

# E-Newsletter – 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021

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## **1) Information Corner**

### **Ron & Cllr Stafford's Email addresses**

It appears that Ron and Cllr Stafford's email addresses may have been hacked. An email was purportedly sent to Cllr Stafford by Ron, which was not the case. If you receive an email from either of them that is below, please do not action and delete immediately. Please also note the spelling mistakes and poor grammar.

'Sorry for the late response... The mobile signal where I'm working is awful as i am busy, & I can't make or receive call at the moment. I have been working on an incentives reward project for some of our diligent staffs to support them as a token during this hard times and this should remain confidential between us until they all get their gifts.

I need 3 pieces of amazon Gift cards in all £ 100 face value, amounting to £ 300. I need you to get the gift cards from the nearest shop close to you Or help me order them online.

Let me know when you can take care of this today, & you will be reimbursed back when I return.'

### **Renewals**

May we kindly ask that if you pay your membership renewal via Paypal that you ensure that your address is quoted, in order for Sara our BERA Secretary, to be able to locate you and process your renewal.

Also if you pay by bank transfer please put your name and address as a reference, even if it is just your surname, initial and house number, in order for your payment to be located. We do require you to still complete a membership form with your up to date details on please. You can complete a form online or a copy of this form can be found on our newsletter dated 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Thank you.

## **A Message from a member - Crime incident**

Overnight on the 30<sup>th</sup> January, a member had tyres slashed on their cars parked on their drive. They have a security light but this was not a deterrent. They have 3 cars on their drive and have had 7 slashed tyres, every car has been damaged. They have reported it to the police but there is little they can do. Not many neighbours in their street have CCTV and none of their neighbours' cars were damaged.

They cannot think of any reason it would happen so please be aware that there is someone or some people out there carrying out this wilful damage.

## **Speed Limit warning**

Please see below a warning that a member wanted to pass onto other motorists.

Whilst passing through the traffic lights going East along the sea front at the Kursaal, my car registered the speed limit as 100 MPH! If you then use the cruise control option of 'set', the car will race away and attempt to reach 100 MPH!! This has now happened on 3 separate occasions and I believe the reason is that the car 'reads' the 'Century 300' sign above the restaurant on the corner of the Kursaal and interprets this as 100.

Please be aware.

## **Smokers who drop cigarette ends in street to be shown video revealing environmental impact**

Clean Up Britain is launching what it claims is the most comprehensive anti-cigarette litter behavioural change programme ever seen in the UK. Under the scheme, council enforcement officers, who catch people littering cigarette butts and issue them with a fine of up to £150, will give them an option of watching a 90 second video which will explain why it is environmentally damaging. It will be emailed to the smoker who will have to answer three questions to prove they have seen it. On returning their answers they will be allowed to ask for a discount off their fine.

## **Scams**

### **a) Nuisance calls**

A member has contacted us and has advised us that they have started to get 'nuisance' calls. They are coming to their land line but they are registered as ex-directory, so they think that they are just randomly calling in number sequence.

They had at least 6 last Thursday (28<sup>th</sup>) and 3 or 4 Friday (29<sup>th</sup>). They all come from different numbers, so it is not possible to block them. It is a recorded message stating that *'due to illegal activity, your Broadband will be disconnected in 24 – 48 hours, unless you press 1 and speak to an Executive Officer'*.

Needless to say the member has not done that, and hang up every time. This is no doubt another scam to try and get your bank details.

## b) Vaccinations scams continue!

Following on from the previous alert regarding vaccination text messages, there is a new fraudulent vaccination email being circulated. Again, this looks very convincing and could easily be mistaken for a genuine NHS email.

Do not click the link as it takes the recipient to a malicious website that steals personal details. These details are then used by the criminals to access other personal accounts.

### Remember:

- Never click on any links in unsolicited emails
- Check the email address is genuine by hovering over it or clicking and holding
- The vaccine is free and the NHS will never ask you for bank or payment details



## Cliff stabilisation works at Belton Way East

Following a recent routine survey at Belton Way, the council's highways department have identified areas of slope instability, meaning ground investigations need to be carried out ahead of essential stabilisation works.

The surveys follow on from the council securing £3.2m in Government funding to carry out ground investigation and stabilisation works at Belton Way, to ensure the area remains safe for homeowners, businesses, and road users.

Given the results of the survey, ground investigations are now required to determine the depth of any potential slip plane within the slope. The results of these ground investigations will provide the required technical information to design the solution at Belton Way East.

Machinery is needed where the excavations are set to take place, and this means that two groups of trees, containing mainly Elm scrub and various other tree species differing in age, need to be removed. This work is set to begin next week.

From Monday 8 February, 50 native trees will be planted south of the site. The new trees will help sustain the tree canopy cover in the area as well as providing food and shelter for wildlife, along with the other well-known benefits associated with trees.

Cllr Ron Woodley, cabinet member for transport, inward and capital investment, said: "Southend-on-Sea is blessed to have the beautiful cliffs across the seafront and into Leigh-on-Sea. However, managing cliff slip is essential, and something that must be taken seriously. The potential problems if cliff slip is not managed appropriately could be fatal, so we are doing this to keep the area safe.

"Without this work, any further movement could potentially have a detrimental impact on surrounding residential properties, highway infrastructure, and Network Rail assets. This project has cross-party support, with local ward Councillors all on board with the work."

### **Gritting teams at the ready as amber snow warning issued**

The council and its contractors Veolia are ready for the cold weather and snow that is forecast this weekend.

Veolia's three gritting vehicles will be out this weekend, alongside 122 salt bins across the Borough and over 1,500 tonnes of salt in reserve. You can find a map of salt bins and gritting routes at [www.southend.gov.uk/winter](http://www.southend.gov.uk/winter)

The 'main route' gritter spreads 9 tonnes of salt per operation and two smaller gritters cover additional routes and both spread 5 tonnes of salt each per operation. They have already been out 21 times since December 2020, spreading over 400 tonnes of salt.

A quad bike with a trailer covers other areas such as the hospital, including COVID-19 testing and vaccination centres, and uses 1 tonne per operation. As well as the roads, Veolia uses small gritting vehicles to keep miles of pavements and walkways safe across the borough.

## **2) Temporary Road Closures**

### **a) Pentland Avenue, Southend-on-Sea - 15th February 2021 from 08:00 till 18:00 on the 24th February 2021 - new connection for gas**

The Effect of the order will be to prohibit any vehicle from; -

1. Proceeding on Pentland Avenue between its junctions with Caulfield Road & St Andrews Road
2. Waiting, loading or unloading on Pentland Avenue between Nos 72/86 & Nos 71/83

The closure is scheduled to commence from 15th February 2021 from 08:00 till 18:00 on the 24th February 2021 or where appropriate signs are showing and weather permitting.

The alternative route will be via Caulfield Road, Maplin Way & Church Road and vice versa

The Order will come into effect on 15th February 2021 and may continue in force for 18 months or until the works have been completed, whichever is the earlier.

The closure is required for the safety of the public and workforce whilst new connection for gas take place. Access for emergency vehicles, residents and pedestrians will be maintained at all times during the closure.

### **b) Wansfell Gardens, Southend-on-Sea - 1st March 2021 till 22nd March 2021 - gas main replacement works**

The Effect of the order will be to prohibit any vehicle from

1. Proceeding on Wansfell Gardens from its junction with Willingale Way to outside Nos 1&20 Wansfell Gardens.
2. Waiting, loading & unloading on Wansfell Gardens from its junction with Willingale Way to outside Nos 1&20 Wansfell Gardens.

The closure is scheduled to commence on 1st March 2021 till 22nd March 2021 or where appropriate signs are showing and weather permitting.

The alternative route will be via Willingale Way & Fortescue Chase and vice versa

The Order will come into effect on 1st March 2021 and may continue in force for 18 months or until the works have been completed, whichever is the earlier.

The closure is required for the safety of the public and workforce whilst gas main replacement works take place. Access for emergency vehicles, residents and pedestrians will be maintained at all times during the closure.

## **c) Baxter Avenue, Southend-on-Sea – 8th March 2021 till 7th April 2021- gas main replacement works**

The Effect of the order will be to prohibit any vehicle from:

1. Enter & Exit Baxter Avenue at its junction with Queensway
2. Parking, waiting, loading or unloading on Baxter Avenue from its junction with the Queensway to the exit of the car park.

The closure is scheduled to commence from 8th March 2021 till 7th April 2021 or where appropriate signs are showing and weather permitting.

The alternative route will be;-

1. To Enter Baxter Avenue- Queensway, Victoria Avenue & Harcourt Avenue.
2. To Exit Baxter Avenue- Baxter Avenue, Harcourt Avenue & Boston Avenue.

The closure is required for the safety of the public and workforce whilst gas main replacement works take place.

Access for emergency vehicles, residents and pedestrians will be maintained at all times during the closure.

## **d) Footpath 99 (Cinder Path) Leigh-On-Sea – The COVID19 Pandemic Notice 2021 - 8th February 2021 and may continue in force for 6 months**

**\*Please note that this is to continue from the notice we already have\***

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.

Notice is hereby given that the Southend-on-Sea Borough Council has made the above Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

The Effect of the order will be to prohibit any access for pedestrians on Footpath 99 (Cinder Path) from Chalkwell Esplanade to High Street (Old Leigh) This also includes access from Gypsy Bridge.

The Order will come into effect on **8th February 2021 and may continue in force for 6 months** or where appropriate signs are showing.

The closure & suspension is required for the safety of the public due to the COVID19 pandemic.

**e) Belton Way, 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 – Emergency Suspension Due To The COVID19 Pandemic – 11th February 2021**

**\*Please note that this is to replace the emergency order that we have in place\***

TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC, PARKING, WAITING, LOADING, UNLOADING & STOPPING ALSO SUSPENSION OF CAR PARKS, PAY AND DISPLAY BAYS & BLUE BADGE HOLDERS FOR ALL AREAS

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.

Notice is hereby given that the Southend-on-Sea Borough Council has made the above Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

The Effect of the order will be to prohibit any vehicle including Blue Badge holders from;

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
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 limited waiting bays on George Street
20. 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\***

The suspension is scheduled to commence on **11th February 2021** or where appropriate signs are showing and weather permitting.

The Order will come into effect on 11th February 2021 and may continue in force for 18 months or until the works have been completed, whichever is the earlier.

The suspension is required for the safety of the public due to the COVID19 pandemic.

**f) Thorpe Hall Avenue, Southend-On-Sea – 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021 for 3 days - Emergency Gas Repairs**

To facilitate emergency gas repairs; they have imposed a PROHIBITION OF ENTRY in THORPE HALL AVENUE SOUTHEND -ON-SEA

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

ENTERING THORPE HALL AVENUE FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH FERMOY ROAD TO JOHNSTONE ROAD.

These prohibitions or restrictions came into effect on **5th February 2021**. It is anticipated that the works will last **for 3 days**.

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

**g) Salisbury Avenue, Westcliff-On-Sea – 29th March 2021 till 3rd April 2021- BT complete telecom maintenance works**



The Effect of the order will be to prohibit any vehicle from:-

Proceed on Salisbury Avenue between its junctions with Rayleigh Avenue & Albany Avenue

Stopping, wait, load or unloading on Salisbury Avenue between its junctions with Rayleigh Avenue & Albany Avenue

The closure is scheduled to commence on **29th March 2021 till 3rd April 2021** or where appropriate signs are showing and weather permitting.

The alternative route will be via Rayleigh Avenue, Hamlet Court Road, London Road (A13) & Balmoral Road and vice versa

The closure is required for the safety of the public and workforce whilst BT complete telecom maintenance works.

#### **h) Ronald Park Avenue, Westcliff-On-Sea – 15th March 2021 till 26th April 2021 - new gas connection**

The Effect of the order will be to prohibit any vehicle from Parking, waiting, loading & unloading on the left-hand side (Odd numbers) of Ronald Park Avenue between its junctions of Westborough Road & Fairfax Drive. This will be done in 4 phases.

The suspension is scheduled to commence on 15th March 2021 till 26th April 2021 or where appropriate signs are showing and weather permitting.

The suspension is required for the safety of the public and workforce whilst a new gas connection takes place.

### **City Fibre**

Please find below the CityFibre roadworks scheduled for next week in Thorpe Ward

CF Permit Reference	Road Name	Scheduled start	Scheduled End Date
KG027SE-FFTH-PN038-21	Victoria Road	04/01/2021	08/02/2021
KG027SE-FTTH-PN081-02	Woodgrange Drive	18/01/2021	27/02/2021
KG027SE-FTTH-PN080-POL1	Northumberland Crescent	09/02/2021	11/02/2021
KG027SE-FTTH-PN080-POL2	Greenways	09/02/2021	11/02/2021
KG027SE-FTTH-PN028-20	Lifstan Way	11/02/2021	12/02/2021

### **3) List of Applications Registered** **Week Ending 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

Application Number: 21/00143/FULH **Ward: Southchurch**  
 Officer: Julie Ramsey  
 Erect two storey rear extension  
**125 Broadclyst Gardens Thorpe Bay Essex**

Application Number: 21/00164/FULH **Ward: Southchurch**  
 Officer: Kara Elliott  
 Erect single storey rear/side extension with roof lantern, extend existing garage to front and convert rear section into habitable accommodation  
**282 Thorpe Hall Avenue Thorpe Bay Essex**

Application Number: 21/00202/FULH **Ward: Southchurch**  
 Officer: Oliver Hart  
 Erect single storey rear extension, convert garage in to habitable accommodation, install rooflights to side elevations and alterations front and rear elevations (Part-Retrospective)  
**29 Samuels Drive Thorpe Bay Essex**

Application Number: 21/00197/GPDE **Ward: Southchurch**  
 Officer: Oliver Hart  
 Erect single storey rear extension, projecting 5m beyond the existing rear wall of the dwelling, 3m high to eaves and with a maximum height of 3m  
**8 Chadacre Road Thorpe Bay Essex**

Application Number: 21/00155/FUL **Ward: Thorpe**  
 Officer: Oliver Hart  
 Replace existing beach hut  
**Beach Hut 261 Thorpe Esplanade Thorpe Bay**

Application Number: 21/00167/AMDT **Ward: Thorpe**  
 Officer: Robert Lilburn  
 Application to vary condition 3 to change opening hours from Monday-Sunday 08:00 to 18:00 to Monday-Sunday 08:00 to 21:00 (Minor material amendment to application 20/02017/PA3COU dated 26/01/2021)  
**199 Eastern Esplanade Southend-On-Sea Essex**

Application Number: 21/00091/FUL **Ward: West Shoebury**  
 Officer: Robert Lilburn  
 Erect two buildings comprising of no.7 replacement garages following demolition of existing garage building (Amended Proposal)  
**Rear Of 141 West Road Shoeburyness**

Application Number: 21/00148/FULH **Ward: West Shoebury**  
 Officer: Oliver Hart

Hip to gable roof extension and install dormer to rear with juliette balcony to form habitable accommodation in the loftspace, erect two storey side extension and erect single storey rear extension (Amended Proposal)

**31 Ulster Avenue Shoeburyness Southend-On-Sea**

Application Number: 21/00149/FUL

**Ward: West Shoebury**

Officer: Robert Lilburn

Demolish existing building comprising of 3 garages and erect detached dwellinghouse, with amenity space to side and off street parking to front

**Rear Of 141 West Road Shoeburyness**

#### **4) List of Decisions Issued** **Week Ending 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021**

APPLN. NO: 20/01919/FULH

**Ward. Southchurch**

Officer: Robert Lilburn

ERECT SINGLE STOREY DETACHED OUTBUILDING TO REAR

**107 BURLESCOOMBE ROAD THORPE BAY ESSEX**

Decision: Grant Conditional Permission

APPLN. NO: 20/02017/PA3COU

**Ward. Thorpe**

Officer: Robert Lilburn

CHANGE OF USE FROM RETAIL (CLASS A1) TO RESTAURANT/CAFE (CLASS A3), WITH ASSOCIATED EXTERNAL ALTERATIONS (PRIOR APPROVAL)

**199 EASTERN ESPLANADE SOUTHEND-ON-SEA ESSEX**

Decision: COU Prior App Granted

APPLN. NO: 20/02049/FULH

**Ward. Thorpe**

Officer: Kara Elliott

ERECT SINGLE STOREY SIDE/REAR INFILL EXTENSION

**5 KENSINGTON ROAD SOUTHEND-ON-SEA ESSEX**

Decision: Refuse Permission

APPLN. NO: 20/02055/FULH

**Ward. Thorpe**

Officer: Spyros Mouratidis

RAISED ROOF RIDGE HEIGHT AND FORM HIPPED TO GABLE ROOF EXTENSION WITH GLAZED GABLE ENDS, DORMERS TO SIDE ELEVATIONS TO FORM HABITABLE ACCOMMODATION IN ROOF AND INSTALL ROOFLIGHTS TO ALL ELEVATIONS

**62 PARKANAUR AVENUE THORPE BAY ESSEX**

Decision: Refuse Permission

APPLN. NO: 20/02059/FULH

**Ward. Thorpe**

Officer: Kara Elliott

INSTALL WINDOW TO FRONT ELEVATION AT FIRST FLOOR LEVEL, ADDITIONAL ROOFLIGHT TO SIDE AND CONVERT LOFTSPACE IN TO HABITABLE ACCOMMODATION, INSTALL BI-FOLD DOORS TO REAR AND ALTER ELEVATIONS

## **2 DUNGANNON DRIVE THORPE BAY ESSEX**

Decision: Grant Conditional Permission

APPLN. NO: 20/02060/CLP

**Ward. Thorpe**

Officer: Julie Ramsey

HIP TO GABLE ROOF EXTENSION, DORMER TO REAR TO FORM HABITABLE ACCOMMODATION IN ROOFSPACE, INSTALL ROOFLIGHTS TO FRONT (LAWFUL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE-PROPOSED)

## **16 HUNTINGDON ROAD SOUTHEND-ON-SEA ESSEX**

Decision: Grant Lawful Dev Certificate (Proposed)

APPLN. NO: 20/01868/FUL

**Ward. West Shoebury**

Officer: Robert Lilburn

DEMOLISH EXISTING BEACH HUT AND ERECT REPLACEMENT BEACH HUT  
BEACH HUT

## **553 SHOEBURY COMMON ROAD SHOEBURYNESS**

Decision: Refuse Permission

APPLN. NO: 20/02045/FULH

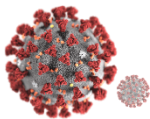
**Ward. West Shoebury**

Officer: Kara Elliott

ERECT SINGLE STOREY FRONT AND SIDE EXTENSION, ALTER ELEVATIONS  
**8 FITZWARREN SHOEBURYNESS SOUTHEND-ON-SEA**

Decision: Refuse Permission

## **5) Coronavirus Information**



### **Early schools return would be 'recipe for disaster' say experts**

Scientists have cautioned against bringing forward the reopening of schools in England, saying it would be "a recipe for disaster" while the prevalence of the virus remains high. Boris Johnson has said schools – which are currently open to only 15 per cent of children who are either regarded as "vulnerable" or whose parents are critical workers – will not open more fully until 8 March at the earliest.

### **New Oxford vaccine 'ready by the autumn' to tackle mutations**

A vaccine to tackle the coronavirus variants could be ready to be rolled out by the autumn should it be needed, the Oxford-AstraZeneca team says, although there is still strong evidence existing vaccines work well against the mutations that have emerged.

### **Social distancing may have to remain in place all year**

Ministers have been warned that Britain may not be able to abandon social distancing rules this year unless a vaccine proves to be 85 per cent effective at stopping transmission of coronavirus as well as severe illness. Modelling

commissioned by SPI-M, a subgroup of Sage, and passed to Downing Street, has suggested the UK will see a third huge increase in deaths unless vaccination significantly cuts transmission.

## **Fears rise over resistance to jabs as South African mutation spreads**

An increase in British cases of the South African and Brazilian COVID-19 variants, believed to be more contagious and less responsive to vaccines, has been detected. A total of 105 cases of the South Africa variant were identified up to 27 January and Brazilian variant cases have increased from nine to 14 in the past week. NHS Test and Trace has begun “enhanced” contact tracing as a result.

## **Emergency testing in Bristol and Liverpool as COVID-19 variant spreads**

Surge testing has been ordered in Bristol and Liverpool as a mutation that makes COVID-19 more resistant to the immune system spreads. Clusters have been found in both cities of homegrown cases involving the E484K mutation, which is thought to reduce the effectiveness of vaccines. Some of the cases being investigated result from samples that tested positive two months ago, raising concerns about how widely variants have spread in the meantime.

## **Study reveals one dose of Oxford vaccine reduces transmission by 67%**

An Oxford University study has revealed that a single dose of the Oxford AstraZeneca vaccine can reduce COVID-19 transmission by 67 per cent, the first study to reveal a COVID-19 vaccine can also impact onwards transmission. The study measured the impact on transmission by testing for asymptomatic infections, swabbing participants every week in addition to recording when anyone fell ill with COVID-19. As well as showing an effect on transmission, the study found the vaccine offered 76 per cent effective protection from a single dose for three months.

## **Weekly Briefing on Local Decisions & Actions re Coronavirus outbreak 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

### **Key updates/actions**

#### **Vaccination:**

With the vaccination roll-out underway, regular information is being updated on the EPUT website.

Figures are now also being reported by the national programme on a STP/ICS footprint – the latest weekly figures were published yesterday (28 January) and can be found at <https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/covid-19-vaccinations/>

#### 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

## **COVID-19 testing:**

Please continue to support and promote the various testing options available across the Borough.

- The testing options includes three rapid testing LFD sites available across the Borough which are now available for both walk-ups and appointments.

Shoebury youth centre site is open from 8am to 6.30pm. People can book an appointment via [www.southend.gov.uk/shoebury-lfd-booking](http://www.southend.gov.uk/shoebury-lfd-booking) or turn up.

- University Square site in central Southend is open from 7am to 2.30pm, seven days a week. People need to book an appointment via [www.southend.gov.uk/university-square-lfd-booking](http://www.southend.gov.uk/university-square-lfd-booking)
- St Aidan's Church site in Leigh-on-Sea is open from 7am to 5.30pm, seven days a week. People need to book an appointment via [www.southend.gov.uk/st-aidans-lfd-booking](http://www.southend.gov.uk/st-aidans-lfd-booking)

Full details of all the booking options are available at [www.southend.gov.uk/gettested](http://www.southend.gov.uk/gettested)

We have been running a COVID testing tweetathon, with over 40 tweets going out throughout the day, encouraging people to get tested and giving an insight into the testing experience.

<https://twitter.com/hashtag/TestingTweetathon>

**Business grants:** Southend-based businesses which have been significantly affected as a result of coronavirus restrictions may be eligible for further Government grant funding. There are now several different local restriction support grant (LRSG) schemes and it can be confusing to know which one to apply for. The Council has therefore created a single application form, which has been designed to cover all schemes without the applicant needing to understand which they may be eligible for. The form is on our business support pages.

**Schools:** The Prime Minister has announced that it'll not be possible to resume face-to-face learning for the majority of pupils and students until 8 March 2021 at the earliest.

**Border controls:** The Government also announced further measures at the border, including the strengthening of requirements for some arrivals through hotel isolation.

**COVID conversations:** A number of online 'COVID conversations' are taking place in February aimed at updating and informing the local community about COVID. Krishna Ramkhelawon, the Council's Director of Public Health in Southend will be at each session, as well as colleagues from the Council, health partners from the NHS,

and voluntary sector colleagues. Upcoming sessions - please book at: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/savs-sbc-and-southend-ccg-30731728714>

**New national campaign:** The Government has launched a new national campaign featuring hospital staff and COVID-19 patients to remind the public of the extreme pressures still facing the NHS. The new emotive TV ad challenges the public to think about the impact their actions might have by asking: "Can you look them in the eyes and tell them you're helping by staying at home?" Read more 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 29 January 2021 is 436.3 per 100,000 (down from 623.1 per 100,000 on 22 January). The rate in the 60 and over age bracket is 395.7 per 100,000, (down from 611.1 per 100,000 on 22 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 15 January 2021 but were registered up to 23 January 2021: 457 (+73).

**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.

### **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 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

### **Department for Health and Social Care**

- Posters are available for councils to share with top tips for care providers and social care workers to prepare for the vaccine.
- o DHSC has updated a Q&A document on Adult Social Care to include the latest lines on vaccine deployment, has made available a range of videos and blogs on the rollout of vaccines, and produced shareable Q&A fact cards for councils to use across their social media channels.
- In an announcement yesterday, NHS England urged health and care staff to protect themselves and others by getting the coronavirus vaccine.

- New guidance is released, on the £120m Workforce Capacity Fund. The funding is to supplement and strengthen adult social care staff capacity to ensure the delivery of safe and continuous care.

## **PHE**

- Following new advice, the need for secondary schools and colleges to carry out a confirmatory PCR test following a positive result with a Lateral Flow Test is temporarily paused.
  - o In line with clinical advice, confirmatory PCR testing will remain in place for primary school staff as testing is done at home.
- This week's national influenza and coronavirus report is published, monitoring rates of coronavirus, seasonal flu and other seasonal respiratory illnesses.
  - o Surveillance indicators suggest that at national level coronavirus case rates continued to decline between 18 and 24 January
  - o There was indication that hospital and Intensive Care Unit (ICU) admissions began to stabilise or decline slightly.

## **DfT**

- In updated travel guidance, Burundi, Rwanda and United Arab Emirates (UAE) are added to the travel ban list. People who have been in, or transited through, the countries on the list in the last ten days will not be granted access to the UK from 1pm on 29 January 2021.

## **Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy**

- In a press release, Novavax has, announced that its vaccine has shown to be 89% effective in preventing coronavirus in participants, as well as showing efficacy against new UK variant.
  - o The Vaccines Taskforce has secured 60m doses of Novavax's vaccine to be delivered in the second half of this year if approved for use by the MHRA.

## **MoJ**

- In a press release, £70m will be invested in accommodation and wider support for prison leavers.

## **Summary of Covid-19 related Government announcements 30<sup>th</sup> January 2021 – 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021**

### **Health Secretary's Statement: Coronavirus**

9.2m people have been vaccinated (9/10 of all over 80s and over half of all people in their 70s)



The UK secure additional 40million (totalling 100million) Valneva vaccines to be manufactured in Scotland

## **Department for Health and Social Care**

Additional testing to be available in locations where COVID variant first identified in South Africa has been found including London (W7, N17, CR4), West Midlands (WS2), East of England (EN10), South East (ME15, GU21), North West (PR9)

Information on how to contact DHSC if eligible care home has not yet been visited for the COVID-19 vaccine

## **Cabinet Office**

Updated guidance to include campaigning for electoral events

## **BEIS**

The deadline for applications for the Christmas Support Payment for wet pubs has been extended to 28 February 2021.

## **DfE**

Additional updated guidance on restricting attendance during national lockdown

## **Summary of Covid-19 related Government announcements 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021**

### **Health Secretary Statement to Parliament**

- 9.2m people vaccinated
- 105 South African variant have been identified, in areas where the variant has been found, extra testing will be put in place.
- 11 further cases of mutation found in Bristol, 32 in Liverpool, extra testing will also be put in place in these areas.

### **MHCLG**

- Published guidance on 'Sales, fees and charges scheme' of grant payments to councils to compensate for loss of income. The first payments will be in relation to eligible income losses between April to July 2020

### **Public Health England**

- Published guidance for everyone on how to help reduce risk of catching virus

### **HM Treasury**

- Announced Film and TV Production Restart Scheme, will support 20,000 jobs be protected by scheme to get screen productions restarted

### **DWP**

- Updated guidance to include employers to furlough staff who are shielding or have caring responsibilities

## **OFSTED**

- Announced All planned OFSTED inspections will be carried out remotely until March 8 at the earliest

## **DfE**

- Published data on laptop and table distributions (807 have been distributed to Southend to date)
- Published information on grant funding for mass testing in schools and colleges (the document includes information on the scope, eligibility, allocations and payments approach as well as terms of funding)
- National Tutoring Program will make tutors available to schools to help disadvantaged students and will be hosting a webinar on Zoom for schools on 10 February at 4pm

## **Summary of Covid-19 related Government announcements 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2021**

### **10 Downing Street**

- The PM gave a statement at today's coronavirus press conference:
  - o Pays tribute to Captain Sir Tom Moore.
  - o 10m people have received first vaccination dose.
  - o 95% of those aged 75+ in England are vaccinated.
  - o Chris Witty says the UK has passed the peak of this second wave.
  - o Vaccinating over 70s will reduce deaths, but not NHS pressure yet.
  - o Positive news on Ox/AZ Vaccine – study shows it can significantly reduce spread.
  - o Matt Hancock will update on hotel quarantines tomorrow.

### **DWP**

- Materials are available to promote the Kickstart Scheme to employers and potential job placement participants.

### **MHCLG**

- Updated COVID-19 guidance for local councils. The following sections are updated:
  - o Business and charity support; Housing; National restrictions; Public health; Schools and education; Social care; Testing and Vaccines.

### **DfE**

- Guidance for schools is updated with latest changes to: system of controls, attendance, recruitment, free school meals, estates, wraparound care, physical activity in schools, remote education, catch up, assessment and accountability, and exams.
- Guidance for parents includes updates attending nursery, school and college, remote education, exams, asymptomatic testing and lateral flow tests, Ofsted inspections, entry tests for selective schools, food, and EHC plans.
- Guidance for HE providers includes updates to 'Students returning to, and starting higher education in spring term 2021' with changes to when students can return to campus, updates on testing asymptomatic and international students, and information about Erasmus+.
- Guidance for asymptomatic testing in schools and colleges includes information about grant funding for mass testing.
- Guidance is updated for providers of after-school clubs and out-of-school settings to include further information on vulnerable children who have difficulty engaging in remote education and on NHS Test and Trace support payments.

## **DoHSC**

- Guidance on NHS Test and Trace in the workplace includes an updated section on when to contact your local health protection team.

## **Summary of Covid-19 related Government announcements 4<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

### **DOHSC**

- Vaccine Deployment Minister Nadhim Zahawi gave a statement to Parliament on the progress of the vaccine programme and confirmed that over 10m have received their first dose.

### **DHSC**

- An explainer document has been published on asymptomatic testing, which is being expanded to ensure that those who need to leave home for work have access to a test, keeping essential services and sectors of the country operating.

### **DFE**

- Guidance is updated on mass asymptomatic testing in specialist settings. This follows the recent statement from PHE that daily contact testing in schools and colleges would be paused, except for those taking part in the evaluation.
- Guidance for children's social care services is updated to provide information on supporting vulnerable children at alternative provision schools and providers.

## **Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport**

- Guidance is updated to help organisations and groups understand how to safely and effectively involve volunteers. The update includes new information on political campaigning and volunteers eligible for vaccines.

## **MHCLG**

- Guidance pages for local councils during the coronavirus outbreak have been updated. The pages bring together guidance, publications and announcements relevant to councils on one page.
- Documents for the 2021-2022 local government finance settlement are released. The final settlement debate and vote will be held next week. MHCLG has published all the documents relating to the settlement in England including:
  - o the final local government finance report
  - o key information for councils
  - o key information for pools
  - o supplementary table and explanatory note for councils with increased business rates retention arrangements
  - o breakdown of the settlement funding assessment calculation model

## **Home Office**

- A reminder that the call for evidence on the new Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy closes on 19 February. In particular, the Home Office would like to encourage responses from:
  - o Women aged 16-24 and 55+
  - o Ethnic minority audiences
  - o Male victims
  - o LGBT+ communities
  - o Those who consider themselves to have a disability

## **Summary of Covid-19 related Government announcements 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

### **Cabinet Office has published:**

New funding of an estimated £92m to provide to councils for the elections. Of this, £31m is an uplift to directly address costs associated with making the elections COVID-secure. The Government is also providing an indemnity to Returning Officers for both the Police and Crime Commissioner elections, and for local elections in respect of coronavirus risks. The Government is committed to working collaboratively with political parties, local government, the Electoral Commission, the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives, the Association of Electoral Administrators and others, to ensure that the known challenges, and any other emerging issues, are addressed swiftly and effectively.

## **DHSC has published:**

A new announcement that from 15 February, anyone travelling to the UK from a country on the UK's travel ban list will be required to quarantine in a government-approved facility for ten days. Further details will be set out next week on how passengers will be able to book into the designated accommodation.

## **PHE has published:**

Updated advice and information on how to look after your mental health and wellbeing. Added section on support for students. Restructured and updated other information.

Updated advice to assist people required to manage bodies of deceased persons infected with coronavirus. Updated to reflect current legislation and added links to guidance on working safely during the pandemic.

## **HMRC has published:**

Updated information on how to find out if you're eligible, and how much your employer can claim if they put you on temporary leave ('furlough'). Updated to show there is no right of appeal if you're not eligible for the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme.

## **DfE has published:**

Updated guidance for schools and local authorities on school meals arrangements.

Updated the guidance to include information about supplier relief payments and made changes to the period the support covers. Also Farmfoods has been added to the list of supermarkets available and updated the information on how to order vouchers.

Updated guidance on the devices and support available to provide remote education and access to children's social care. Updated to include information for further education (FE) institutions.

## **Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport has published:**

Updated guidance which aims to help organisations and groups understand how to safely and effectively involve volunteers during the pandemic. Guidance updated throughout: new sections on 'Political campaigning' and 'Volunteers eligible for vaccines'.

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