

Monday 23 March

REGIONAL NEWS UPDATES IN ENGLISH (source: Omroep West)

Staying in touch with what's happening in The Hague and surrounding areas

A possible vaccine against Covid-19 is being developed in Leiden and will likely first be tested in the United States and the United Kingdom, where the rules on clinical testing are less stringent than in The Netherlands.

Here is a summary of the local news headlines for Monday 23 March:

- Hospitals at Westeinde, Antoniushove and Leyweg are increasing the number of available Intensive Care Unit beds and training staff to work in Intensive Care. More beds will be made available in Leiden and Alphen aan de Rijn when needed.
- In order to free up space, the number of scheduled operations in hospitals have been reduced, notably at the Bronovo location, where they will be no operations for the coming period.
- Trams will no longer pass by The Hague market on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays as there are too many passengers on those routes for safety distances to be implemented.
- A possible vaccine against Covid-19 is being developed in Leiden and will likely first be tested in the United States and the United Kingdom, where the rules on clinical testing are less stringent than in The Netherlands.
- In Katwijk and Noordwijk, access roads to the beach were closed this weekend to reduce the number of visitors. According to the mayor, Wendy Verkleij, beach-goers were not keeping the stipulated 1.5 metre distance from each other, and the situation was deemed unsafe. Roads are open again but traffic is being closely monitored.
- Non-adherence by Dutch residents to social distancing measures are prompting many municipalities to lobby the government to implement a full lockdown.

In cooperation with the regional broadcaster, Omroep West, www.Dutchbuzz.nl will provide a daily summary of the day's most important news by 13.00 each day.