



June 30, 2020



Good evening all, I hope your week is going well.

**Speed is of the essence** when it comes to rebuilding our economy after Covid-19, Prime Minister Boris Johnson declared today.

In a major speech, he pledged the "most radical reforms" of planning since the Second World War to build "faster, greener and better" and help more people to get onto the housing ladder. (Read more from **i**'s political editor **Nigel Morris** [here](#)).

Mr Johnson blamed a lack of homes on "newt-counting delays" in the planning system – rather than a lack of cash, saying: "Time is money. And the newt-counting delays in our system are a massive drag on the productivity and prosperity of this country."

But are newts – and other environmental regulations – really

the cause of sluggish build-out rates in the UK's housing industry? (Read more from [i's](#) environment reporter Madeleine Cuff [here](#)).

*What did you think of Boris Johnson's speech today? We want to hear from you on [newsletter@inews.co.uk](mailto:newsletter@inews.co.uk).*

## A moment of beauty

Today's [i](#) newsletter captures senior horticulturist John Dunn at work in the grounds of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh ahead of the gardens reopening.



(Photo: Jane Barlow/PA Wire)

# **Boris Johnson promises biggest planning shake-up since WW2 to kickstart economic recovery**

PM announces moves to regenerate brownfield sites and convert shops to build new homes



**Latest news**



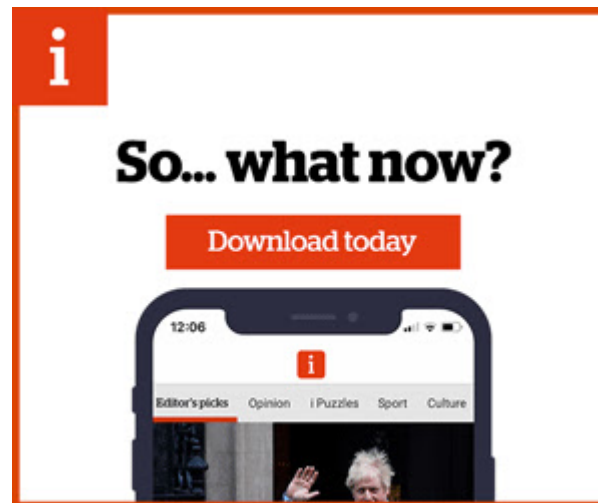
## Coronavirus excess deaths drop below zero for the first time in England and Wales

The ONS figures for the week to 19 June showed deaths 0.7 per cent below the five-year average for the time of year



## Theresa May's anger over national security adviser is a sign of a rift within Tories

Michael Gove said making David Frost the new National Security Adviser was an 'entirely appropriate' choice





## EasyJet looks to close at Stansted, Southend and Newcastle airports with up to 5000 job losses

Thousands of jobs will be lost under the plans



## The DWP has hired Universal Credit claimants to help process the surge in applications

Exclusive: Claimants have been hired as part of a 'rapid recruitment' drive



## Let's not forget the under-pensioned workers who risk falling behind in retirement savings

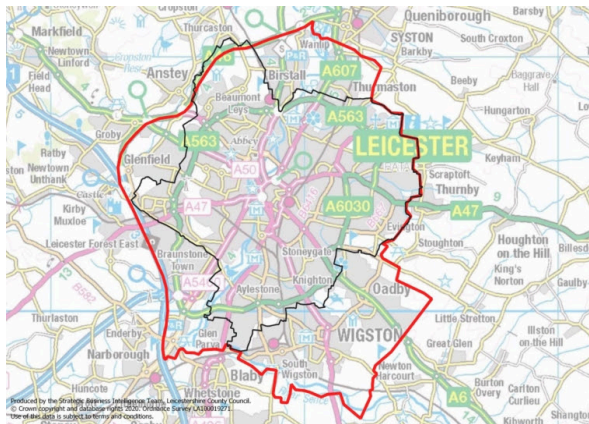
Former shadow pensions minister Gregg McClymont says a few fixes

## Editor's Picks



### Tate and National Gallery reopening in July with pre-booked tickets only

Art lovers returning to the Tate must negotiate specially-devised routes through the displays, and pre-booked tickets will have staggered entry times



### Leicester lockdown rules explained: why it's happening, map of areas included and how long the measures could last

A spike in coronavirus cases in Lisbon could affect whether Britons can travel to Portugal without quarantining



## Why it's so difficult to stop coronavirus spikes in the food industry, according to experts

A 'perfect storm' of components means preventing Covid-19 outbreaks in the food industry is a huge task

## One more thing...



Thousands of ancient artefacts from Roman treasure to shipwreck bounty to be revealed by X-rays

Heritage watchdog Historic England is to install high-resolution scanning equipment to enhance analysis of archaeological finds

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