

Appendix: survey questions

Seeing the Light Through the Armour - Moving forward from Shielding

Thanks for taking the time to complete this survey - you can complete this anonymously.

Healthwatch are working to listen to people's experiences of shielding to understand what this has meant for people on Wirral.

We intend to use this information to:

- Help the Health, Social care and Community services on Wirral reflect on the support that has been offered during the last year and make improvements where needed.
- Consider the impact that shielding has had on people and additional support and services that may be needed here on Wirral

If you are happy to leave your name and contact details, you can be entered into a draw to win £100 Love to Shop Vouchers.

Your details will not be shared with any other party/organisation and will only be used for the purpose of awarding the vouchers. You will not be contacted for any other purposes and your details will not be held after the survey has closed.

About you

Are you answering this survey as...

- Someone who has been shielding (→ questions in blue)
- A carer for someone who has been shielding (→ questions in pink, page 6)

Length of shielding

When did you start shielding? MM/YY

Has there been any point in the last year when you stopped shielding? Y/N

IF YES when? (text field)

Why did you start shielding? (select all that apply)

- Received a letter from the government
- Received a letter from the local council
- On the advice of my GP
- On the advice of family and friends
- Because I felt I was vulnerable to COVID
- Other (please state) → text field

Survey questions 2

Did you receive a letter from the government or local council asking you to shield?

- Yes, during 2020
- Yes, in 2021
- Yes, both times
- No

Did your feelings change about shielding during the 3 different lockdowns?

- Yes
- No

IF YES → Can you describe this? (text field)

National shielding guidelines end/ended on 31st March. Do you plan to continue shielding after this time?

- Yes
- No, but I will be taking extra precautions
- No, I will be following the same guidelines as everyone else

Support during shielding

What is your living situation? (select all that apply)

- Live alone
- Live with partner
- Live with family
- Live with housemates
- Live in supported housing
- Live in care home
- Other (please state) → text field

Who has supported you during shielding? (select all that apply)

- Partner
- Family
- Friends
- Neighbours
- Paid carers
- Unpaid carers
- GP
- Social worker
- Charity or voluntary group
- Local council
- Government support e.g. food parcels
- NHS responders
- Other (please state) → text field

If you received support from any local organisations or charities whilst shielding please tell us who this was. (text field)

How did you rate the support they offered?

- 1-10 (not at all-extremely)

How well-supported have you felt during shielding?

- 1-10 (not at all-extremely)

Any other comments?

Survey questions 3

Have you had a support bubble during shielding?

- Yes
- No

Who has visited you while you have been shielding? (select all that apply)

- Paid carers
- Unpaid carers
- Health professionals e.g. GP
- Members of my support bubble
- Friends/family not in my support bubble
- Other (please state) → text field

Feelings about shielding

How has your mental health been affected by shielding?

- Better than before shielding
- The same as before shielding
- Worse than before shielding
- It varies

How has your physical health been affected by shielding?

- Better than before shielding
- The same as before shielding
- Worse than before shielding
- It varies

How confident do you feel about leaving shielding?

- 1-10 (not at all-extremely)

What concerns you more: the health risks

of COVID-19 or the impact of shielding on your quality of life?

- 1-5 – 1=health risks of COVID, 5=impact of shielding on quality of life

What is most important for you as shielding restrictions ease? (text question)

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about the impact of shielding on your life? (text question)

Working during the pandemic

What is your work situation during the pandemic?

- Not working/retired
- Working from home
- Working outside the home
- Furloughed
- Other (please state) → text field

How will your work plans change after shielding ends?

- I will return to working outside my home
- I will continue to work outside my home
- I will continue to work from home
- I don't know
- Other (please state) → text field

Survey questions 4

How comfortable would you feel about working outside your home?

- Completely comfortable
- Comfortable if my employer can put protective measures in place
- Not at all comfortable

COVID-19 information sources

Where do you get your information about COVID-19? (select all that apply)

- Gov.uk
- NHS website
- GP
- Newspaper
- Social media
- Friends and family
- Other (please state) → text field

How accessible have you found information about the following topics?

(Rate – easy to access and understand info; difficult to access and understand info; No info at all; Not sure/can't remember)

- The COVID-19 vaccine
- NHS test and trace
- COVID testing
- Mask wearing
- Social distancing
- Self-isolating
- Shielding
- Changes to social care services

- Changes to health services
- Staying healthy in the pandemic

What would make information about these topics more accessible to you? (select all that apply)

- Information in multiple formats
- Information in languages other than English
- Making information available offline e.g. sending by post
- Clear, simple languages
- Large print
- Use of images and charts
- Other (please state) → text field

COVID-19 Vaccination

If you were offered a vaccine against COVID-19 (Coronavirus), and at no charge through the NHS, how likely would you be to get vaccinated? (tick one box)

- I have already received the vaccine
- Definitely would
- Probably would
- Probably not
- Definitely not
- Not sure

Survey questions 5

If have already received/definitely/probably would →

Which of the following are reasons why you have been or would like to be vaccinated against COVID-19? (select all that apply)

- To protect myself against getting COVID-19
- To protect my friends and family from getting COVID-19
- To protect people who are vulnerable / at higher risk of getting coronavirus
- I have friends and family who have got ill or died from COVID-19 and I know how serious it is
- Medical/ healthcare professional e.g. GP, nurse, pharmacist, recommends it
- Family member / friend recommends it
- It will enable me to get back to work
- It will help society in general to get back to normal again
- I want to visit my older family members at home or in a care home and I need the vaccine to make sure it is safe for them
- It will help the economy get going again
- It will help protect the NHS
- It is the responsible thing to do
- Don't know/not sure
- Other (please state) → text field

If probably not/definitely not/not sure →

If you would not want to be vaccinated or are not sure, what would be your motivation for refusing the vaccine? (select all that apply)

- I can't be vaccinated for health reasons
- I'm against vaccines in general
- I don't think the vaccine will be safe
- I don't think the vaccine will be effective
- I don't trust the intentions behind the vaccine
- I don't think coronavirus poses enough of a risk to me
- I would want to wait until others have had it first
- My family / community are against it
- My faith/religion/belief systems say it is wrong for me to have the COVID-19 vaccine
- I am concerned about the ingredients used in it
- Don't know/not sure
- Other (please state) → text field

Survey questions 6

Length of shielding

Did you care for this person/people before the start of the pandemic?

- Yes
- No

When did the person you care for start shielding?

MM/YY

Has there been any point in the last year when they stopped shielding?

- No
- Yes

IF YES → when? (text field)

Did the person you care for receive a letter from the government or local council asking you to shield?

- Yes, during 2020
- Yes, in 2021
- Yes, both times
- No
- Don't know

National shielding guidelines end/ended on 31st March. Does the person you care for plan to continue shielding after this time?

- Yes
- No, but they will be taking extra precautions
- No, they will be following the same guidelines as everyone else

- Don't know

Support during shielding – for the person you care for

What is the living situation of the person you care for? (select all that apply)

- Live alone
- Live with partner
- Live with family
- Live with housemates
- Live in supported housing
- Live in care home
- Other (please state) → text field

Aside from you, who has supported the person you care for during shielding? (select all that apply)

- Partner
- Family
- Friends
- Neighbours
- Paid carers
- GP
- Social worker
- Charity or voluntary group
- Local council
- Government support e.g. food parcels
- NHS responders
- Other (please state) → text field

Survey questions 7

If the person you care for received support from any local organisations or charities whilst shielding please tell us who this was. (text field)

How did you rate the support they offered?

- 1-10 (not at all-extremely)

Any other comments? (text field)

Support during shielding – for you as a carer

What is your living situation? (select all that apply)

- Live alone
- Live with the person I care for
- Live with partner
- Live with family
- Live with housemates
- Live in supported housing
- Live in care home
- Other (please state) → text field

Who has supported you during the pandemic? (select all that apply)

- Partner
- Family
- Friends
- Neighbours
- Paid carers
- GP
- Social worker
- Charity or voluntary group
- Local council
- Government support e.g. food parcels

- NHS responders
- Other (please state) → text field

If you received support from any local organisations or charities whilst shielding please tell us who this was. (text field)

How did you rate the support they offered?

- 1-10 (not at all-extremely)

How well-supported have you felt as a carer during the pandemic?

- 1-10 (not at all-extremely)

Any other comments? (text field)

Feelings about shielding

How has your mental health been affected by caring for a shielded person?

- It has improved
- It is about the same
- It has worsened
- It varies

How has your physical health been affected by caring for a shielded person?

- It has improved
- It is about the same
- It has worsened
- It varies

How confident do you feel about the person you care for leaving shielding?

- 1-10 (not at all-extremely)

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about the impact of caring for a shielded person? (text field)

Survey questions 8

Working during the pandemic

What is your work situation during the pandemic?

- Not working/retired
- Working from home
- Working outside the home
- Furloughed
- Other (please state) → text field

How comfortable would you feel about working outside your home?

- Completely comfortable
- Comfortable if my employer can put protective measures in place
- Not at all comfortable

COVID-19 information sources

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- I have already received the vaccine
- Definitely would
- Probably would
- Probably not
- Definitely not
- Not sure

Same follow-up questions as page 5

Monitoring questions (optional)

What is your age?

- Under 18
- 18-24 years
- 25-49 years
- 50-64 years
- 65-79 years
- 80+ years
- Prefer not to say

What is your gender?

- Male
- Female
- Other (please state) → text field
- Prefer not to say

Do you consider yourself to have any of the following? (select all that apply)

- Learning disability or difficulty
- Long-standing illness
- Mental health condition
- Physical disability
- Sensory disability
- Other (please state) → text field
- Prefer not to say
- None

What is your sexual orientation?

- Bisexual
- Gay woman/lesbian
- Gay man
- Heterosexual/straight
- Other (please state) → text field
- Prefer not to say

What is your religion or belief?

- Buddhist
- Christian
- Hindu
- Jewish
- Muslim
- Sikh
- Other (please state) → text field
- Prefer not to say

What is your race or ethnicity?

- Arab
- Asian British
- Asian Bangladeshi
- Asian Chinese
- Asian Indian
- Asian Pakistani
- Any other Asian background
- Black African
- Black British
- Black Caribbean
- Any other Black background
- Mixed/Multiple ethnic
- White British
- White Irish
- White Gypsy or Irish Traveller
- Any other White background
- Any other ethnic group
- Prefer not to say