

Councillor and Parish Council Update –23 April 2021

Local Coronavirus figures

The current local Coronavirus figures can be found on the Government website:

<https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/details/cases?areaType=ltla&areaName=King%27s%20Lynn%20and%20West%20Norfolk>

These figures are for the week ending 18 April 2021, and comparisons are with the week ending 11/04/21:

- The case rate per 100,000 for all ages is: Norfolk 14.8 (13.7 previous week), East of England 20.3 (23.20 previous week) and England 24.5 (28.8 previous week). Overall, this represents an increase in Norfolk of 16.5%.
- In King's Lynn and West Norfolk, the case rate per 100,000 of all ages is 27.7 compared to 23.1 the previous week – an increase of 8%.
- This compares to figures for the rest of Norfolk this week: Breckland 11.4; Broadland 11.5; Great Yarmouth 22.1; North Norfolk 16.2; Norwich 5.7; and South Norfolk 9.9.
- The total number of people tested for Covid-19 in the last 7 days is 22193, compared to 21843 for the previous 7 days (1.6% increase).

The figures show a slight increase in west Norfolk. It is vital that we all continue to be vigilant and communicate the need to minimise travel, continue to work from home where possible and to follow the hands, face space advice. This applies whether you have had your vaccine or not, please encourage everyone to continue to follow the guidance in place to control the virus and save lives. We want the figures to continue to go down as we move towards the next trigger date in the Government's roadmap out of lockdown of 17 May.

Here are some additional government links you may find useful:

[Cases | Coronavirus in the UK \(data.gov.uk\)](#) - This site can be filtered to show information for each district

[Interactive Map | Coronavirus in the UK \(data.gov.uk\)](#) - Can focus in on the map to district level and ultimately ward/street view.

On 21 April MHCLG updated its coronavirus guidance page for local councils. The page brings together guidance, publications and announcements relevant to councils on one page.

The following sections have been updated:

- Business and charity support
- Compliance and enforcement
- Council, public and community buildings
- National restrictions
- Parks and public spaces
- Public health
- Schools and education
- Social care

- Testing
- Travel
- Vaccines

Guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-local-government>

First weekend of lockdown easing

Following the easing of restrictions on the 12th April we were interested to see how the first weekend of trading would go. We are pleased to report that there were no significant issues at all, and most people complied with the guidance. The main issue is people not wearing masks when they should, so we have upped our social media messages around this. There were no reports of any serious breaches by businesses. If you do wish to report a breach or shine a light on a business that is doing a great job, please use the online form.

<https://www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/reportabusiness>

Vaccination update (From N&WCCG)

The latest national vaccination data was published today and it shows that we are making really good progress with second doses. The data published by NHS England and Improvement shows that up to Sunday, 18 April:

- **67% of adults in Norfolk and Waveney had received their first dose**, compared to 61% of adults in England. This puts us sixth out of the 42 health and care systems in England.
- **24% of adults in Norfolk and Waveney had also received their second dose**, compared to 19% of adults in England. This puts us second out of the 42 health and care systems.
- **67% of over 70s had received their second dose.**
- In the week to 18 April, **58,455 second doses were given.**
- A total of **779,412 doses of vaccine had been given locally** since the start of the vaccination programme.

There is more detail in this [press release](#) about today's figures. The CCG will continue to keep you updated on developments with the programme.

Vaccination hesitancy and take up

We are working with the CCG and other partners to target areas or communities where it is believed take up of the vaccine now or in the next cohort may be lower than average.

One such community is that of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller sites. These have been visited and the outcomes have been promising.

More work on this will be taking place over the next few weeks, particularly around North Lynn and Town, South and West Lynn, where data is suggesting that take up might be lower. Thank you to those ward councillors who have already input some thoughts into this work.

Grants for business

Since November last year over £22M has been paid in business support grants. This is in addition to nearly £40M paid during lockdown 1.

Applications for grants from 16 February 2021 to 31 March 2021 will remain open until 31 May 2021.

Our business grant webpage is a helpful source of information <https://www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/businessgrants>.

The web page has information about the Restart Grants as well. These grants of up to £6,000 per premises for non-essential retail businesses, and up to £18,000 per premises for hospitality, accommodation, leisure, personal care and gym businesses are being paid automatically to those businesses we know are eligible and for which we do not need additional information. Over £9.7 has already been paid out to 1118 businesses. We will contact any businesses where we need further information. We aim to make payments by the end of April 2021.

On Monday the Refresh and Reopen grants scheme will open. This is a half-million pound fund for businesses to use to refresh their premises (new shop frontage, online abilities) or to re-open (barriers for one way systems, weatherproof shelters etc). a maximum payment per applicant is £10,000, and the grant will pay up to 75% of the eligible costs for the project. The grant is only available to businesses in west Norfolk that are independent and not part of a large chain. They must also operate in the retail, hospitality, recreation, leisure, culture, tourism or events sector. Full details will be on the council's website on Monday 26 April when the scheme goes live.

Business grants FAQs can be found here: [Business grants FAQs | Business grants FAQs | Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk \(west-norfolk.gov.uk\)](#)

Business Support

I know this bit is repeated, but several out of date signs, that do not reflect the rule of 6, have been seen around the borough. If you see any out of date signs in your ward or parish please do share our materials and confirm that BCKLWN is offering to print them free of charge if they don't have access to print facilities.

Please read the [press release](#). This includes links to the Business and Tourism Toolkit, and the pack of signage that is free to download.

The Go Digital support for businesses was launched in West Norfolk last week. You can read more in the [press release](#). Please do share this particularly with retail and hospitality/tourism businesses.

Borough Council service impacts

All of our service impacts can be found here: www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/coronavirus

If you require specific information about any of the issues raised in this update, please contact communications@west-norfolk.gov.uk