

Councillor Peter McDonald Duxford Division & Ward:
District Councillor for Parishes of Duxford, Hinxton, Ickleton, Babraham, Pampisford.
County Councillor also for Foxton, Fowlmere, Shepreth, Thriplow, Heathfield, Heydon, Chishills,
Whittlesford

Report for Parish Councils – November 2020.

South Cambs District Council

Again this month I've now included other major items as well as C19.

New Planning Pre Application Charges

The Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service has updated charges for pre-application services with effect from 2nd November). [Pre-application advice](#) is an optional service which can help simplify and speed up the process of gaining planning permission, through feedback on draft proposals and ensuring that proposals meet planning requirements.

The changes to charges have been made to more accurately reflect the cost of providing pre-application planning advice. What's more, for the first time there is a single, aligned pre-application charging scheme across the Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire District Council areas. Further information can be found on both councils' pre-application advice webpages along with the new fees.

Changes include:

- A single set of aligned charges to apply across both Council areas
- A small charge, in Cambridge City, for householder advice for the first time, to align with practice in South Cambridgeshire
- 100% discount of the pre-application fee for small charities
- A single discounted flat-rate charge for planning advice to small businesses.

Alongside charged-for services, informal advice will continue to be provided by way of the duty planner service by telephone. The Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service will also be publishing more targeted advice and assistance online over the coming months.

Pre-application advice can:

- identify the main planning issues for your proposal and how you can address these
- tell you what you need to submit with your planning application
- speed up the overall process of obtaining planning permission
- reduce the costs of your eventual application
- avoid applications being rejected by us due to insufficient information or applying for the wrong type of permission.

The revised charges follow an in-depth review, involving engagement with local architects and agents, of the pre-application advice service provided by the GCSPS, on behalf of Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council.

The revised pre-application charges do not affect the planning application process (where fees and process are determined nationally), which is unaffected by these revisions.

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Electric Bin Lorry

Now out around the streets on bin collection days, the lorry is the first all-electric addition to the Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service – a partnership between South Cambridgeshire District and Cambridge City Councils. The Dennis Eagle ‘eCollect’ is now part of the Shared Waste Service’s fleet and being used to collect residents’ recycling.



It marks the start of a drive to replace all the waste service’s collection lorries with electric or hydrogen vehicles as their existing trucks come to the end of their working lives.

The Shared Waste Service is one of the first waste collection services nationally to invest in green vehicles which have zero emissions and contribute to better air quality when out on the road.

The new fully electric Dennis Eagle ‘eCollect’ has five specially designed battery packs storing 300kWh of energy and capable of supplying 200kW of power to electric motors, making it substantially quieter than existing bin collection vehicles. Fully loaded it will weigh around 26 tonnes and will typically take around seven to eight hours to recharge, easily completing a full day of collection rounds and returning to the depot with charge remaining in the battery.

The new vehicle has cost around £400,000 and while this is more than a traditional diesel bin collection lorry, the Councils expect the whole-life cost to be at the very least the same – if not less – than a diesel vehicle due to reduced servicing, fuel and general running costs.

South Cambridgeshire District and Cambridge City Councils are committed to helping tackle the climate emergency and are working hard to reduce carbon emissions in the delivery of their services. There are already solar panels installed on top of the Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service’s Depot at Waterbeach, which are used to charge two fully electric vans used by members of the team.

The Shared Waste service has around 55 collection vehicles which run on diesel and are among the largest emitters of CO₂ at both Councils. Currently, the Shared Waste Service uses around 50,000 litres of diesel a month at a cost of approximately £55,000.

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South Cambridgeshire's parish councils and community groups can now request additional grant funding from the District Council – to help them respond rapidly if there is a Coronavirus outbreak in their village.

C19 Covid Grants

The Council has set aside £50,000 to support communities. To make sure it can reach people in the greatest need quickly, upfront grants of between £100 to £400 are now being offered to parish councils and community groups that are at the forefront of their village's response to Covid-19.

The amount available will vary according to the number of houses in the area covered. Designed to support the vital work carried out to help vulnerable people and those who need to self-isolate, it can be used to buy items such as sanitiser, print information leaflets, or provide emergency food or electricity top-ups until other support or self-isolation grants can be arranged.

The funding will be made available immediately with the freedom to be used effectively to support what is needed locally on the ground.

The grants can pay for:

- Hand sanitiser and basic protective equipment
- Printing of leaflets to help keep people informed about the work being done and help available
- Paying for a few days' shopping or topping up an electricity meter for people who need to suddenly self-isolate and are in financial hardship

The funds are intended to give initial aid for a few days only until other measures can be put in place, such as a claim for housing benefit, help with applying for Universal Credit, or an application to the Council's own Hardship Fund.

The Council is writing to Parish Councils, community groups and lead volunteers inviting them to apply for the grants.

Covid 19 Support for Business in Lockdown 2.

These pages are being updated almost daily so would encourage your village businesses to refer to them as soon as the new regulations are published.

Business premises **forced to close** in England are to receive grants worth up to £3,000 per month under the Local Restrictions Support Grant.

Business Grants have been announced for businesses required to close in England due to local or national restrictions. Current eligibility criteria are:

- For properties with a rateable value of £15k or under, grants to be £1,334 per month, or £667 per two weeks
- For properties with a rateable value of between £15k-£51k grants to be £2,000 per month, or £1,000 per two weeks
- For properties with a rateable value of £51k or over grants to be £3,000 per month, or

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- £1,500 per two weeks.

South Cambridgeshire District Council will announce further and fuller details and overall eligibility criteria on this grant within the next few days on our website, including any discretionary elements. We will also send out an updated newsletter.

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/business/coronavirus-information-for-businesses/financial-support-for-business/>

Cambridgeshire County Report C19 Case & Mortality Numbers Cambridgeshire



Covid-19 cases – pillar 1 and pillar 2

CONFIRMED CASES – most recent data

- **816 new lab-confirmed Covid-19 cases** were detected in Cambridgeshire (519) and Peterborough (297) in the latest reporting week, 26 October – 1 November. This is **27 less than the previous reporting week**.
- At a district level, **all districts had a decrease in positive cases detected except Huntingdonshire (+25)**, when compared to the previous week.

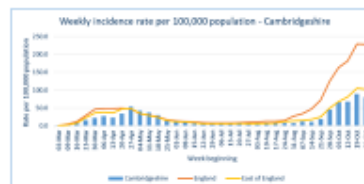
Incidence rate of Covid-19 cases per 100,000 residents

Area	Most recent weekly data (Mon-Sun)		
	Weekly incidence rate from 19 Oct to 25 Oct	Weekly incidence rate from 26 Oct to 01 Nov	Difference in weekly incidence rate from previous week
Cambridge	193.9	343.4	-50.5 ↓
East Cambridgeshire	43.4	27.8	-5.6 ↓
Fenland	89.2	84.4	-4.9 ↓
Huntingdonshire	52.8	66.9	14.0 ↑
South Cambridgeshire	71.7	63.5	-8.2 ↓
Cambridgeshire	88.7	79.4	-9.3 ↓
Peterborough	130.0	246.8	16.8 ↑
East of England	105.1	202.3	-2.8 ↓
England	229.4	228.5	-0.9 ↓

CONFIRMED CASES - trend

Confirmed cases, and incidence rates, have increased in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough since the middle of September overall. **Though the most recent weekly rates show a decline for Cambridgeshire, East of England and England compared to the previous week.**

Weekly incidence rates of confirmed cases for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough remain lower than the national rates.



Source: PHE, <https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/> data extracted Wednesday 04 November
 Slides produced by PHI, 05 November 2020

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Covid-19 and all-cause mortality

ONS reporting Week 43 (ending Friday 23 October 2020):

DEATHS

- **2 Covid-19 related deaths** occurred in Cambridgeshire (Hunts) and Peterborough in ONS reporting week 43 (similar to the previous week).
- There were **117* all-cause deaths** in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough in week 43 (up from 115 in week 42).
- At a district level, **Cambridge (+4), East Cambridgeshire (+4), and Fenland (+2) reported an increase in all-cause deaths** compared to the previous week.

*published 03 November, though a data lag may affect this figure

EXCESS DEATHS

- The number of all-cause deaths is above the 2015-19 average in Cambridgeshire, and below the 2015-19 average in Peterborough for week 43. Numbers in Cambridge and Fenland are also below the 5 year average for all-cause deaths.
- The number of all-cause deaths in care homes is above the 2015-19 average in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough in week 43.

Source: ONS and ONS provided by PHE (death occurrences), published 03 November

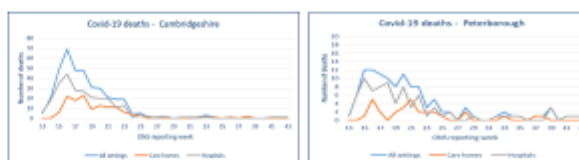
DEATH TRENDS – Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

Please note the y-axis on the charts have different values

ALL-CAUSE DEATHS



COVID-19 RELATED DEATHS



Source: ONS, published 03 November
 Slides produced by PHI, 05 November

New Lockdown measures from Thursday Nov 5th 12,01 am

Information relating to businesses:

To reduce social contact, the Government has ordered certain businesses and venues to close. These include:

- all non-essential retail, including, but not limited to clothing and electronics stores, vehicle showrooms, travel agents, betting shops, auction houses, tailors, car washes, tobacco and vape shops.
- indoor and outdoor leisure facilities such as bowling alleys, leisure centres and gyms, sports facilities including swimming pools, golf courses and driving ranges, dance studios, stables and riding centres, soft play facilities, climbing walls and climbing centres, archery and shooting ranges, water and theme parks,
- entertainment venues such as theatres, concert halls, cinemas, museums and galleries, casinos, adult gaming centres and arcades, bingo halls, bowling alleys, concert halls, zoos and other animal attractions, botanical gardens;
- personal care facilities such as hair, beauty and nail salons, tattoo parlours, spas, massage parlours, body and skin piercing services, non-medical acupuncture, and tanning salons

Food shops, supermarkets, garden centres and certain other retailers providing essential goods and services can remain open. Essential retail should follow COVID-secure guidelines to protect customers, visitors and workers. Non-essential retail can remain open for delivery to customers and click-and-collect.

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Playgrounds can remain open. Hospitality venues like restaurants, bars and pubs must close, but can still provide takeaway and delivery services. However, takeaway of alcohol will not be allowed.

Hotels, hostels and other accommodation should only open for those who have to travel for work purposes and for a limited number of other exemptions which will be set out in law.

C 19-Related Central Government Business Support

Financial support:

The [Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme](#) will be extended through November. Workers in any part of the UK can retain their job, even if their employer cannot afford to pay them, and be paid at least 80% of their salary up to £2500 a month. The flexibility of the current CJRS will be retained to allow employees to continue to work where they can. Employers small or large, charitable or non-profit are eligible and because more businesses will need to close, they will now be asked to pay just National Insurance and Pensions contributions for their staff during the month of November – making this more generous than support currently on offer.

The [Job Support Scheme](#) will not be introduced until after Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme ends. Here is a link to the [new style Employment and Support Allowance](#). The [Self Employment Income Support Scheme](#) (SEISS) will last for six months, from November 2020 to April 2021. Grants will be paid in two lump sum instalments each covering a three-month period. The first grant will cover a three-month period from 1 November 2020 until 31 January 2021. The Government will provide a taxable grant covering 55% of average monthly trading profits, paid out in a single instalment covering 3 months' worth of profits, and capped at £5,160 in total. The grant will be increased from the previously announced level of 40% of trading profits to 80% for November 2020. This therefore increases the total level of the grant from 40% to 55% of trading profits for 1 November 2020 to 31 January 2020.

The second grant will cover a three-month period from 1 February 2021 until 30 April 2021. The Government will review the level of the second grant and set this in due course.

The grants are taxable income and also subject to National Insurance contributions

Peter McDonald

Nov 6th 2020.