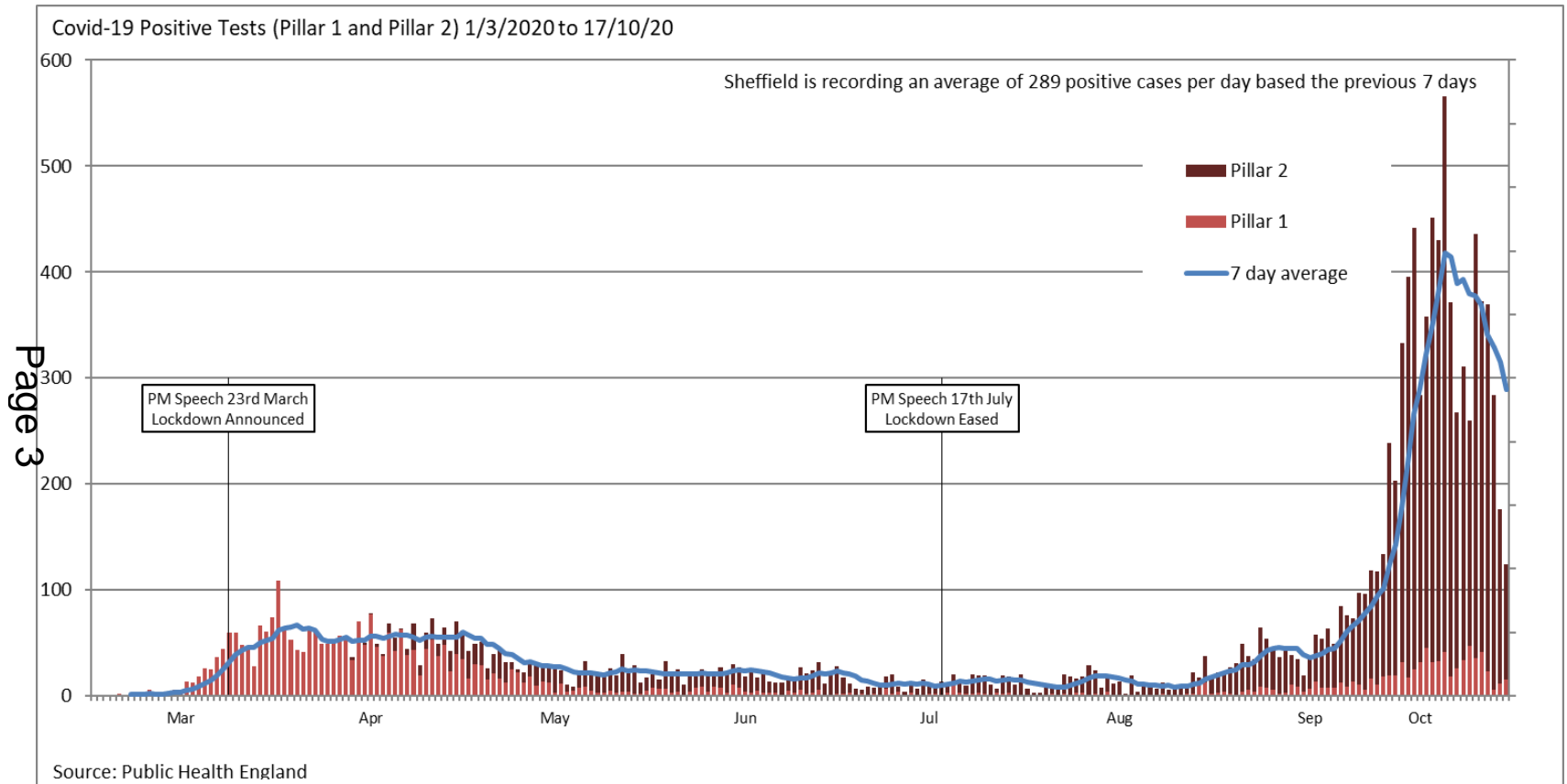
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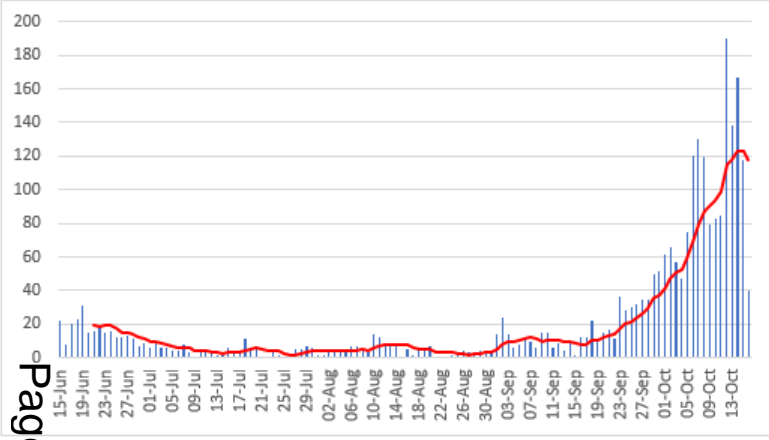
Key points

- R0 1.3 – 1.5 everywhere
- R0 AND high number of cases
- Regionalised take off – north / south
- Sheffield – 470 / 100k ten days ago, now falling
- Focus on 18-25 is a distraction?
 - Age specific incidence rising in all age groups
 - Average age now increasing again.
- Test positivity c24% (2% 6 weeks ago)
- Test result timeliness and contact tracing timeliness and completeness is a concern.
- Hospitals becoming busier.

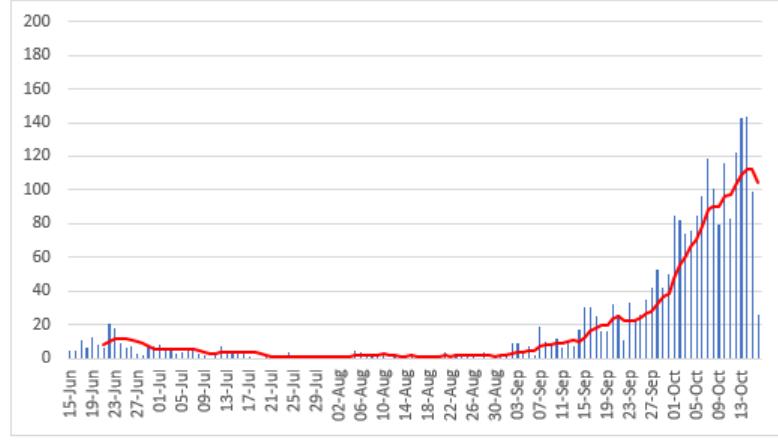
Average of 289 cases a day over last 7 days



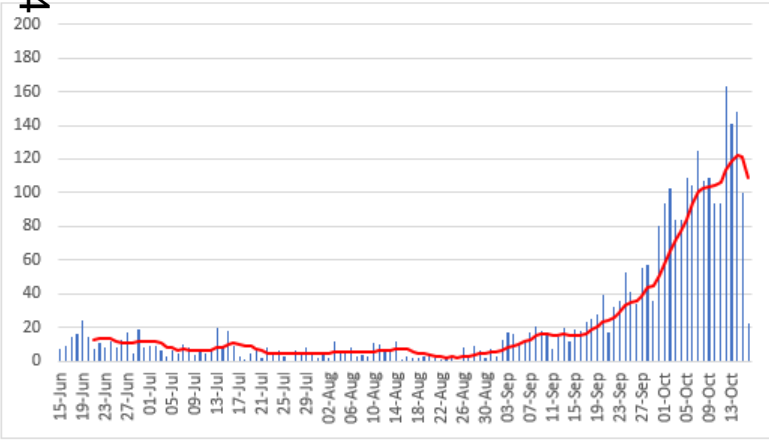
Barnsley



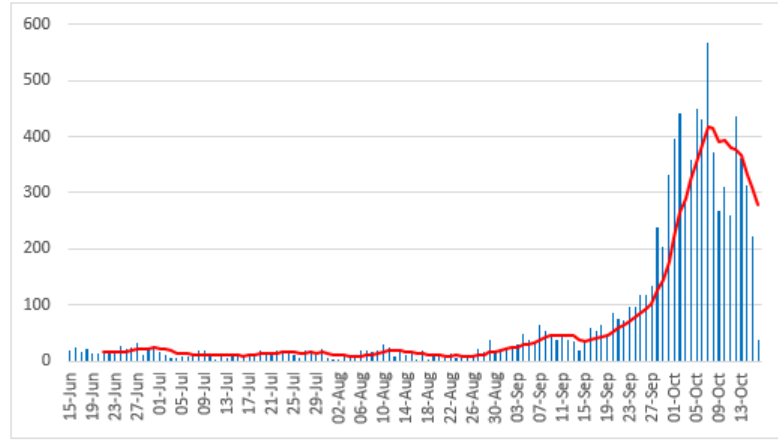
Doncaster



Rotherham

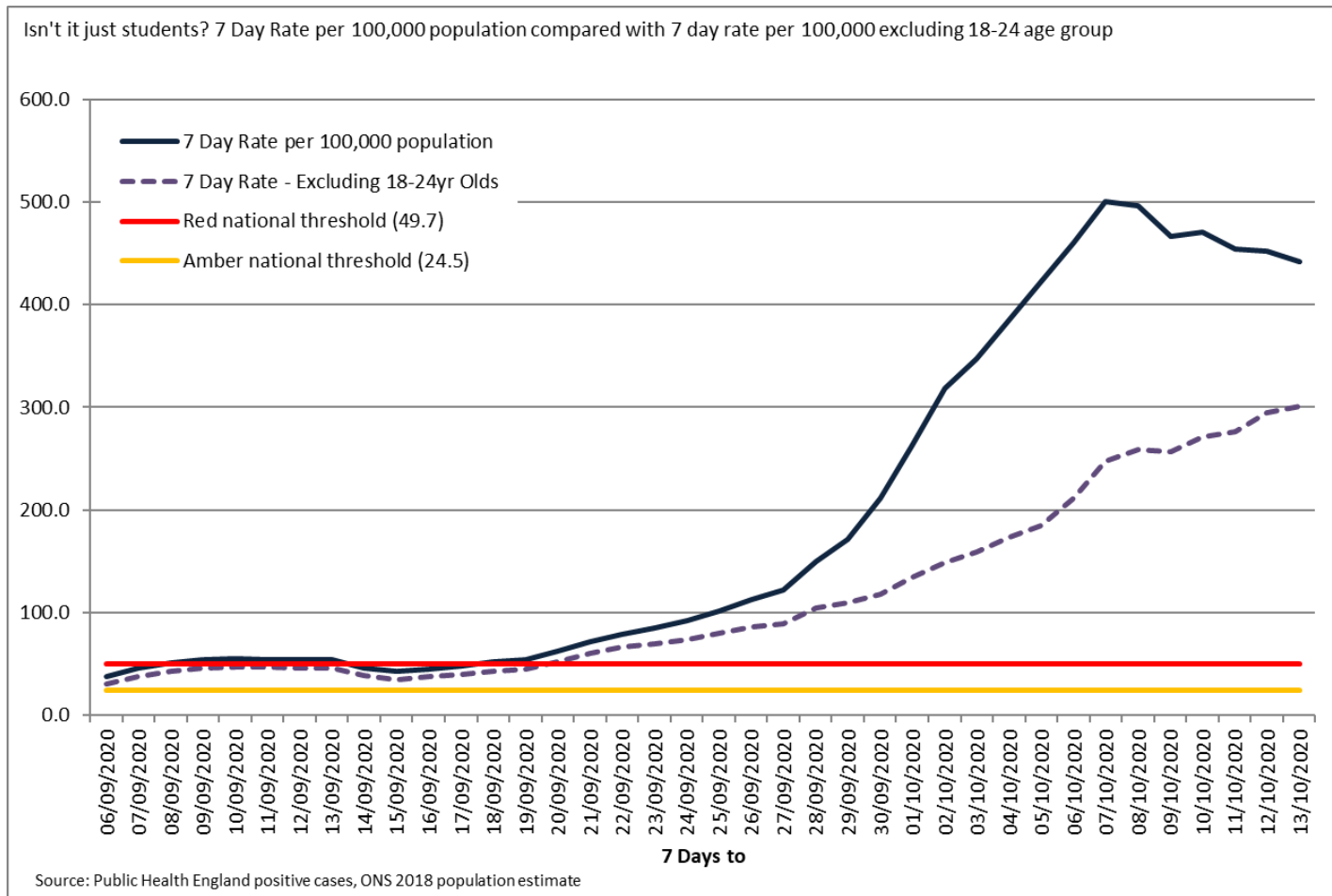


Sheffield



The impact of students on the figures – what if you exclude 18-24 year olds?

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Upshot

- 1. Stabilising of numbers overall. BUT** If take 18-24 out we are in similar position to SY. Worry re rise in >65
- 2. we know the recent uptick was driven by a surge in <35y cases (ONS)** – more contact with more people / household mixing
- 3. We know that cases in young will get to the old.** We are not treating age groups as mutually exclusive
- 4. Too much focus on overall 7 day rate. See that in wider picture** – other important metrics = positivity (23% vs 2% 8w ago), age specific incidence, hospitalisation, death
- 5. Hospitals are becoming steadily busier.** There is small print – testing regime, needing to keep elective care going, big improvements in treatment outcome. But ongoing rise in ventilated beds. And increasing across all the relevant metrics.
- 6. Takes us back (again) to the basics**

Additional restrictions

My view is that further measures to control spread are necessary.

The best way to protect vulnerable individuals and the economy is to keep community spread low

Purpose of restriction is to limit social contacts

Suppression doesn't change the fundamentals

Page 7 **But it shouldn't detract from the basics**

- Testing, contact tracing, isolation – speed and depth.
- Management of incidents
- The choices 560,000 people make
- Supporting people to do the right thing
- Get test if symptoms
- Stay at home if symptoms or positive test, or if asked to isolate.
- Limit social contacts – number and nature.
- Distance, hand wash, face covering

The choices made by
560,000 individuals matter

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Largely on private property

Lives depend on it