

E-Newsletter – 22nd January 2021

www.bera.co.uk



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1) Information Corner

Renewal Time

It is membership renewal time, so please complete the renewal form (that was included in last weeks newsletter) and return with your payment. There are four ways for you to pay this year.

- 1) Paypal via our website (www.bera.co.uk)
- 2) Online bank transfer from your bank account (please see our website for our bank details)
- 3) £10 cash
- 4) £10 cheque (made payable to Burges Estate Residents Association)

If you wish to pay by cash or cheque, please see our website for Ron and Mikes addresses for you to post or deliver your form and payment to.

Don't visit Southend. Please stay at home - if you are out for exercise, please stay safe and stay local

The council is reminding visitors that all seafront parking remains closed and have urged them to stay away, and to stay home, protect the NHS and save lives.

Although the weather is set to be cold this weekend, the sun is due to be out on Saturday, and the council is reminding potential visitors to the Borough that we are still in national lockdown and people should be staying home and only leaving home

for a permitted reason. One of those reasons is exercise, but the council is urging people to stay local and not travel long distances to visit areas such as the seafront.

The Cinder Path between old Leigh and Chalkwell also remains closed for now.

Cllr Martin Terry, cabinet member for community safety, says: “The Government guidance is clear. People should not be leaving their homes unless absolutely essential and if they do leave home for a permitted reason such as exercise, they should always stay local – the Government says this means staying in the village, town, or part of the city where you live.

“I would also remind residents that they should not be travelling long distances for their exercise. We have lots of parks and open spaces across the whole Borough, so at the current time there should be no need to drive to visit the seafront and for now, please stay local and enjoy the areas close to you for exercise.

“We know the impact the national and these local restrictions are having on everyone, but we must continue to adhere to the rules, because we know the virus is still in our community and the new variant is more transmissible. We will be through this soon, and we will once again be able to welcome visitors back to our seafront, and other areas with open arms. But until then, please Don't visit Southend - stay at home, protect the NHS and save lives.”

Cllr Ron Woodley, cabinet member for transport, inward and capital investment, said: “We took the decision to close all seafront car parks from New Year's Eve because we were seeing large numbers of people congregating across the entirety of the seafront, including visitors from outside of the Borough. We therefore needed to take this difficult but right decision to deter this behaviour as best we could.

“Anyone that is parked in contravention of any restrictions will receive a parking ticket from our civil enforcement officers. I understand resident concerns regarding an increase in cars parked on residential streets, but would emphasise that the car park closures are only temporary, and we can hopefully reopen the car parks once it is safe to do so. We must all work together to reduce the spread of the virus whilst the vaccination roll out continues.”

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home>

Holocaust Memorial Day 2021

Message on behalf of Rosemary Pennington | Head of Arts and Cultural Wellbeing

In line with coronavirus restrictions, this year's Holocaust Memorial Day service of commemoration will be an online event, taking place on Tuesday 26th January, 6pm.

Should you wish to watch the service, it can be accessed at -
<https://www.southend.gov.uk/events/event/4608/holocaust-memorial-day-online-service-of-commemoration>

We are very pleased that Susan Bermange is the main speaker at the service. She attended the service in 2011 supporting her father "Bob" Obuchowski, himself a holocaust survivor, who spoke that year in our service. Susan will be talking about her father's experiences in Auschwitz, Buchenwald, Rhemsdorf and his death march, which he survived, to Thereisenstadt. The service includes a short piece of music, performed by the Southend Boys' and Girls' Choirs in 2018, and a filmed talk by holocaust survivor Eddie Jaku.

The Holocaust Memorial Tree will be planted on Wednesday 27th January on Marine Parade, Leigh on Sea (opposite Salisbury Road). This task will be carried out by our colleagues in the Parks Department, and there is no event for anyone to attend, due to the Coronavirus restrictions.

Over 400,000 crime records affected by error

More than 400,000 fingerprint, DNA and arrest history records were accidentally deleted from the police national computer due to a coding error. Records related to serious offences that were to be kept indefinitely have also been lost, with police fearing criminals may not be caught. The Home Office said it was working with police to understand the impact of the mistake, which occurred during a "weeding" session to remove data.

Invitations for COVID 19 vaccination jabs - Letters are being sent in special blue envelopes to reduce the risk of them being mistaken for junk mail

Source: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9155647/Record-324-233-people-received-Covid-jab-Friday-vaccination-milestone.html>

The NHS sent out 641,000 invitations for jabs to people over 80 last week and another 380,000 this weekend.

A further 500,000 will go out this week along with, Ministers hope, the first invites for those in their 70s. Letters are being sent in special blue envelopes to reduce the risk of them being mistaken for junk mail.

Scam - COVID-19 vaccine booking scams

Fraudulent text messages purporting to be from the NHS urging people to book a slot for their coronavirus vaccine are circulating. The messages include hyperlinks to fake websites that ask for personal information and bank details, before charging the individual for the booking. The Local Government Association has warned people to be vigilant against scam messages around the vaccination programme.

Essex Police Fraud Alert - NEW YEAR, NEW JOB? BEWARE FAKE RECRUITMENT ADVERTS

As the impact of the pandemic starts to take its toll, many residents may find themselves having to look for a new job, and criminals are taking advantage of the high numbers of people now flooding the job market.

There are a four main types of recruitment scam including:

- Advance-Fee Scams—the ‘recruiters’ ask for upfront fees including security or police checks, immigration services for overseas jobs, and training programmes.
- Phone Scams—job seekers are asked to call a number and are kept on hold or subjected to a lengthy interview whilst unwitting paying a premium rate number
- Bank Details—fake recruiters ask for bank details claiming they need to register the victim on their payroll, but the information is used to steal money from the account
- Other Crimes—some fraudsters will manipulate jobseekers into committing crimes on their behalf whilst believing themselves to be working a legitimate job. For example, rather than ‘trading’ funds, jobseekers could actually be money laundering.

I’m looking for a job, how can I protect myself?

The most obvious, yet effective way of protecting yourself from recruitment scams is simple:

Do your research.

- Make sure you have researched the company thoroughly before sharing any personal details such as date of birth, passport, National Insurance Number, driving license or bank details.

WARNING SIGNS

- Poor spelling and grammar in the job advert, forms or documents
- Use of generic email addresses such as Yahoo or Hotmail instead of a corporate email address
- The ‘employer’ is adamant that they should make all the arrangements for you, including travel and accommodation

Brexit update - Act now to keep your business moving in 2021

As the UK embarks on its new start as an independent trading nation, Business Minister Paul Scully has set out six key actions businesses must take to ensure they can seize all the opportunities on the horizon.

The zero tariff, zero quota trade deal the UK has struck with the European Union will help unlock investment and protect jobs across the United Kingdom and will allow businesses to benefit from new trade deals with partners all around the world.

However, there are a range of actions businesses must take in order to take advantage of these opportunities outside the customs union and single market. Today (18th), Minister Scully is urging businesses who have not yet taken steps to prepare for the UK’s new start to act now to avoid any potential disruption to their operations.

The six key actions many firms may need to take are:

- Goods - if you import or export goods to the EU, you must get an EORI number, make customs declarations or employ an agent to do them for you, check if your goods require extra papers (like plant or animal products) and speak to the EU business you're trading with to make sure they're completing the right EU paperwork. There are also special rules that apply to Northern Ireland. Hauliers must obtain a Kent Access Permit and have a negative Covid test before they head to port in Kent
- Services - if you deliver services to the EU, you must check whether your professional qualification is recognised by the appropriate EU regulator
- People - if you need to hire skilled staff from the EU, you must apply to become a licensed sponsor
- Travel - if you need to travel to the EU for business, you must check whether you need a visa or work permit
- Data - if your goods are protected by Intellectual Property (IP), you will need to check the new rules for parallel exporting IP protected goods from the UK to the EU, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein. You risk infringing on IP rights if you do not follow the new rules
- Accounting & Reporting - if your business has a presence in the EU you may need to change how you undertake accounting and reporting to ensure compliance with the relevant requirements

These six key actions should act as a guide for every business affected by the new rules, with more detailed, personalised advice available through the checker tool on gov.uk/transition.

To further support firms, today (Monday 18 January), the Business Department has launched a series of new, on demand videos to help businesses familiarise themselves with the new rules, which will be available via gov.uk/transition. Topics include importing and exporting, trade, data, and audit and accounting. Businesses can select which videos to view from the list, or can choose their sector and see videos that are recommended for them.

Many actions related to EU exit needed to have been taken regardless of the outcome of negotiations, and are therefore unaffected by the trade deal the UK has negotiated with the EU. However, in some areas, such as tariffs and audit and accounting, there is new guidance that businesses will need to familiarise themselves with.

The Business Support Helpline (0800 098 1098) is a free service operating across England. It can provide information on a wide range of business issues, including starting up, business continuity, growth and access to finance, including the range of business support available from Government. Similar services are available in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

Bournemouth Park Road Highway Improvement Scheme

SBC are commencing the civil works on Eastern Avenue, at the junction with Bournemouth Park Road, on Monday the 25th January.

The scheme is programmed for completion on the 31st March.

CityFibre Works Schedule

Please find below a list of ongoing and scheduled works in the Thorpe Ward for next week.

CF Permit Reference	Road Name	Scheduled start	Scheduled End Date
KG027-SE-FFTH-PN038-21	VICTORIA ROAD	04/01/2021	08/02/2021
KG027-SE-FTTH-PN081-04	BUTTERYS	04/01/2021	29/01/2021
KG027-SE-FTTH-PN071-06	COLBERT AVENUE	11/01/2021	05/02/2021
KG027-SE-FTTH-PN083-05	ACACIA DRIVE	12/01/2021	25/01/2021
KG027-SE-FTTH-PN081-02	WOODGRANGE DRIVE	18/01/2021	27/02/2021
KG027-SE-FTTH-PN029-04	DAINES WAY	19/01/2021	01/02/2021
KG027-SE-FTTH-PN081-05	WOODGRANGE CLOSE	18/01/2021	29/01/2021
KG027-SE-FTTH-PN029-05	SHOEBURY ROAD	19/01/2021	01/02/2021
KG027-SE-FTTH-PN083-06	ELM GROVE	21/01/2021	25/01/2021
KG027-SE-FTTH-A55-BL5	BRANSCOMBE WALK	22/01/2021	26/01/2021
KG027-SE-FTTH-PN029-09	CHERRYBROOK	25/01/2021	05/02/2021
KG027-SE-FTTH-PN029-06/A	DAINES WAY	27/01/2021	09/02/2021
KG027-SE-FTTH-PN029-06	BURLESCOOMBE ROAD	28/01/2021	10/02/2021

2) Temporary Road Closures

BELTON WAY WEST, BELTON WAY EAST, BELTON GARDENS, BELTON BRIDGE, HIGH STREET (LEIGH ON SEA), CHALKWELL ESPLANADE, THE LEAS, WESTERN ESPLANADE, MARINE PARADE, EASTERN ESPLANADE, THORPE ESPLANADE, NESS ROAD & GEORGE STREET. LEIGH ON SEA, WESTCLIFF ON SEA & SOUTHEND ON SEA ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14 (2) TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC, PARKING, WAITING, LOADING, UNLOADING & STOPPING ALSO SUSPENSION OF CAR PARKS, PAY AND DISPLAY BAYS & BLUE BADGE HOLDERS FOR ALL AREAS – 00:00 22nd January 2021 - This notice will remain in force for a period of 21 Days.

EMERGENCY SUSPENSION DUE TO THE COVID19 PANDEMIC NOTICE 2021

The Council is satisfied that these restrictions are required owing to the danger to the public of gathering or promenading in groups on the affected roads or public open spaces following the advice of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in respect of social distancing during the COVID19 (coronavirus) emergency.

To facilitate emergency suspension due to the Covid19 Pandemic; they have imposed a:

PROHIBITION OF PARKING, WAITING, LOADING, UNLOADING & STOPPING ALSO SUSPENSION OF CAR PARKS & PAY AND DISPLAY BAYS & INCLUDING BLUE BADGE HOLDERS IN ALL AREAS on BELTON WAY WEST, BELTON WAY EAST, BELTON GARDENS, BELTON BRIDGE, HIGH STREET (LEIGH ON SEA), CHALKWELL ESPLANADE, WESTERN ESPLANADE, MARINE PARADE, EASTERN ESPLANADE, THORPE ESPLANADE, NESS ROAD & GEORGE ROAD in LEIGH ON SEA, WESTCLIFF ON SEA & SOUTHEND ON SEA

Whilst this notice is in operation, all vehicles will be prohibited from including Blue Badge Holders:

1. Parking, waiting, loading, unloading & stopping in pay & display bays on Belton Way West
2. Parking, waiting, loading, unloading & stopping in pay & display bays on Belton Way East
3. Parking, waiting, loading, unloading & stopping in Belton Gardens North & South car park
4. Parking, waiting, loading, unloading & stopping in the pay & display bays on Belton Bridge
5. Parking, waiting, loading, unloading & stopping in the pay & display bays & car parks in High Street Leigh (Leigh Foundry & Victoria Wharf)
6. Parking, waiting, loading, unloading & stopping in pay & display bays on Chalkwell Esplanade
7. Parking, waiting, loading, unloading & stopping in pay & display bays on The Leas
8. Parking, waiting, loading, unloading & stopping in pay & display bays on Western Esplanade
9. Parking, waiting, loading, unloading & stopping on limited waiting bays on Marine Parade
10. Parking, waiting, loading, unloading & stopping in the pay & display bays & car parks in Fairheads Green Car Park
11. Parking, waiting, loading, unloading & stopping in the pay & display bays & car parks in Seaway carpark
12. Parking, waiting, loading, unloading & stopping in the pay & display bays & car parks in The Gas works Car park
13. Parking, waiting, loading, unloading & stopping in pay & display bays on Eastern Esplanade
14. Parking, waiting, loading, unloading & stopping in pay & display bays on Thorpe Esplanade
15. Parking, waiting, loading, unloading & stopping in the pay & display bays & car parks in Thorpe Esplanade Car Park
16. Parking, waiting, loading, unloading & stopping in the pay & display bays & car parks in Shoebury Common North Car Park (a) 1984 c.27 (b) 1992 No. 1215 (c) S.I. 1996 No. 107 as amended
17. Parking, waiting, loading, unloading & stopping in the pay & display bays & car parks in Shoebury Common South Car Park
18. Parking, waiting, loading, unloading & stopping in pay & display bays & limited waiting bays on Ness Road
19. Parking, waiting, loading, unloading & stopping in the pay & display bays & car parks in Shoebury East Beach Car Park

PLEASE NOTE IF ANY OF THESE ARE LOCATIONS WITH RESIDENTIAL PARKING ALLOWED YOUR PERMITS ARE STILL VALID

Nothing in the Notice will apply to: (a) any vehicle being used in connection with the execution of the said works or any public utility vehicle; (b) anything done with the permission or at the direction of a Police Constable in uniform or a Civil Enforcement Officer; (c) any vehicle on an occasion when it is being used for Fire Brigade, Ambulance, Police or RNLI/Coastguard purposes, if the observance of that provision would be likely to hinder the use of the vehicle for the purpose for which it is being used on that occasion, provided that conditions which prevail on site at any one time do not render it unsafe or impossible for such a vehicle or vehicles to use any part of the public highway for the time being; and (d) any reasonable access requirements by local residents

These prohibitions or restrictions came into effect on **00:00 22nd January 2021**. This notice will remain in force for a period of 21 Days.

The prohibitions or restrictions will apply only during such time and to such extent as indicated by traffic signs prescribed by the TRAFFIC SIGNS REGULATIONS AND GENERAL DIRECTIONS 2016

Any vehicle waiting in contravention of any restriction/prohibition imposed by this Notice may be issued with a Penalty Charge Notice and removed under the provisions of the Traffic Management Act 2004

3) List of Applications Registered **Week Ending 22nd January 2021**

Application Number: 20/01565/CLE
Officer: Oliver Hart

Ward: Southchurch

Single storey rear extension, convert loft and garage in to habitable accommodation, install rooflights to side elevations and alter front elevation (Lawful Development Certificate - Existing)

29 Samuels Drive Thorpe Bay Essex

Application Number: 21/00069/FULH
Officer: Kara Elliott

Ward: Southchurch

Erect roof extension, two storey side and rear extensions, dormer to rear to form habitable accommodation in the loftspace, juliette balcony to rear, alter elevations (Amended proposal)

52 Daines Way Thorpe Bay Essex

Application Number: 21/00053/FULH
Officer: Spyros Mouratidis

Ward: Thorpe

Install chimney flue for log burner to outbuilding at rear (Part-Retrospective) (Amended Proposal)

140 Thorpe Hall Avenue Thorpe Bay Essex

Application Number: 21/00060/FULH
Officer: Kara Elliott

Ward: Thorpe

Hip to gable roof extension, erect single storey side and rear extension, first floor rear extension, form habitable accommodation in roofspace, alter elevations

16 Fermoy Road Thorpe Bay Essex

Application Number: 21/00063/FULH
Officer: Oliver Hart

Ward: Thorpe

Erect single storey side extension and convert existing garage into habitable accommodation, alter elevations

6 Meadow Drive Thorpe Bay Essex

Application Number: 21/00066/FULH
Officer: Kara Elliott

Ward: Thorpe

Erect part single/part two storey rear extension, raise part of ridge height, hip to gable roof extension to rear and dormer to front to form habitable accommodation in the loftspace, alter elevations

29 St Augustines Avenue Thorpe Bay Essex

Application Number: 21/00067/CLP
Officer: Julie Ramsey

Ward: Thorpe

Outbuilding at rear (Lawful Development Certificate-Proposed)

29 St Augustines Avenue Thorpe Bay Essex

Application Number: 21/00072/FUL
Officer: Robert Lilburn

Ward: Thorpe

Erect first and second floor rear extension and relocate extract ducting with flue to rear

187 The Broadway Thorpe Bay Essex

Application Number: 21/00079/CLP
Officer: Janine Rowley

Ward: Thorpe

Hip to gable roof extension and dormer to rear (Lawful Development Certificate - Proposed)

30 Rutland Avenue Southend-On-Sea Essex

Application Number: 21/00080/FULH
Officer: Janine Rowley

Ward: Thorpe

Erect single storey rear extension, replace existing garage to side and raise roof of existing side extension

30 Rutland Avenue Southend-On-Sea Essex

Application Number: 21/00006/FULH
Officer: Kara Elliott

Ward: West Shoebury

Erect single storey front and side extension

6 Connaught Gardens Shoeburyness Essex

4) List of Decisions Issued **Week Ending 17th January 2021**

APPLN. NO: 20/01871/CLP

Ward. Southchurch

Officer: Janine Rowley

ERECT SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION AND SINGLE STOREY SIDE EXTENSION (CERTIFICATE OF LAWFUL DEVELOPMENT - PROPOSED)

7 PLYMTREE THORPE BAY ESSEX

Decision: Grant Lawful Dev Certificate (Proposed)

APPLN. NO: 20/02068/GPDE

Ward. Southchurch

Officer: Oliver Hart

ERECT SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION, PROJECTING 6M BEYOND THE EXISTING REAR WALL OF THE DWELLING, 2.07M HIGH TO EAVES AND WITH A MAXIMUM HEIGHT OF 3.01M

66 WILLINGALE WAY THORPE BAY ESSEX

Decision: GPD Refusal

APPLN. NO: 20/01954/FULH

Ward. Thorpe

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

Decision: Grant Conditional Permission

APPLN. NO: 20/01867/AD

Ward. West Shoebury

Officer: Spyros Mouratidis

APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF DETAILS PURSUANT TO CONDITIONS 04 (DRAINAGE AND SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY) AND 05 (HIGHWAYS AND PLAY AREA SIGNAGE DETAILS) OF PLANNING PERMISSION 20/00894/BC3 DATED 19.08.2020

SHOEBURY COMMON NORTH SHOEBURY COMMON ROAD SHOEBURYNESS

Decision: Grant Permission

APPLN. NO: 20/01884/AMDT

Ward. West Shoebury

Officer: Robert Lilburn

APPLICATION TO VARY CONDITION 02 (APPROVED PLANS) TO ALTER ELEVATIONS AND LAYOUT OF PROPOSED DWELLING INCLUDING INCREASED BUILDING HEIGHTS WITH RECONFIGURATION OF ROOFS, THE UPPERMOST ROOF HEIGHT INCREASING BY 120MM, REAR TERRACE HEIGHT INCREASED BY 110MM, RECONFIGURATION OF EXTERNAL STEPS AND REMOVAL OF CAR LIFT, AND TO VARY CONDITIONS 17 (DETAILS OF LEVELS OF BUILDING, FOOTPATHS AND OTHER LANDSCAPED AREAS) AND 19 (WATER INFRASTRUCTURE AND DRAINAGE STRATEGY) TO ALLOW FOR PRIOR DEMOLITION, AND TO VARY CONDITION 20 (DETAILS OF HARD AND SOFT LANDSCAPING) TO BE CHANGED FROM PRE-COMMENCEMENT TO PRECONSTRUCTION ABOVE SLAB LEVEL (MINOR MATERIAL AMENDMENT OF PLANNING PERMISSION 18/01015/AMDT DATED 19.09.2018)

14 LODWICK SHOEBURYNESS SOUTHEND-ON-SEA

Decision: Grant Conditional Permission

APPLN. NO: 20/01897/FUL

Ward. West Shoebury

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

Decision: Grant Conditional Permission

APPLN. NO: 20/01907/FUL

Ward. West Shoebury

Officer: Robert Lilburn

ERECTION OF BUILDING COMPRISING OF 3 WORKSHOPS AND STORAGE AREA IN ROOF, FOLLOWING DEMOLITION OF EXISTING BUILDING REAR OF

141 WEST ROAD SHOEBURYNESS

Decision: Withdrawn Date

APPLN. NO: 20/02003/CLP

Ward. West Shoebury

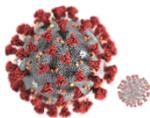
Officer: Oliver Hart

HIP TO GABLE ROOF EXTENSION, DORMER TO REAR TO FORM HABITABLE ACCOMMODATION IN ROOFSpace, SINGLE STOREY SIDE EXTENSION, ROOFLIGHTS TO FRONT (LAWFUL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE-PROPOSED)

67 THORPEDENE GARDENS SHOEBURYNESS SOUTHEND-ON-SEA

Decision: Grant Lawful Dev Certificate (Proposed)

5) Coronavirus Information



Working to make lives better
www.southend.gov.uk

COVID-19 CASES are rising rapidly

COVID-19 DEATHS are rising locally

Act like you have it - don't spread it
STAY AT HOME, PROTECT THE NHS, SAVE LIVES

www.southend.gov.uk/gettested

We are in national lockdown. Please stay at home.

It is more important than ever that we stay at home, protect the NHS and save lives.

With COVID-19 cases rising, and local deaths increasing too, please act like you have it and don't spread it.

National lockdown guidance is available on the Gov website

Local COVID-19 case data is available on SBC website

Get tested: www.southend.gov.uk/gettested

England's virus levels 'may have risen' in January, study shows

Coronavirus infections in England did not slow down and may have increased instead in the first days of the latest national lockdown, an ongoing study has found. The Imperial College survey, conducted between 6 and 15 January, suggests one in 63 people were infected across England, an increase of 50 per cent on the last survey in early December. Researchers also said it will be weeks before the vaccine rollout has a substantial effect.

Summer lockdown not ruled out

COVID-19 restrictions could continue into the summer, the Prime Minister has said, as UK coronavirus-related deaths continue to remain high. Ministers are wary of lifting restrictions too early as the country's mass vaccination programme is underway. Almost five million people now have their first dose of the vaccine, with 363,508 administered on Thursday – a new record.

Warning of cases spike if vaccinated people break rules

People could become less strict at adhering to coronavirus rules as more of the population is vaccinated, scientists have warned. The Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies said it could lead to a spike in cases which outweighs the gains made by rolling out the jab.

24-hour vaccination sites to be piloted in London before end of January

Nadhim Zahawi, the Minister for COVID Vaccine Deployment, has said 24-hour vaccination sites will be piloted in London before the end of January. He told Sky News the NHS will be "targeting forensically who we want to protect" to ensure the most vulnerable can be vaccinated first.

Oxford scientists preparing new vaccine versions to combat emerging COVID-19 strains

Oxford scientists are preparing to rapidly produce new versions of their vaccine to tackle emerging COVID-19 strains from the UK, South Africa and Brazil, following new research which suggests that the current generation of coronavirus vaccines may not work against the new South African strain.

Plans for daily coronavirus testing in schools put on hold

The Government has paused plans to roll out rapid daily coronavirus testing of close contacts in schools, other than for schools involved in further evaluation. Public Health England said the balance of the risks and potential benefits of daily testing were “unclear” after the emergence of the more transmissible variant of COVID-19.

All UK travel corridors closed from Monday

All international arrivals will need to provide evidence of a negative coronavirus test and quarantine upon entry from Monday, as the UK tighten their measures amid increasing pressures on the NHS and fears of a new variant. Despite some initial signs that infections may be levelling off, the UK recorded a further 55,761 cases on Friday (15th) and another 1,280 people have died.

Delay of Pfizer vaccine to the UK

The UK is one of several countries facing delays in delivery of the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine as the company upgrade its production capacity, in an effort to produce more doses than planned in 2021. The UK has secured 40 million doses of the Pfizer vaccine, but shipments are set to be affected this month.

Doctors throwing away leftover vaccines

GPs are being forced to throw away leftover vaccines rather than giving second doses, medics have revealed, with some fearing a cancellation of their supplies if they don't follow instructions. Due to the uncertainty of the supply chain, GPs say they are finding it difficult to book the exact number of appointments for their clinic, and that local NHS managers are enforcing a “strong decree” from NHS England that no one should receive a second dose too literally.

Vaccinations to begin for over-70s in England

People in England aged 70 and over, and those listed as clinically extremely vulnerable, will start to receive offers of a COVID-19 vaccine this week. Over five million people – from priority groups three and four – will be invited to have the jab from Monday. Latest figures show the UK recorded a further 671 deaths within 28 days of a positive test and another 38,598 positive tests.

All adults could be vaccinated by June

All over 18s could have the COVID-19 vaccine by the end of June, with a target of administering four to five million vaccines a week now realistically possible, Whitehall sources say. The Government are reluctant to publicly acknowledge a deadline, but

believe that with the further two vaccines from Moderna and Johnson & Johnson in the pipeline, the process to give all 54 million adults a jab can be done by June.

Ten more mass vaccination centres to open in England

A further ten mass vaccination centres are set to open from Monday and will offer “thousands” of jabs a week, NHS England says. The Government promised that all over-70s, extremely clinically vulnerable and frontline health and care workers would receive a first jab by 15 February. More people have now received a COVID-19 vaccine in the UK than have tested positive for the virus.

All supermarkets to face safety protocol inspection

All supermarkets will face inspections in the next two weeks to make sure they are Covid-secure. Ministers have reportedly told councils to check supermarkets have effective safety measures in place. A checklist drawn up by the LGA includes restricting capacity, signs and measures to make sure people are wearing masks, one-way systems with markings, hand sanitisers and staff wearing masks.

Weekly Briefing on Local Decisions & Actions re Coronavirus outbreak 15th January 2021

Key updates/actions

Vaccination: Now that more doses of Covid-19 are available, the NHS is able to open more vaccination services, including the first vaccination centres. Vaccination centres mark the next step in rolling out the COVID-19 vaccinations in mid and south Essex. These centres are the important third strand of the NHS Covid-19 vaccination plan, sitting alongside hospital hubs and local GP-led vaccination services, both of which will continue to grow in number as the supplies of vaccine available to the NHS continues to grow. More details are on the EPUT website. The key messages from the NHS on the vaccine are as follows:

- Please don't contact the NHS to seek a vaccine, they will contact you;
- When they do contact you, please attend your booked appointments on time – please avoid arriving early as the NHS want to avoid queues;
- Please continue to follow all the guidance to control the virus and save lives.

LFD testing sites: From next week, the Council will have 3 rapid testing sites open across the Borough:

Shoebury youth centre site will open on Tuesday 19th January from 3.30-7pm and from 8am to 7pm from Wednesday onwards. People need to book an appointment via MySouthend. Read the media release on our website.

University Square site in central Southend is open from 7am to 3pm, seven days a week. People need to book an appointment via MySouthend.

St Aidan's Church site in Leigh-on-Sea is open from 7am to 6pm, seven days a week. People need to book an appointment via MySouthend.

Act like you have it – Don't spread it: We are upping our messages to promote the national lockdown message and urging people to 'Act like you have it – don't spread it.'

Stay at Home resources: New national social media assets for the stay at home message have been published on the PHE Coronavirus resources website.

Free school meals: The Council has spent £190,000 to fund free school meal vouchers over the last two weeks. This investment has supported local schools and local families through the initial national lockdown period. In addition, the Council will fund free schools meals through the February half-term via the winter COVID grant scheme funded by the Government as announced before Christmas.

Compliance: Officers are continuing to visit supermarkets/smaller food shops/newsagents across the Borough and will continue this weekend to provide COVID support and advice to these stores. The Council is part of the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) Compliance Working Group. The aim of this group is for local authorities to inform central government of the main issues and discuss potential solutions around retail compliance to be led top down by central government and support work at a local level. The Council was invited due to the proactive work we have done with supermarkets around risk assessments and compliance.

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 15 January is 910.3 per 100,000 (down from 1,219.9 per 100,000 on 8 January). The rate in the 60 and over age bracket is 800.2 per 100,000, down from 969.4 per 100,000 on 8 January.

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 1 January 2021 but were registered up to 9 January 2021: 330 (+45)

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 15th - 18th January 2021

The Health Secretary delivered a speech from the press briefing this afternoon. Key points include:

- All adults in the UK to be offered a COVID-19 vaccine by September.
- Over 70s and extremely clinically vulnerable to be offered the vaccine from this week.
- 50% of over-80s have been vaccinated - 90% in some areas.
- 4m jabs have been delivered.
- Someone is admitted to hospital every 30 seconds. Hospitals are fuller now than at any other time during the pandemic.

Department of Health and Social Care has published:

- New statement from the Chief Medical Adviser for NHS Test and Trace on the importance of testing those without symptoms.
- New statement that the public has a vital part to play in the rollout of the UK vaccines delivery plan.
- New information that patients with COVID-19 are set to benefit from faster treatment, improved outcomes and shorter hospital stays thanks to the use of the latest artificial intelligence.
- New funding announced to protect and support staff and residents in care homes and those receiving help in their own homes

Ofsted has published:

New guidance that all planned inspection activity will be carried out remotely until after the February half term.

DWP has published:

Updated guidance from the PM who announced that the government will be introducing new national measures to protect the NHS and save lives.

- Jobcentres will be open from 10am to 2pm to help keep our colleagues and customers as safe as possible in the latest phase of this pandemic. Members of the public entering a jobcentre, unless exempt, will be required to wear a face covering.

DEFRA has published:

New advice for seasonal agricultural workers coming to England to pick fruit and vegetables on farms, and their employers.

DfT has published:

- New emergency border measures introduced to prevent the spread of new variants of coronavirus into the UK.
- Updated advice on how to travel safely in airports and on aircraft during the outbreak. Information about coronavirus testing before travel to the UK.

FCO has published:

Updated guidance for British people about cruise ship holidays during the pandemic.

Home Office has published:

Updated advice 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. Updated exceptional assurance visa expiry dates to 1 January 2021 and 28 February 2021.

PMO has published:

New Build Back Better Council launched which brings together a broad range of business leaders from across the British economy to work in partnership with the Government on coronavirus economic recovery and future growth plans. The Build Back Better Council will be comprised of 30 members representing industries from retail and hospitality, to finance, science and technology.

DfE has published:

New advice that the national free school meal voucher scheme will go live from 18 January. Schools will be able to place orders for supermarket gift cards on behalf of the parents and carers whose children are eligible for benefits-related free school meals, to cover the period between 18 January and 12 February (4 weeks). As well as using the national voucher scheme, schools still have the option of providing food to eligible pupils via a lunch parcel, through a caterer or food provider, or via a locally arranged solution. This could include providing vouchers for a local shop or supermarket, or sourcing vouchers through an alternative provider. For those arranging vouchers locally rather than through the national voucher scheme, more details will be available soon on how you can claim back these costs. Beyond the fact that it will need to be a valid claim based on eligible children and support provided over the specified timeframe, claims will not be subject to any additional criteria and so will be paid in full. The rates are £15 for vouchers or a £3.50 top up if you are providing lunch parcels. These amounts are per week, per eligible child.

Summary of Covid-19 related Government announcements 19th January 2021

DFE

- Guidance on rapid asymptomatic coronavirus testing for staff in primary schools, school-based nurseries and maintained nursery schools was published yesterday.

- On 15 January, the DfE launched a joint consultation with Ofqual on how GCSE, AS and A level grades should be awarded in summer 2021. The consultation closes at 11:45pm on 29 January.

MHCLG

Guidance for the safe use of places of worship and special religious services and gatherings, is updated to include updated guidance on celebrating religious festivals.

DoHSC

- In a press release, 4,062,501 people receive first dose of COVID-19 vaccine, and more than half of those aged 80+ are vaccinated.
- In a press release, up to 2,000 supply chain workers crucial to vaccination programme are to be offered COVID-19 vaccines in the coming days.
- Guidance for the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme is updated to reflect that you can make a claim for the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme or a discretionary payment up to 28 days after the first day of your period of self-isolation.
- Guidance is updated on how to self-isolate when you travel to England, to include information about pre-departure testing, closing 'travel corridors' and additional travel restrictions.
- A press release from 17 January, on Social care receiving £269m to boost staffing and testing, is updated to include grant allocations. For Southend-On-Sea, indicative allocations using adult social care relative needs formula is £412k.
- Letters have been sent to those aged 70 and over and the clinically extremely vulnerable today in England inviting them to get their vaccinations as the NHS begins roll out to the next 2 priority groups.

Summary of Covid-19 related Government announcements 20th January 2021

Education

- Announcement that the programme to test pupils in schools daily will be paused. Testing of staff should continue twice weekly where possible.

Health

- Letter published from Minister for Social Care to LAs outlining what LAs must do if social workers they employ have not yet been offered a vaccine.

Business

- How to apply for the Zoo Animals Fund (includes aquariums)

Summary of Covid-19 related Government announcements 21st January 2021

Home Office

- The Home Secretary led the Downing Street briefing on coronavirus, where she announced a new £800 fine for people who attend house parties.

DFE

- Guidance for parents and carers about going back to schools, nurseries and colleges has been updated following the PHE position statement on daily contact testing.
- Actions for FE colleges and providers is updated following the Public Health England statement on daily contact testing and to add information on supporting students with special educational needs in special post-16 institutions.
- Guidance on financial support for education, early years and children's social care is updated to remove outdated sector specific guidance for early years providers and reflect detail on public and private income from school-based nursery provision for mainstream state-funded schools.

Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

- Guidance to check business grant eligibility is updated to include details of grants available during the national restriction period from 5 January 2021 onwards.
- Guidance to check Additional Restrictions Grant eligibility is updated to note that the subsidy control / state aid conditions for this scheme have not changed following the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020.

PHE

- Coronavirus vaccination information for public health professionals is updated to include changes to the advice on timing of vaccine in those being given immunosuppressive treatments and further detail on history of previous allergies.
- Guidance for healthcare practitioners on the health needs of migrant patients includes a summary of changes after the Brexit transition period and COVID-19 vaccination information.
 - o Overseas visitors to England, including anyone living in the UK without permission, will not be charged for coronavirus (COVID-19) testing, treatment and vaccination

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