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# Britain's lockdown was futile, says Swedish epidemiologist

Johan Giesecke, who helped shape Sweden's approach to the pandemic, suggested a lockdown "does not" protect the vulnerable in care homes

By Jack Hardy

6 May 2020 • 7:30pm



UK total cases | 201,101  
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The architect of Sweden's coronavirus strategy has claimed the UK's lockdown has been largely "futile" in containing the virus.

Johan Giesecke, a state epidemiologist in the Nordic country who advises the World Health Organisation, said the UK's death toll suggested instating harsh social restrictions was not the best method of tackling the pandemic.

Sweden has so far [refused to impose the type of lockdown](#) seen in other European countries, keeping open many schools, restaurants and businesses. The UK's death toll is more than 10 times that of Sweden's where fewer than 3,000 people have been killed by Covid-19 to date.

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