

## E-Newsletter – 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020

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### **1) Information Corner**

#### **Possible Scam**

##### **Amazon Prime**

A member has contacted us as he received a telephone call from Amazon Prime. Please see his information below:

I received a call today (23<sup>rd</sup>) from 07079140899 and a polite lady advised me that my Amazon prime account had been renewed and £79.99 had been debited to my bank account. If this was Ok, just hang up but if this is not Ok, press 1. I don't have an Amazon account so it was a scam and I just hung up. I was told later that had I pressed 1, I would be connected to a premium number and charged about £300 per minute.

##### **A Message from Essex Police Fraud Alert System**

#SHOPSAVVY THIS BLACK FRIDAY

Spotted an ultra-low price for a sold-out games console, trainers or piece of tech?  
**#TakeFive** - it could be a scam.

Does the offer sound too good to be true? Are they refusing to provide you with additional photos? Do they want you to pay up front by bank transfer?

**#Stop** - This should raise alarm bells.

**#Challenge** - Keep your money and information safe from criminals by only purchasing items from authorised sellers and doing your research fully before making a purchase.

**#Protect** - Be a safe and savvy shopper by:

DO

- Reading reviews from reputable sources to check websites and sellers are genuine
- Using the secure payment method recommended by reputable online retailers
- Accessing the website you're purchasing from by typing it into the web browser
- Using a credit card for purchases over £100 and up to £30,000 where possible

DON'T

- Don't accept requests rushing you to pay by bank transfer
- Avoid clicking on links in emails as they could lead to fake websites

## **RURAL COMMERCIAL BANK CORP LETTER SCAM**

A letter from the above company has been flagged by Essex Trading Standards.

The letter has been personalized so that the deceased individual mentioned in the letter had the same surname as the recipient in order to make the scam more convincing.

Some of the signs of a scam letter include poor grammar and creating time pressure to rush you into making a decision.

If you receive a letter such as this that you aren't expecting:

**Stop, Challenge, Protect** — if it's too good to be true, it probably is!!

If you or someone you know is vulnerable and has been a victim of fraud, please call Essex Police on 101 or in an emergency always call 999. Report fraud or attempted fraud by contacting Action Fraud at [actionfraud.police.uk](http://actionfraud.police.uk) or call 0300 123 2040.

To keep up to date with fraud and do even more online at [essex.police.uk](http://essex.police.uk)

## **CLG Meeting 24/11/20 – Veolia**

file:///C:/Users/User/Downloads/CLG%20MEETING%20Presentation%2024.11.2020.pdf

Please go to the above website to view Veolia's presentation of their CLG meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> November. It provides lots of useful information on what and how you can recycle this Christmas, including your real tree. It also has a Q & A section, a quiz and a good news story. Please take a look as it is very informative.

## **Free flu jabs extended to over 50s**

Anyone aged between 50-64 will be entitled to a free flu jab from 1 December as the scheme is expanded to fight the threats of flu and COVID-19. Thirty million people are now eligible for the free flu jab in the country's largest flu-immunisation in history.

## **Ways to save on council tax**

Hundreds of thousands of people are paying the wrong council tax and could be saving thousands of pounds, Martin Lewis says. His ITV's Money Show set out seven ways for people to save on council tax. The Local Government Association said anyone struggling to pay their council tax should check their council's website to see what help they could be entitled to.

## **New c2c timetable with reduced services from next Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November**

We have announced today(20<sup>th</sup>) that we will be operating a new timetable, with reduced services, from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November.

This is as a direct result of the Covid pandemic and it is not a decision we have taken lightly. The new timetable is due to both rising staff unavailability, and a steep decline in passenger numbers. We are focusing the capacity that we do have available around the busiest current times of travel: early morning services, late-afternoon trains, and school services to Southend.

Full information is available online here: <https://www.c2c-online.co.uk/media-centre/latest-news/reduced-timetable-23-nov/>.

I also wanted to take this opportunity to remind you that our annual stakeholder survey is currently open, and as ever we would value your feedback.

## **2) Temporary Road Closures**

### **a) Elm Road, Southend-O-Sea – 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020 for 1 week – Emergency Gas Repairs**

To facilitate emergency gas repairs, they have imposed a PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC in ELM ROAD, SOUTHEND

Whilst this notice is in operation, all vehicles will be prohibited from:

ENTERING & EXITING ELM ROAD BETWEEN ITS JUNCTIONS WITH NESS ROAD ROUNDABOUT AND VINCENT CLOSE.

These prohibitions or restrictions came into effect on **20th November 2020**. This notice will remain in force for a period of 21 days or the duration of the works whichever is the earliest. **It is anticipated that the works will last for 1 week.**

Whilst this section of Elm Road is closed, an alternative route for traffic will be marked on site and resident's access will be maintained where possible.

## **b) Road closures in various roads in connection with the Hadleigh Road Traffic Calming Scheme**

**Hadleigh Road, Salisbury Road, Glendale Gardens, Western Road & Burnham Road Leigh-On-Sea - 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020 onwards (will be carried out in phases) – Essential carriageway works**

Effect of the Order:

**To temporarily, prohibit entry to vehicular traffic** into the roads as described below:

Hadleigh Road from its junction with A13 London Road to its junction with Marine Parade;

Salisbury Road from its junction with Percy Road to its junction with Marine Parade;

Glendale Gardens from its junction with Westcliff Drive to its junction with Hadleigh Road;

Western Road from its junction with Theobalds Road to its junction with Hadleigh Road and

Burnham Road from its junction with A13 London Road to its junction with Marine Parade

The works are scheduled to commence from 4th December 2020

The works will be carried out in phases and each phase will be signed in advance and diversion routes as required will be signed on site.

The closures are required for the safety of the public and workforce whilst the installation of the Hadleigh Road Traffic Calming Scheme is implemented on site.

## **3) A127 Major Works (A127 & the Bell Junction)**

### **A127 Essential Major Maintenance - Treatment Area 2 - Westbound from Victoria Avenue to Tesco junction**

Essential major maintenance carriageway strengthening and repair work is being undertaken on a number of locations on the A127. The section between Tesco junction to Victoria Avenue has been identified for strengthening works in both the Southend bound and London bound carriageways. Works have been completed on the Southend bound carriageway and from Monday 23 November, overnight (8pm-6:30am) works will commence on the westbound carriageway.

The strengthening work involves filling voids under the concrete carriageway then removing the carriageway surfacing (tarmac), repairing any damage to the concrete slab and then resurfacing the carriageway (tarmac).

Residents and businesses within the road closure will be provided access. The Public Liaison Officer will issue a letter to local businesses, residents and key stakeholders, including buses and taxi's informing them of these works. Variable message signs and local signage will inform drivers.

## **A127 Bell Junction - 22nd Nov to 27th Nov**

There will be off-peak (09:00 to 15:00) northbound lane closures Mon-Fri on Hobblythick Lane, and westbound off-peak (09:00 to 15:00) lane closures Mon-Fri on the A127 (at the Bell Junction), for new carriageway widening and footway works.

On **Sunday 22nd** there will be short duration A127 eastbound and westbound lane closure on the approaches to the Bell Junction during the daytime, whilst all the traffic signal poles are placed in temporary base units.

**Monday 23rd to Tuesday 24th**, Midhurst Avenue will be closed from the junction with Hobblythick Lane to Henley Crescent during the daytime off peak (09:00 to 15:00), whilst cable duct road crossings are installed. Local diversions will be in place.

**Wednesday 25th to Thursday 26th**, the right turn from Rochford Road will be closed during the daytime off peak (09:00 to 15:00) to allow for installation of drainage connections. Traffic will be diverted onto Cuckoo Corner and back to the A127 westbound carriageway during this time.

## **A127 Essential Major Maintenance - 23rd Nov to 30th Nov**

Carriageway stabilisation works will be undertaken during night-time (20:00 to 06:30) westbound road closures, from Cuckoo Corner to Tesco Roundabout. Access to residences and businesses will be maintained.

Carriageway drainage gully repairs and installation works are continuing during night-time (20:00 to 06:30) westbound lane closures, from Bellhouse Lane to the Borough Boundary.

**\*\*Friday 27th to Monday 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Full weekend road closure of the A127 Westbound carriageway (20:00 to 06:30), from the Kent Elms junction to Bellhouse Lane, for removal of all bituminous layers to concrete base, concrete repairs, and carriageway resurfacing. Traffic will be diverted via the A1159 Rayleigh Road onto Progress Road.**

**Green Lane - area by 248 to 162**

Carriageway surfacing was partly completed as planned last week, but due to some technical issues with machinery it could not be finished. Our contractor will be back onsite on 27th November to complete this work.

## Other Major Works

Address **Independent Footpath Adjacent 381 to 419A Arterial Road**  
 Start End Works 17/11/20 15/12/20 **(Change of dates)**  
 Reference AZ007-1000875190  
 Works Type Major  
 L.A Ref 101628  
 Traffic Management Some carriageway incursion – delays unlikely

Address **Raphael Drive**  
 Start End Works 23/11/20 07/04/21  
 Reference AZ007-1000974106  
 Works Type Major  
 L.A Ref 110133  
 Traffic Management No carriageway incursion – delays unlikely

Address **Ambleside Drive**  
 Start End Works 02/11/20 27/11/20 **(change of dates)**  
 Reference AZ007-1000997345  
 Works Type Major  
 L.A Ref 112130  
 Traffic Management Multiway signals – delays likely

Address **Kilworth Avenue**  
 Start End Works 02/11/20 27/11/20 **(change of dates)**  
 Reference AZ007-1000997347  
 Works Type Major  
 L.A Ref 112131  
 Traffic Management Multiway signals – delays likely

Address **London Road**  
 Start End Works 23/11/20 27/11/20  
 Reference AZ703-1000974136  
 Works Type Major  
 L.A Ref 110138  
 Traffic Management Two way signals – delays possible

Address **Kilworth Avenue**  
 Start End Works 19/11/20 09/12/20 **(change of dates)**  
 Reference KG027-SE-FTTH-PN034-05  
 Works Type Major  
 L.A Ref 111935  
 Traffic Management Give & take – delays possible

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Address            | <b>Northumberland Crescent</b>                         |
| Start End Works    | 11/11/20 09/12/20                                      |
| Reference          | KG027-SE-FTTH-PN080-09                                 |
| Works Type         | Major  |
| L.A Ref            | 112280   |
| Traffic Management | Give & take – delays possible ( <b>change of T.M</b> ) |

## **4) List of Applications Registered Week Ending 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

Application Number: 20/01919/FULH **Ward: Southchurch**  
 Officer: Robert Lilburn Date Valid: 12 November 2020  
 Erect single storey detached outbuilding to rear  
**107 Burlescombe Road Thorpe Bay Essex**

Application Number: 20/01955/FULH **Ward: Southchurch**  
 Officer: Julie Ramsey Date Valid: 18 November 2020  
 Erect part single/part two storey side/rear extension and erect detached outbuilding to rear  
**15 Daines Way Thorpe Bay Essex**

Application Number: 20/01199/FULM **Ward: Thorpe**  
 Officer: Spyros Mouratidis Date Valid: 4 November 2020  
 Demolish no's 8 and 10 Clieveden Road and No's 9 and 14 Thorpe Esplanade, erect two storey extensions to East and West elevations to provide 55 rooms on ground, first and second floors, form refuse store, layout parking and cycle store  
**Roslin Hotel Thorpe Esplanade Thorpe Bay**

Application Number: 20/01634/FUL **Ward: Thorpe**  
 Officer: Oliver Hart Date Valid: 12 October 2020  
 Demolish existing beach hut and erect replacement beach hut  
**Beach Hut 228 Thorpe Esplanade Thorpe Bay**

Application Number: 20/01842/FULH **Ward: Thorpe**  
 Officer: Kara Elliott Date Valid: 9 November 2020  
 Erect single storey side and rear extension  
**131 Parkanaur Avenue Thorpe Bay Essex**

Application Number: 20/01889/FULH **Ward: Thorpe**  
 Officer: Oliver Hart Date Valid: 18 November 2020  
 Raise roof height and extend existing garage to front, erect new external staircase to rear and alter elevations  
**532 Woodgrange Drive Southend-On-Sea Essex**

Application Number: 20/01915/CLP **Ward: Thorpe**  
 Officer: Julie Ramsey Date Valid: 11 November 2020

Erect single storey rear extension with roof lanterns (Certificate of Lawful Development - Proposed)

**17 Rodbridge Drive Thorpe Bay Essex**

Application Number: 20/01929/FULH

Officer: Julie Ramsey

Erect dormer to side, install balcony window to rear

**45 Colbert Avenue Thorpe Bay Essex**

**Ward: Thorpe**

Date Valid: 12 November 2020

Application Number: 20/01954/FULH

Officer: Kara Elliott

Erect two storey side extension and single storey rear extension, convert loftspace into habitable accommodation and alter elevations (Amended Proposal)

**80 Parkanaur Avenue Thorpe Bay Essex**

**Ward: Thorpe**

Date Valid: 19 November 2020

Application Number: 20/01884/AMDT

Officer: Robert Lilburn

Application to vary conditions 02 (Approved Plans), 17 (details of levels of building, footpaths and other landscaped areas), 19 (water infrastructure and drainage strategy) and 20 (details of hard and soft landscaping) - updated plans to include alterations to proposed building, adjustment of external steps, removal of car lift and revised wording of pre-commencement conditions 17, 19 and 20 to be changed from pre-demolition to pre-construction above slab level-(Minor Material Amendment of Planning Permission 17/01245/FUL dated 01/02/2018)

**14 Lodwick Shoeburyness Southend-On-Sea**

**Ward: West Shoebury**

Date Valid: 9 November 2020

Application Number: 20/01886/FULH

Officer: Julie Ramsey

Erect single storey rear extension

**44 Richmond Avenue Shoeburyness Southend-On-Sea**

**Ward: West Shoebury**

Date Valid: 9 November 2020

Application Number: 20/01897/FUL

Officer: Spyros Mouratidis

Erect two storey dwelling house with detached carport and associated amenities and parking to front (Amended Proposal)

**Land Adjacent 16 Torrington Shoeburyness**

**Ward: West Shoebury**

Date Valid: 16 November 2020

Application Number: 20/01907/FUL

Officer: Robert Lilburn

Demolish existing workshop and erect replacement building comprising of 3 workshops and storage area in roof

**Rear Of 141 West Road Shoeburyness**

**Ward: West Shoebury**

Date Valid: 19 November 2020

Application Number: 20/01930/FULH

Officer: Abbie Greenwood

Erect part single/part two storey side and rear extension with roof lantern to rear

**150 Maplin Way Thorpe Bay Essex**

**Ward: West Shoebury**

Date Valid: 13 November 2020

Application Number: 20/01943/FUL

Officer: Robert Lilburn

**Ward: West Shoebury**

Date Valid: 17 November 2020



Erect three dwelling houses with dormers to rear, amenity space and parking to front  
**Land Adjacent to Bridge House Ness Road Shoeburyness**

Application Number: 20/01944/FULH

**Ward: West Shoebury**

Officer: Oliver Hart

Date Valid: 17 November 2020

Convert garage into habitable accommodation, alter front and side elevations

(Retrospective)

**179 Bishopsteignton Shoeburyness Essex**

## **5) List of Decisions Issued Week Ending** **22<sup>nd</sup> November 2020**

APPLN. NO: 20/01312/FULH

**Ward. Southchurch**

Officer: Julie Ramsey

FORM VEHICULAR ACCESS ON TO VAUGHAN AVENUE AND LAYOUT  
HARDSTANDING

**27 VAUGHAN AVENUE SOUTHEND-ON-SEA ESSEX**

Decision: Grant Conditional Permission

APPLN. NO: 20/01470/FULH

**Ward. Southchurch**

Officer: Scott Davison

ERECT TWO STOREY FRONT AND SIDE EXTENSION, SINGLE STOREY REAR  
EXTENSION AND FORM HIPPED TO GABLE ROOF EXTENSION WITH ROOF  
LIGHTS TO FRONT AND REAR

**140 SOUTHCHURCH BOULEVARD SOUTHEND-ON-SEA ESSEX**

Decision: Grant Conditional

APPLN. NO: 20/01576/FUL

**Ward. Southchurch**

Officer: Robert Lilburn

ERECT SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION WITH EXTERNAL COLD STORAGE  
ROOM AND SITING OF EXTERNAL REFRIGERATION EQUIPMENT (AMENDED  
PROPOSAL) (RETROSPECTIVE)

**225 HAMSTEL ROAD SOUTHEND-ON-SEA ESSEX**

Decision: Grant Conditional Permission

APPLN. NO: 20/01578/FULH

**Ward. Southchurch**

Officer: Julie Ramsey

ERECT PART SINGLE/PART TWO STOREY REAR EXTENSION AND ERECT  
PORCH TO FRONT

**244 THORPE HALL AVENUE THORPE BAY ESSEX**

Decision: Grant Conditional Permission

APPLN. NO: 20/01618/CLP

**Ward. Southchurch**

Officer: Oliver Hart

SINGLE STOREY SIDE/REAR EXTENSION, ALTER ELEVATIONS (LAWFUL  
DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE-PROPOSED)

**8 FERNBROOK AVENUE SOUTHEND-ON-SEA ESSEX**

Decision: Grant Lawful Dev Certificate (Proposed)

APPLN. NO: 20/01503/CLP

**Ward. Thorpe**

Officer: Hayley Thompson

CONVERT GARAGE INTO OUTBUILDING TO FORM HOME OFFICE, ALTER ELEVATIONS (LAWFUL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE-PROPOSED)

**195 THORPE HALL AVENUE THORPE BAY ESSEX**

Decision: Grant Lawful Dev Certificate (Proposed)

APPLN. NO: 20/01545/OUT

**Ward. Thorpe**

Officer: Oliver Hart

ERECT ONE DWELLINGHOUSE WITH ASSOCIATED AMENITY SPACE, CYCLE AND REFUSE STORE (OUTLINE)

**LAND REAR OF 219 KENSINGTON ROAD SOUTHEND-ON-SEA**

Decision: Refuse Permission

APPLN. NO: 20/01547/FULH

**Ward. Thorpe**

Officer: Julie Ramsey

ERECT SINGLE STOREY SIDE AND REAR EXTENSION AND RAISED TERRACE TO REAR (AMENDED PROPOSAL)

**31 FERMOY ROAD THORPE BAY ESSEX**

Decision: Grant Conditional Permission

APPLN. NO: 20/01462/FULH

**Ward. West Shoebury**

Officer: Scott Davison

ERECT FIRST FLOOR SIDE EXTENSION WITH JULIETTE BALCONY AND ROOFLIGHTS TO REAR

**22 BUCKLAND SHOEBURYNESS SOUTHEND-ON-SEA**

Decision: Grant Conditional Permission

APPLN. NO: 20/01496/FULH

**Ward. West Shoebury**

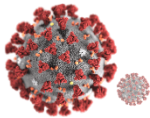
Officer: Oliver Hart

ERECT FIRST FLOOR SIDE EXTENSION AND EXTEND PORCH TO FRONT

**123 NESS ROAD SHOEBURYNESS SOUTHEND-ON-SEA**

Decision: Refuse Permission

## **6) Coronavirus Information**



### **Southend-on-Sea and the rest of the East of England will be in tier 2 next week**

The Government announced today (26<sup>th</sup>) that Southend-on-Sea will be under new Tier 2 restrictions when the current national restrictions end on Wednesday December 2.

What does this mean for me?

People must not socialise indoors with anyone they do not live with or who is not in their support bubble, and the rule of six will apply outdoors.

Pubs and bars will only be able to operate as restaurants, and can only serve alcohol with substantial meals. They can open until 11pm, but must take last orders at 10pm and offer table service only.

Businesses, including shops can open, in a COVID-Secure manner, other than those which remain closed by law, such as nightclubs. Gyms and leisure centres can also reopen and up to 2,000 spectators will be allowed at live sporting events.

The Government is expected to review the new national tier system every two weeks.

You can find out more about the tier levels on the GOV.UK website.

Find out more about Christmas bubbles between 23 and 27 December on the GOV.UK website.

If you need help and have no family or support locally please call our helpline on 01702 212497.

## **The Covid hotspots across south Essex....Thorpe Bay has 20 cases and this is up from 4 last week.**

Source: <https://www.echo-news.co.uk/news/18888890.revealed-covid-hotspots-across-south-essex/>

The Covid-19 hotspots across south Essex have been revealed with a Government interactive map. Areas are colour coded according to the seven-day rates per 100,000 people.

In **Great Wakering and Foulness** there are 21 cases which is a rise from 16 and 320.0 per cent in a week.

Other areas with high cases in Southend include **Southend Central** where Government figures show there's 28 cases of coronavirus, up from 14 the previous week.

**Thorpe Bay** has 20 cases and this is up from 4 last week, while in **Leigh** health bosses recorded 24 Covid cases. This was up from 16.

In **Basildon** the highest area is still Steeple View and Noak Bridge with 44 cases over the last week which is an increase of 33 cases.

**Felmore and Bowers Gifford** the number of cases is now 23 which rose seven.

On **Canvey**, Canvey North West saw a rise in Covid cases with 25 recorded in the last week - this is up 14.

## **Report reveals number of Covid-19 cases in each Southend area**

Source: <https://www.echo-news.co.uk/news/18897121.report-reveals-number-covid-19-cases-southend-area/>

## Report reveals number of Covid-19 cases in each Southend area

A MAP has revealed just how many cases of coronavirus have been reported in each area of Southend since the pandemic began.

Public health chiefs have confirmed the town has seen a total of 2,300 reported Covid-19 cases since March, and in a report to Southend Council, also revealed the specific cases per area.

The highest number of cases came in Chalkwell, with 185 cases recorded, compared to the lowest number of 61 in West Leigh.

The other areas can be found below:

Eastwood Park – 102, St Laurence – 133, Belfairs – 147, Blenheim Park – 120, Leigh – 140, Prittlewell – 159, Westborough – 152, Milton – 147, Victoria – 170, St Luke's – 126, Kursaal – 134, Southchurch – 145, Thorpe – 135, West Shoebury – 88, Shoebury - 110

The report also reveals Southend's highest rate of infection was reported at 181 per 100,000.

This number was hit due to a combination of events, with half term, Halloween and the "rush to beat lockdown" all contributing to the rise in infection rates.

## **Over 40 mass-vaccination centres being prepared**

The NHS is preparing to open mass-vaccination centres across England with at least 42 sites being made ready in arenas, conference centres and other large venues. Details on how the COVID-19 vaccine will be administered, stored and distributed will be set out in NHS England's imminent "deployment plan". The Local Government Association has been in talks with the NHS about the possible role of councils in the roll out of a vaccine.

## **UK setting up vaccine centres**

The NHS has said it is setting up coronavirus vaccination centres across the UK in preparation for any jab being approved. The Government has also officially asked the medical regulator to assess the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine and said, if approved, vaccination could start next month. Every adult in England should be offered the coronavirus vaccine by April, according to leaked NHS draft plans.

## **Experts warn against Christmas gatherings**

Government plans to allow people to see extended family members at Christmas could throw away gains in suppressing the virus, leading scientist say. Talks are taking place between Downing Street and the devolved governments to agree unified rules across the UK for the Christmas period.

## **Mass testing aims to cut quarantine for COVID-19 contacts**

Quarantine for contacts of COVID-19 cases will be halved or eliminated altogether in a pilot scheme that could ultimately free hundreds of thousands of people from isolation. Emergency service workers will be given daily tests with new pregnancy-style kits in the next stage of mass testing in Liverpool due to begin next week. They will be allowed to carry on working if they test negative.

## **'Tougher' post-lockdown tiers set out by PM**

Non-essential shops and gyms in all parts of England will be allowed to reopen when lockdown ends next month, the Prime Minister has announced. The three-tiered regional measures will return from 2 December but each tier will be toughened, with regions finding out on Thursday which tier they are in based on a number of factors including each area's case numbers, the R rate and the current and projected pressure on the NHS locally. Boris Johnson also suggested the "vast majority" of people most vulnerable to coronavirus could be vaccinated against the disease by Easter.

## **Care home visitors who test negative 'can hug loved ones' before Christmas**

Relatives of care home residents in England will be able to hug their loved ones before Christmas, if they have a negative coronavirus test and wear protective equipment. The Government has said it will provide twice-weekly testing to up to two visitors by Christmas, with care home staff receiving twice-weekly tests by the end of December, while testing of residents will also be increased in December to once a week.

## **Students to take two Covid tests before quick Christmas exit**

Students in England will be urged to take two coronavirus tests three days apart, to reduce the risk of spreading infection when they travel home for Christmas, it is reported. The lateral flow tests with rapid results will start in many universities early next week, with those testing negative expected to leave within the following 24 hours, but testing will remain voluntary and not all universities will offer tests.

## **Councils get new powers to shut down businesses breaking Covid rules**

**Councils** have been handed new powers allowing them to shut down businesses for up to a week for breaking Covid rules, the Government has announced. Under the new powers, an improvement notice will give firms 48 hours to implement Covid-secure measures, an immediate restriction notice will close premises for 48 hours, while a restriction notice will shut down the site for seven days. Breaking an improvement notice will result in a £2,000 fine and firms face a £4,000 penalty for breaching a restriction notice.

## **Covid rules relaxed for Christmas**

Families will be allowed to meet two other households in a "Christmas bubble" under a five-day relaxation of social distancing rules. They can travel freely around Britain from December 23 to 27 under a "limited and cautious" exemption from restrictions agreed between Westminster and the devolved administrations. Government scientific advisers have warned that the relaxation will cost lives and risk a third lockdown in January.

## **Weekly Briefing on Local Decisions & Actions re Coronavirus outbreak**

**20<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

### **Key updates/actions**

**National restrictions** – Came in to effect on Thursday 5 November 2020. Please see full details of the restrictions on GOV.UK

**Coronavirus case data:** This is published on our website and now also includes the daily 7 day rate of positive cases per 100,000.

7-day rate of positive cases as of 19 November was 180 per 100,000 (up from 122.9 per 100,000 on 12 November – it was 67.7 per 100,000 on 22 October). The rate in the 60 and over age bracket is yet to come in from PHE this week, but was 83.5 per 100,000 on 12 November.

**ONS death data:** Southend-on-Sea residents' deaths registered inside and outside of Southend-on-Sea with any mention of COVID-19 on the death certificate that occurred up to 6 November 2020 but were registered up to 14 November 2020: 217 (+2)

**A flu vaccination campaign is now running:** In partnership with the CCG and NHS, we are running a campaign aiming at encouraging those over 65, or under 65 but with a long term health condition to take up their free flu jab via their GP. We are also setting straight facts about the vaccine and busting myths on social media as part of this work. You can test your own knowledge on flu vaccination facts by playing the CCG's Flu Bee  
game: <https://games.focusgames.co.uk/Flubeemessex/game/>

**Voluntary and Community Sector Grants:** Voluntary and community sector organisations can apply for grants of up to £3,000 from the Government's Infection Control fund received by the council. This money is to enable infection control measures to be put in place for reopening of services or for specific projects.

**EPUT COVID vaccine recruitment:** Essex Partnership University Trust (EPUT) are looking for healthcare professionals, administrators and volunteers from across Essex to help them gear up in the next few weeks to be ready to deliver a COVID-19 vaccination programme. Please share the following to your networks: <https://eput.nhs.uk/about-us/working-at-eput/vaccine-recruitment/>

**Car parking:** There are currently no changes to parking. Car parks are open and enforcement continues as normal.

**National and local data:** A link to the national NHS Digital information shows information by time intervals (for example, 3-days, 7-days, 30-days, etc), as well as the total numbers and requests or referrals to NHS 111.

### **Other**

· Members of the public who need to self-isolate but are stuck and have no local support from friends and family can call the helpline on 01702 212497. A full list of support contact numbers is available on the corporate website

## **Out of hours:**

Urgent issues arising out of hours should be reported to the out of hours service in accordance with standard practice.

The phone number is 01702 215000.

The out of hours service will then contact the relevant Council officer who is on-call or the relevant contractor such as Veolia. They also have access to the town link radio and CCTV.

## **Summary of Covid-19 related Government announcements 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

### **10 Downing St**

- Matt Hancock and Prof. Stephen Powys led a press briefing this afternoon (20<sup>th</sup>), key announcements include:
  - o Free flu jabs will be available for all aged 50+ from December 1st, as part of an expanded winter vaccine scheme.
  - o Average new daily COVID-19 cases is 22,287, down from 24,430 a week ago. This was described as 'promising', when also considering today's ONS study findings.
  - o Pfizer BioNtech has submitted for emergency use from the FDA. The UK's MHRA have also been formally asked to assess the vaccine.
  - o If approved by the regulator, a vaccine rollout would begin this December.
  - o A COVID-19 vaccine would prioritise groups most at risk, and would be a large logistical challenge – which would be well handled by the NHS.

### **PHE**

- Public Health England has today (20<sup>th</sup>), published a consensus statement from PHE, HSE and FOM, following the review of disparities of risk and outcomes of coronavirus with a focus on ethnic minority groups.
- New PHE guidance outlines the available evidence on virus transmission associated with singing and suggested actions to reduce the risk of transmission while singing.

### **Department of Health and Social Care**

- Guidance on testing for homecare workers is published. It sets out how homecare agencies in England can order regular tests for their homecare (domiciliary care) staff.

- Government has announced today (20<sup>th</sup>), that more than 6,000 frontline health workers will have their visas extended for a year for free.

## DfE

- Guidance on technology and device support available to provide remote education is updated to emphasise the current offers and to encourage reallocation of any 4G wireless that are not being used.
- Guidance for special schools and other specialist settings have been updated in the following areas - SEND legislation guidance (to reflect that temporary changes have now ceased), the latest advice for clinically extremely vulnerable pupils, advice on the use of face coverings in schools and further information on the NHS test and trace process.
- The department has also provided information on keeping occupied spaces ventilated, the use of heating in special schools and specialist settings and the provision of wraparound care and extra-curricular activities.

## **Summary of Covid-19 related Government announcements 20<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020**

The PM made an Oral Statement this afternoon (23<sup>rd</sup>) on the Government's coronavirus Winter Plan and set out the Government's approach to ending the national restrictions on 2 December.

The government's COVID Winter Plan, setting out the end of national restrictions and the steps ministers will take to help bring life back to normal by Spring. This outlines that national restrictions to end on 2 December, with England returning to local tiers, meaning:

- Shops, gyms, personal care, and leisure to reopen, whilst collective worship, weddings and outdoor sports can resume
- People will not be limited to seeing one other person in outdoor public spaces. Instead, the rule of 6 will again apply
- Tiers toughened in some areas to safeguard gains, and ensure testing and vaccines can have maximum impact

PM to announce on Thursday which area will be in each tier, based on latest data

Some restrictions will be amended, given lessons learned from previous tiers. For example, the hospitality curfew has been modified to last orders at 10pm and closing time at 11pm, allowing customers to depart in a staggered way

In tiers 1 and 2, spectator sport can also resume outside with capacity limits and social distancing, providing consistency with theatres and concert halls

All tiers will be toughened. For example, in tier 1 people will be encouraged to minimise travel and work from home where possible.



In tier 2, alcohol may only be served in hospitality settings as part of a substantial meal. In tier 3, hospitality will close except for delivery and takeaway, and indoor entertainment venues, such as cinemas, casinos and bowling alleys, must also close

Tiering allocations will be reviewed every 14 days, and tiering regulations will expire in law at the end of March. Ministers continue to work with the Devolved Administrations on plans for temporary relaxation over Christmas and will set out details shortly, including for the clinically extremely vulnerable. Given how tough these measures are for tier 3 areas, the government will rapidly extend community testing in those areas.

### **DWP has published:**

A letter on the indicative funding allocations for county councils and unitary authorities as part of the coronavirus Winter Grant Scheme funding to support vulnerable households. The £170m scheme will be made available in early December 2020 and covers the period until the end of March 2021.

### **The Department of Health and Social Care has published:**

A series of webinars to support schools and colleges in understanding how to use coronavirus home test kits in education settings. The webinars will provide guidance on who should receive the kits, what they will look like and how parents and carers should use them.

Each webinar will last for 60 minutes and there will be an opportunity to ask questions. The webinars are being run on the following dates:

27 November at 1pm

11 December at 3pm

Full details on when the test kits should be provided, how to store them and the usual routes for accessing free coronavirus testing can be found in Department for Education's guidance on coronavirus home testing kits.

### **Home Office has published:**

Updated guidance for visa customers and applicants in the UK, visa customers outside of the UK and British nationals overseas who need to apply for a passport affected by travel restrictions associated with coronavirus. This includes visa extension information for healthcare workers whose visa expires between 1 October 2020 and 31 March 2021.

## **Summary of Covid-19 related Government announcements 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

Indicative funding levels for the COVID **Winter Grant Scheme** have been published

From 15th December, there will be a new testing strategy for **international arrivals**:

- People arriving from countries not in travel corridors will have the option to take a test after 5 days of self-isolation in order to reduce the 14 day self-isolation period.
- The Government has also announced new financial support for English airports and ground handlers serving them.

**DfE** has collated a list of resource and initiatives to support schools to plan and deliver remote education.

- This include DfE funded curriculum support

### **Additional update from MHCLG:**

#### Coronavirus financial management data collection

The eighth round of the coronavirus data collection will take place on 4 December to gather information about the financial pressures councils are experiencing as a result of the pandemic.

To avoid clashing with the holiday period, the November and December collections are combined into one, and should include:

October and November outturn figures

December estimates

Full 2020/21 financial year

The deadline for submitting the financial data return is 11pm on 11 December.

### **Summary of Covid-19 related Government announcements 25<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

#### **HMRC**

- Guidance on the self-employment income support scheme is updated with information for the third grant of the Self Employed Income Support Scheme.

#### **Cabinet Office**

- A Press release and a joint statement announces UK-wide Christmas arrangements agreed by the UK Government and the Devolved Administrations.
  - o Up to three households may form a 'Christmas bubble' from December 23 to 27.
  - o Travel restrictions will be lifted between December 23 to 27.
  - o Christmas bubbles can meet at home, at a place of worship or an outdoor public place, but existing rules on hospitality and meeting in other venues will be maintained.

#### **DfE**

- Guidance on how to access school-led webinars is updated to include new webinars for middle leaders.
- Guidance for remote education for educators, now includes a link to 'Help with accessing and buying resources for remote education'.
- Guidance for campuses, includes guidance for healthcare and other students on placements returning home and updates on the testing availability to the student movement and plans for the end of term guidance.

## **Summary of Covid-19 related Government announcements 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

### **10 Downing Street**

- The Prime Minister made a statement today on coronavirus and provided an update on the return to a tiered system of local restrictions and the five indicators used to decide which area enters which tier.
- The Health Secretary also set out today in Parliament the tier which each council in England will fall under, in line with the measures set out in the coronavirus Winter Plan. The first review point for the current tier allocations will take place by 16 December.
- A Written Ministerial Statement to Parliament has also been made today on returning to local coronavirus restriction in England, the changes to the tiers and the criteria used.

### **Department of Health and Social Care**

See the full list of local restriction tiers by area here.

**Southend on Sea, Essex, Thurrock and London all fall within Tier 2: High Alert.**

Kent and Medway and Slough fall within Tier 3: Very High Alert.

Updated guidance sets out Local restrictions for each tier. **In tier 2:**

Only socialise indoors with those you live with, or are in a support bubble with - at home or in public.

The rule of 6 applies outside.

Alcohol is only to be served by hospitality venues as part of a substantial meal

Pubs and bars must close, unless operating as restaurants.

Businesses and venues can operate in a COVID-Secure manner, unless closed by law.

- o Eat-at-premises food and drink hospitality must be table service only at venues selling alcohol; orders must stop after 10pm; close between 11pm and 5am (some service areas are exempt).

- o Delivery, click-and-collect or drive-through food businesses can continue after 10pm.
- o 11pm closure for casinos, cinemas, theatres, museums, bowling alleys, amusement arcades, funfairs, theme parks, adventure parks and activities, and bingo halls. Cinemas, theatres and concert halls can conclude performances after 11pm.
- o Public attendance at performances and shows is limited by capacity.
- o Public attendance at spectator sport and business events can resume, subject to social contact rules and capacity limits.
- o Places of worship remain open, without socialising indoors.
- o 15 people can attend wedding ceremonies and receptions, 30 people can attend funeral ceremonies, and 15 people can attend linked commemorative events such as wakes or stone settings.
- o Organised outdoor sport, and physical activity and exercise classes can continue
- o Organised indoor sport, physical activity and exercise classes are permitted if distancing from other households is possible. There are exceptions for certain groups.
- o Travel to open venues or amenities is permitted, reduce journeys made where possible.
- o Tier 2 areas, must follow tier 2 rules if in a tier 1 area.**
- o **Avoid travel to or stays in tier 3 areas** unless for work, education, youth services, medical treatment, or caring responsibilities.
- o See the FCDO travel advice for travel information and the travel corridors list
  - The Contain Outbreak Management Fund will be extended to provide monthly payments to councils facing higher restrictions until the end of the financial year.
  - Guidance is updated on shielding and protecting people defined on medical grounds as extremely vulnerable from coronavirus, in line with the local restriction tier system that will be in place in England from 2 December.
  - Guidance on coronavirus testing is updated to include a link for 'book a courier collection'.
  - In new guidance on The Contain Outbreak Management Fund, documents set out:
    - o payments to local authorities from the Contain Outbreak Management Fund from 2 December 2020

o the policy and details of payments to local authorities from the Contain Outbreak Management Fund from June 2020 up to 2 December 2020

## **MHCLG**

- Guidance for working safely during Coronavirus is updated to add information on the new local restriction tiers and the COVID-19 Winter Plan. See the 'What's changed' section for further information.

## **DfE**

- Actions for colleges, and actions for schools during the coronavirus outbreak are updated to include latest tier information.
- Guidance for children's social care services includes updated sections on support for foster families, access to respite care, short break services, restrictions on visitors in residential settings and mental health of looked-after children and care leavers. This is to reflect the new local restriction tiers which will come into force on 2 December 2020.

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