

# **Building a Community Shield**

## **to Suppress the Coronavirus**

**Molly Scott Cato + Larry Sanders, Gina Downding, Richard Lawson, Tom Scott, foreword by Caroline Lucas**

# **The missing slogan:**

**Test, test, test**

## **Dominic Raab's 5 conditions to relax lockdown:**

1. Provide sufficient critical care & treatment across UK
2. Sustained & consistent fall in daily death rates
3. Rate of infection decreasing to manageable levels across the board.
4. Need testing capacity & PPE to meet future demand
5. Avoid risk of second peak of infections when adjustments are made

# WHO's 6 conditions

1. Disease transmission is under control
2. Health systems are able to "detect, test, isolate and treat every case and trace every contact"
3. Hot spot risks are minimized in vulnerable places, such as nursing homes
4. Schools, workplaces and other essential places have established preventive measures
5. The risk of importing new cases "can be managed"
6. Communities are fully educated, engaged and empowered to live under a new normal

# The Green Party plan

1. the UK must put in place the infrastructure for a comprehensive, targeted system to **report, isolate, test, monitor and contact** trace potentially millions of people across the UK
2. creation of a new public-health workforce and the reversal of the cuts to public-health funding of recent years.
3. the government should assign responsibility to local authorities' outbreak management teams to create the infrastructure for the Community Shield.
4. While an app is essential, only a community-led process of contact tracing can provide the fine-grained and reliable data for tracking down people.

If attempts to lift the lockdown are made before this infrastructure is in place, we're likely to see a repeating cycle of national lockdowns as surges of new cases of the virus occur

# Principles for an app

1. Transparency – who has access to data for how long
2. Anonymisation of data – several schemes have shown this is possible
3. Voluntary opt-in – Singapore shows people will use it with confidence
4. Choice of responsible partners - avoid profit-making companies

# Public Health England

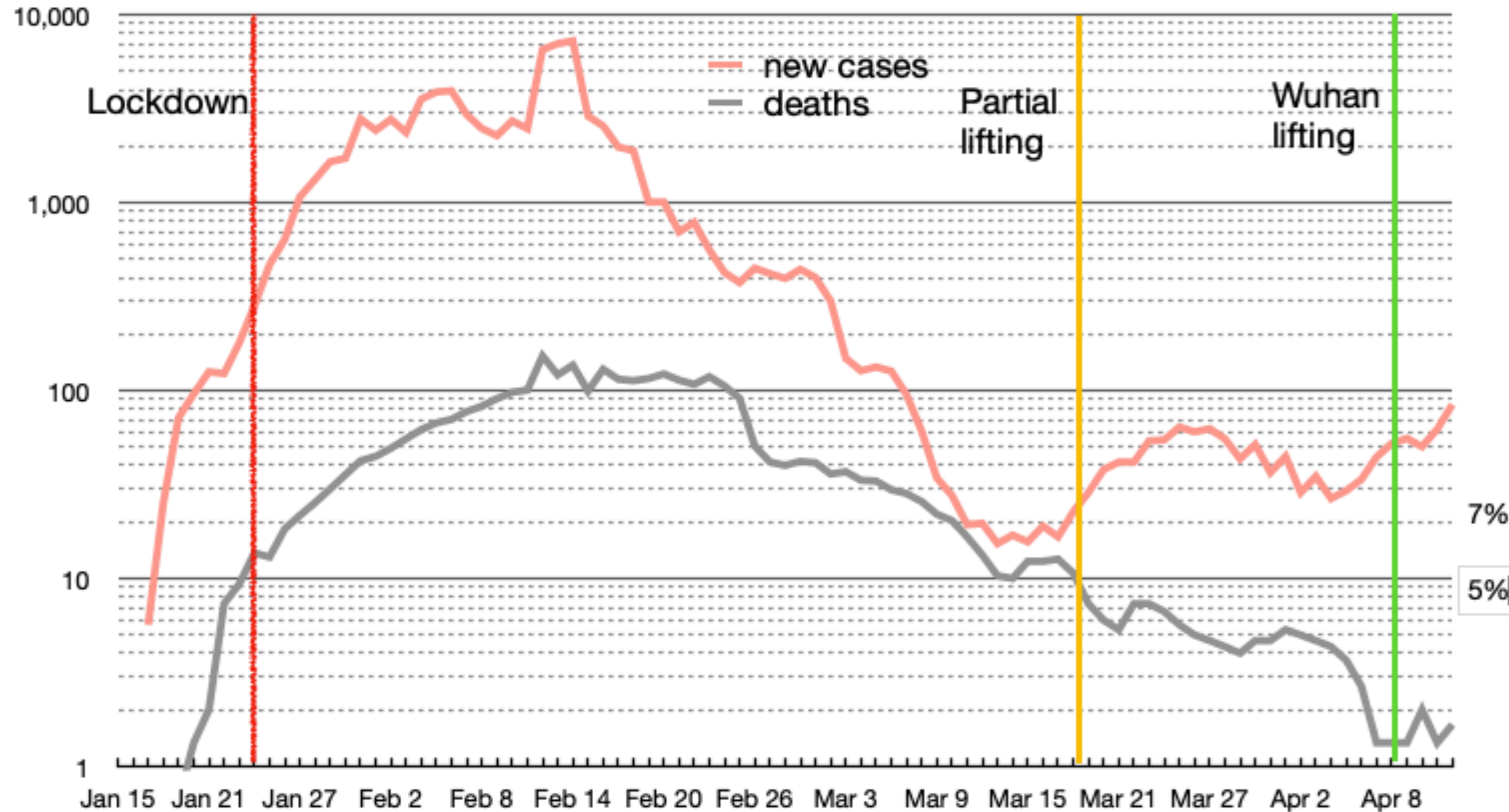
A major issue underlying this debate is the relationship between the government and the agency it set up in 2013 to take over the function of the Health Protection Agency and other bodies. This is the first major test of this replacement and it has conspicuously failed.

Having stopped all testing for Covid on 12 March, its website currently says:

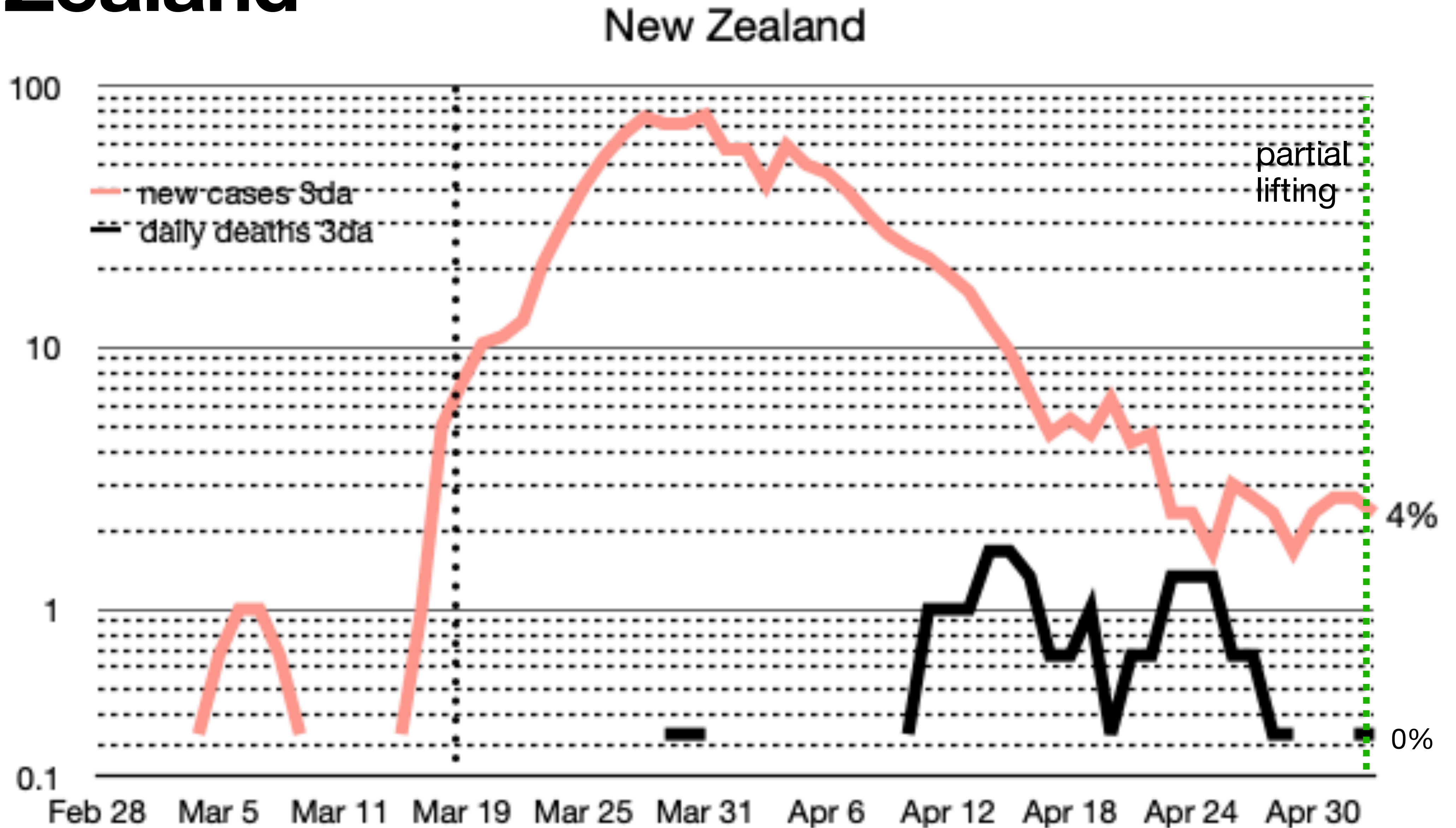
As of 19 March 2020, COVID-19 is no longer considered to be a high consequence infectious disease (HCID) in the UK...The need to have a national, coordinated response remains, but this is being met by the government's COVID-19 response.

# When?

## China's experience

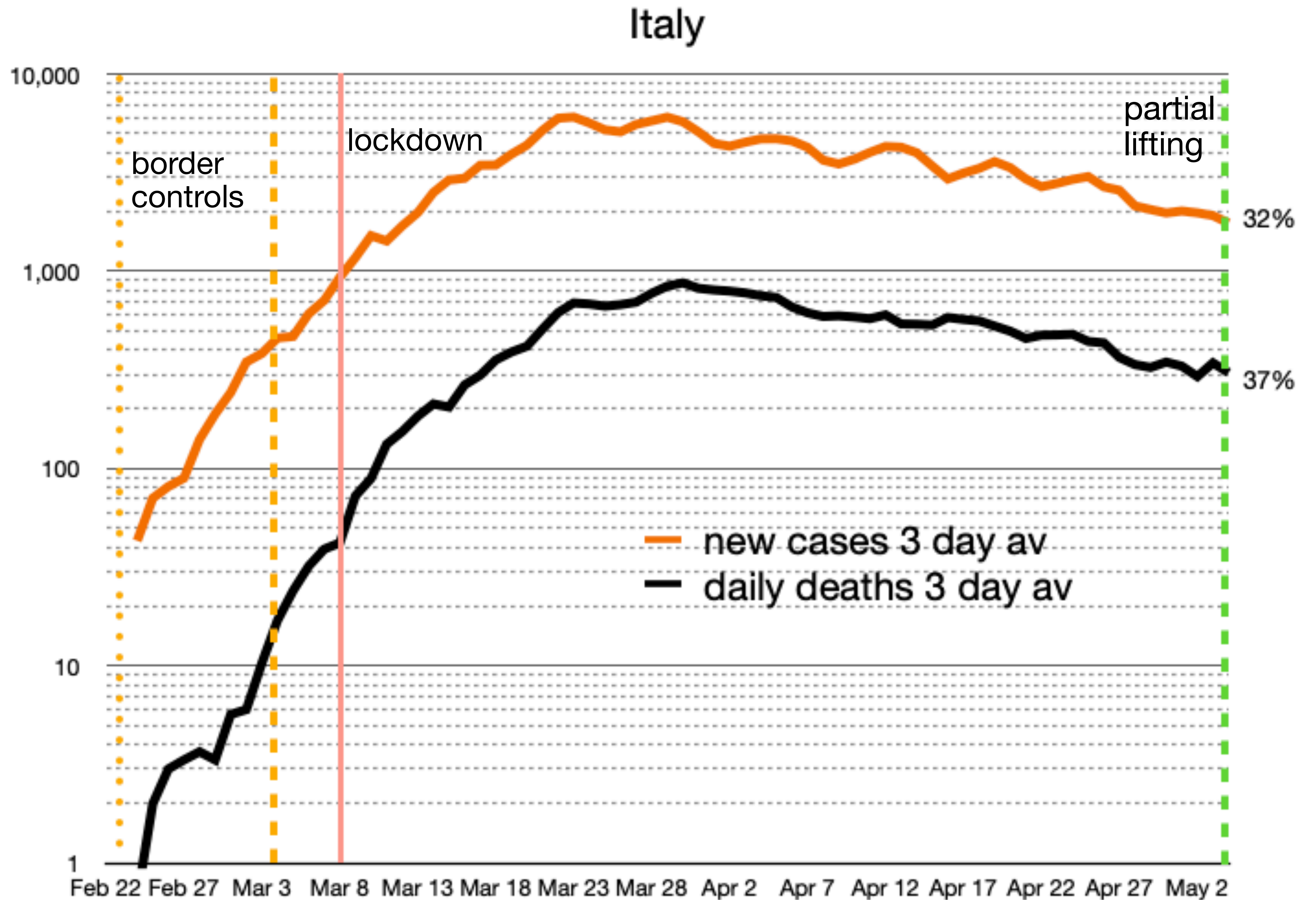


# New Zealand



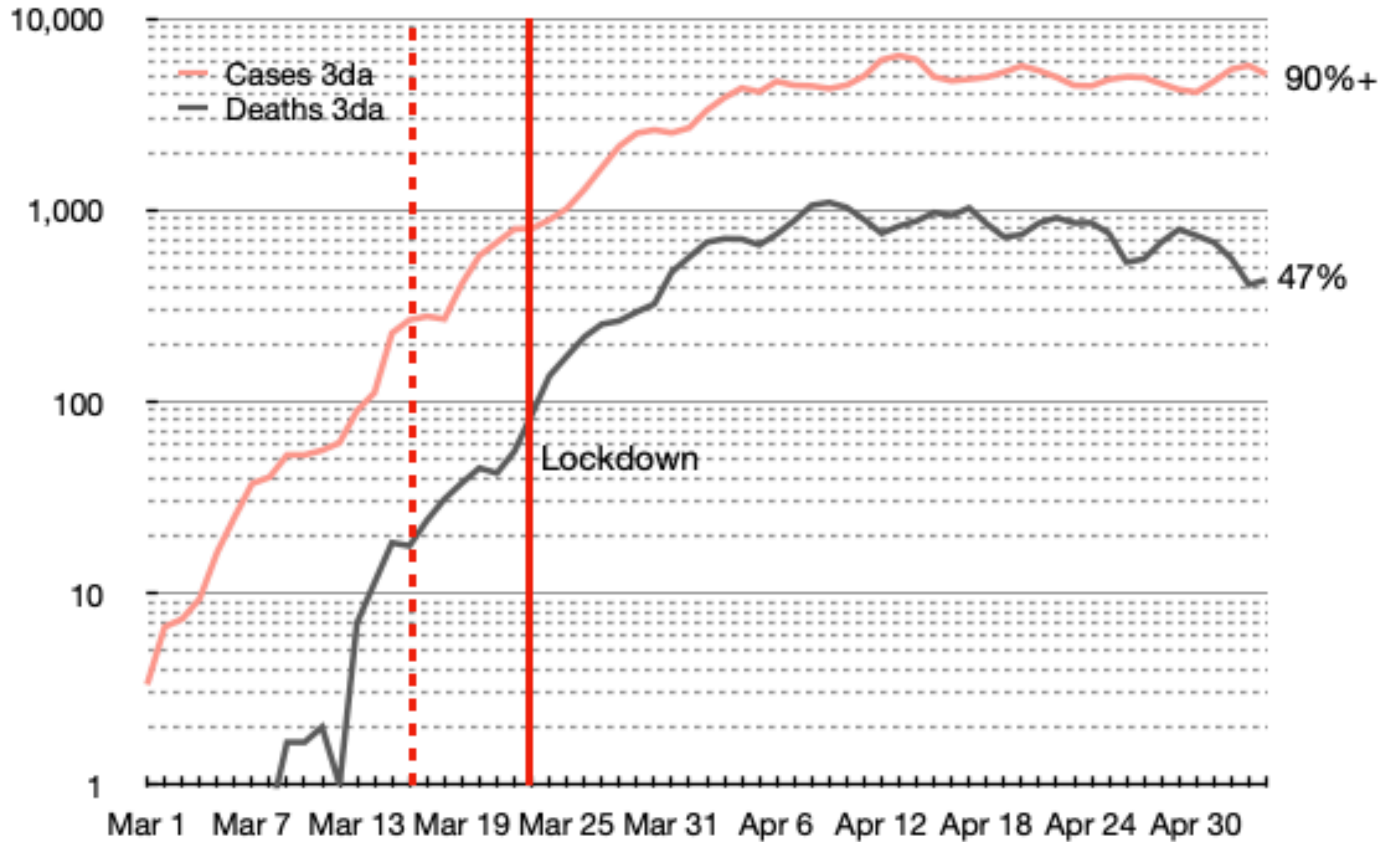


# Italy



# UK

# UK



# Some discussion issues:

1. How important is identifying and stopping transmission from every victim?
2. Is it possible to run a campaign in the current centralised fashion?
3. How can we better support care homes?
4. Do you think the app will work?
5. What can we do to help in the current situation?

**Links:** <https://www.carolinelucas.com/latest/conditions-for-lifting-the-coronavirus-lockdown>  
<https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/56846/world-health-organisation-preconditions-for-lifting-covid19-lockdowns-test-trace-and-isolate>