

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 – January 2021.

South Cambs District Council

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

Covid 19 Support for Business in Lockdown 2.

As of Friday January 8th the business grants made were

Hardship

- 9 payments totalling £16,334
- Total hardship to date: £94,002 (44 businesses)

Wet-led pubs

- 21 payments totalling £21,000
- Total wet-led pubs to date £26,000 (26 pubs)
- (10 applications outstanding/requiring further info and investigation).

Legacy Local Restrictions and Additional Restrictions Grants

- £871,627 paid to 574 business

Total grants paid to date £991,629.

- There are c.160 applications still going through the system as part of legacy grant applications (and new ones pertaining to legacy still coming in daily) to be paid next week.
- South Cambs website will be updated Jan 11th with a clearer table/visual of what grants are available, by timescale and how to apply as we can see from the emails businesses are rightly perplexed as to what they can apply for/are eligible for.

Planning Advisory Service Report

The review by the Planning Advisory Service (PAS) was commissioned as part of continuing work to further strengthen the South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) Planning Service, which it shares with Cambridge City Council. The findings and recommendations will be discussed by the District Council's Planning Committee [later this month](#) and will be taken forward.

Following the report, a new joint member and officer group has already been established. The group's role will be to explore the recommendations and where appropriate oversee their implementation. Some changes suggested are already underway, all aiming to help raise standards further while improving trust and confidence between officers and Councillors.

In addition, the review also looked carefully at specific processes – including how Parish Councils can provide feedback and make a request for an application to be decided by South Cambridgeshire District Council's Planning Committee. This process is covered by the Council's Scheme of Delegation. The meetings and decisions with regard to delegations are now reported each month. <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/planning/forums-committees-and-consultations/planning-delegation-meetings/>

As of Dec 14th the numbers were:

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Total Applications – 76 ; **Delegated decisions** – 54; **Refer to committee** – 17; **Other/to be reconsidered at further meetings** – 5. Referall rate 23% of total applications.

Winter Support Grants

South Cambridgeshire District Council is using its £30,000 share of the grant pot allocated to the county to support local charities and community organisations, such as Cambridge Online. The long-established digital charity will help provide data packages or devices to children in families in the District who currently have no internet access, enabling them to get online to learn and keep up-to-date with school work and to socialise this winter.

In response to the pandemic, Cambridge Online has been providing free computer tablets and internet connections to isolated people across Cambridgeshire, giving them access to the outside world, such as when ordering food deliveries online or keeping in touch with family and friends. A new team of digital champions has also been supporting people to learn digital skills by 'phone.

With a £5,000 payment from the Winter Support Grant, awarded via the District Council, it will be able to provide devices and data to children who have been particularly affected. For more details, see [Cambridge Online](#), email to help@cambridgeonline.org.uk or call the Cambridge Online helpline on 01223 300407, quoting 'South Cambs Winter Support Grant'.

The District Council is also supporting Cambridge Council for Voluntary Service (CCVS) with a £5,000 grant and from Wednesday, January 6, South Cambridgeshire parishes and community groups will be able to apply to the charity for sums of up to £500 for local projects which provide food, fuel and essential supplies. More information can be found at [CCVS](#)

Thakeham aka South west Cambridge

This is of major concern for Foxton & Shepreth but I will update everyone. We had a useful call with 150 residents on Dec 16th. We then had a meeting with the developers Jan 4th. I have circulated the FAQ's after this call to you all. As of writing we still do not have a map let alone any application to South Cambs. The developers say they will submit by Easter.

The presentation from Dec 16th & FAQ are here: [News and Events | www.swcag.org.uk](#)

Brexit

A little thing called Brexit happened on Dec 24th. S Cambs & City have a cross party group engaging with businesses on this and assessing impact on their ability to export. Several business already reported impact due to paperwork.

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Cambridgeshire County Report

C19 Case Numbers Cambridgeshire December 31st

Epidemiology

Liz

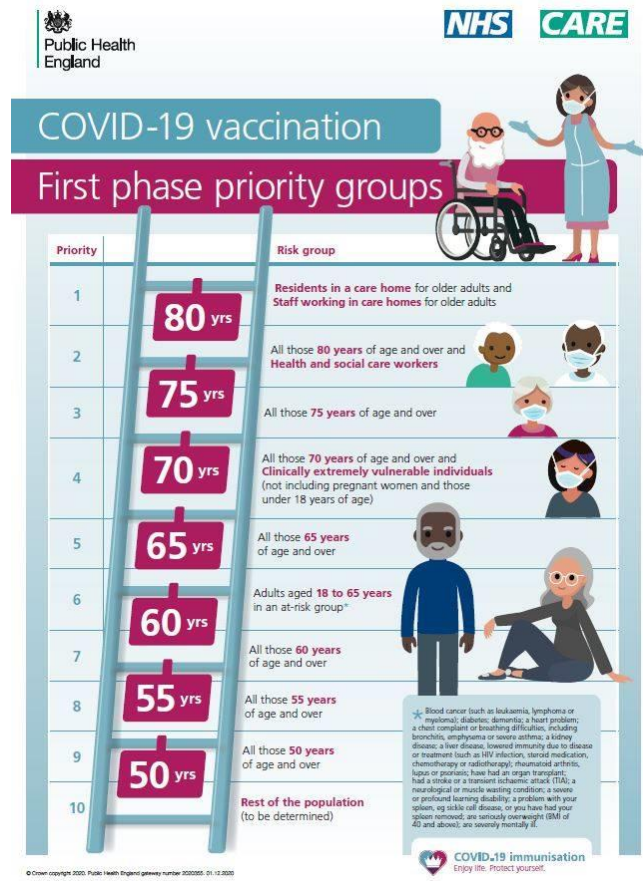
Rates in most districts across Cambridgeshire have increased to between 400-500 per 100,000. Although the rates are lower than the national and regional average, they are rising more quickly in percentage terms.

Incidence rate for the week up to 31st Dec 20

	Weekly Incidence (cases/100,000) & trend vs previous 7 days	7-day change in case rate (%)	Weekly incidence - 60+ years (cases per 100,000) & trend vs previous 7 days
Data to date	31-Dec	31-Dec	31-Dec
Cambridge	505.6	↑	82.9%
East Cambridgeshire	407.4	↑	74.3%
Fenland	377.0	↑	80.3%
Huntingdonshire	463.6	↑	111.6%
South Cambridgeshire	435.0	↑	70.5%
Peterborough	453.4	↑	12.1%
EAST OF ENGLAND	730.1	↑	22.7%
ENGLAND	546.9	↑	32.6%



Vaccination I think you all know the vaccination hierarchy but here it is anyway. Granta Medical Practise will be starting Cat 1 & 2 Jan 15th.



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Summary of County Council Services Opened & Closed

Coroners - The Coroners service for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough is continuing to operate as normal. Inquests are continuing to be held remotely (via Skype) and in person. It is recommended that people attend inquests remotely where possible.

For more information on the service including contact details and forthcoming inquests visit [here](#)

Household Recycling Centre – All nine HRCs in Cambridgeshire will remain open as usual during lockdown with safety measures in place, however customers are advised to avoid unnecessary visits.

For more information, including opening hours and booking timeslots visit [here](#)

Libraries – All libraries in Cambridgeshire are open, with safety measures in place but operating a restricted service. Customers can use the Select and Collect service to choose and pick up titles, as well as using computers by appointment, with bookings limited to those using public services only. For more information about library services and opening hours visit [here](#)

Registration Services - Following the lockdown announcement, marriage and civil partnership ceremonies can only take place in exceptional circumstances (such as one party with a terminal illness meaning very short life expectancy) and both council's registrations teams are in the process of contacting all couples with a ceremony booked in January and February to discuss options.

In Cambridgeshire, the county's registration service is open for certain pre-booked appointments only:

- Deaths that took place in Cambridgeshire (these are conducted by telephone)
- Births that took place in Cambridgeshire
- Notices of marriage or civil partnership (ceremony must be booked first – these can be booked for late Spring onwards)
- Citizenship ceremonies

Copy certificates, for events previously registered, can be ordered online.

For full details about Cambridgeshire registration services and / or to book visit [here](#). If you are unable to book / order on-line then please call 0345 045 1363.

Residents can continue to register births, but there may be a longer wait than usual for an appointment. Death registrations take place over the telephone, you can book an appointment by calling the office or online.

For notice of marriage/civil partnership appointments – customers with booked appointments during lockdown can still attend. The team is contacting, in ceremony date order, those couples who need to give their notice of intention.

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Citizenship Ceremonies - Small group citizenship ceremonies are being held. To book a place call 01733 864646.

Certificates - Orders can only be taken for certificates from recently registered births and deaths. The priority service is suspended.

Clinically extremely vulnerable urged to shield and seek support if they need it -

Residents across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough who have been identified by the NHS as clinically extremely vulnerable are being urged to shield once again, following the announcement by the Prime Minister of a further national lockdown.

You can read the full guidance on shielding on the government website, visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19>

If you have previously registered or have already secured priority supermarket delivery slots, you don't need to re-register. But if you haven't already done so, you can register online today. To access the registration service, go to <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus-shielding-support>

Contact details for the local support hubs are as follows:

- If you live in the South Cambridgeshire District Council area:
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/coronavirus or 0345 045 5219

If you are not sure which is your local hub, contact the countywide coordination hub via www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/coronavirus or call 0345 045 5219.

The national NHS Volunteer Responders service is also still available, and support can be accessed via <https://nhsvolunteerresponders.org.uk/services>, or by calling 0808 196 3646 (8am to 8pm, 7 days a week).

Peter McDonald

January 10th 2021.