

Councillor and Parish Council Update – 14 May 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 9/05/2021, and comparisons are with the week ending 02/05/2021:

- The case rate per 100,000 for all ages is: Norfolk 20.5 (17.6 previous week), East of England 19.4 (17.9 previous week) and England 23.3 (21.6 previous week). Overall, this represents an increase in Norfolk of 16.2%.
- In King's Lynn and West Norfolk, the case rate per 100,000 of all ages is 31.0 compared to 35 the previous week – an decrease of 11.3%
- This compares to figures for the rest of Norfolk this week: Breckland 18.6; Broadland 8.4; Great Yarmouth 26.2; North Norfolk 14.3; Norwich 20.6; and South Norfolk 22.7.
- The total number of people tested for Covid-19 in the last 7 days is 23137, compared to 23440 for the previous 7 days (1.3% decrease).

While low, the figures in west Norfolk are still higher than the rest of Norfolk. Please continue to follow and promote the basic messages of hands, face, space and fresh air as we start to enjoy the additional freedoms we will get from Monday.

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.

Vaccination update (From N&WCCG)

The latest national vaccination data was published today and it shows that we are continuing to make strong progress with second doses. The data shows that up to Sunday, 9 May:

- **71% of adults in Norfolk and Waveney had received their first dose**, compared to 65% of adults in England. This puts us eighth out of the 42 health and care systems in England.
- **40% of adults in Norfolk and Waveney had also received their second dose**, compared to 33% of adults in England. This puts us second out of the 42 health and care systems.
- **95% of over 70s had received their second dose.**
- In the week to 9 May, **53,705 doses were given**, of which 9,106 were first doses and 44,599 were second doses.

- A total of **948,430 doses of vaccine had been given locally** since the start of the vaccination programme.

There's further information in this [press release](#). We'll continue to keep you updated on developments with the programme from the CCG.

Test and Trace Support Payment scheme

The Department of Health and Social Care is reminding people of the Test and Trace Support Scheme. While across the country infection rates are falling, they want to be sure that those people that need to self-isolate are aware of the £500 payment scheme available. The key points are:

- you can claim if you have been told to self-isolate by NHS, are employed/self-employed will lose income as a result and are on a low income
- you can now also claim if you have to take time off work as you are responsible for a child who has to self-isolate and you also meet the other criteria.

Full details are available here: https://www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/info/20231/coronavirus/857/test_and_trace_support_payment

Please ensure you circulate this information within your communities as we are aware that there are some cases where people are not self-isolating because they are either unaware of this support payment or don't believe they will be eligible. It is vital that people get the support they need to self-isolate.

Grants for business

Since November last year over £23,015,506 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 close today, 14 May (moved from 30 April). Applications for LRSB grants to 31 March close on 31 May 2021.

LRSB applications are now slowing down and we only have 18 outstanding. Restart Grants are still being paid automatically, and we have now paid out 70% of our allocation - £11.7m so far. We are now setting up an eform for applicants where we need more details, or where we haven't paid automatically, and a person thinks they qualify. We will provide a link to the eform as soon as it is available, so that you can share it within your communities.

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

Small Business Grant Scheme for west Norfolk business

As part of our wider business support package from the Additional Restrictions Grant from government, we have been working in partnership with the New Anglia LEP Growth Hub to deliver a Small Business Grant scheme for West Norfolk Businesses, where businesses can apply for grant up to £25k for 75% of project costs. Details of the scheme criteria and eligibility is attached.

A requirement of the funding is that it must be claimed by 30th June 2021 so there is a short time frame for businesses to apply – we would therefore appreciate your support to promote the grant opportunity with businesses you think would be eligible/interested. The attached FAQs of the scheme can be circulated. Businesses should contact the Growth Hub to apply on the following:

Email growthhub@newangliagrowthhub.co.uk

Phone number: 0300 333 6536

This scheme is in addition to the [Refresh Reopen Grant](#) launched by the Borough Council last week which aims to support outdoor/indoor adaptations and shop front improvements and the [Go Digital](#) programme with Norfolk County Council. Businesses can apply for all, as long as they are not seeking grant support for the same item/project cost.

Details of all grants available from the Borough Council can be found on our [Business support webpage](#).

Refresh and reopen grant scheme open

A half-million-pound grant scheme opened this week to help local independent businesses to support the safe reopening of premises that might otherwise struggle to comply with necessary government guidance brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Refresh and Reopen grant scheme has been developed by the borough council, using the government's Additional Restrictions funding.

The grants will provide up to 75% of eligible costs towards work to premises such as outdoor structures or equipment, barriers or one-way set ups, umbrellas or other temporary weather-shielding structure. It could also help fund online solutions such as ticketing, ordering or payment. This fund can also be used towards shop front improvements to make the premises feel more welcoming to local people and visitors. Any spend incurred must have taken place since the announcement of the Government's Roadmap on 22 February.

The maximum grant available per applicant is £10,000 and applicants must not have previously claimed a grant for the same re-opening activities. Grants will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, and the scheme will close once all the money has been allocated or on 30 May, whichever is sooner. All grant funding must be fully spent and works completed by 1 August 2021.

Eligible businesses must be in the borough of West Norfolk, operate in the retail, hospitality, recreation, leisure, culture, tourism or events sectors and must be local, independent businesses, not part of a chain.

Applications should be made by visiting west-norfolk.gov.uk/refreshandreopengrant, where full details of the scheme and eligibility can be found.

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

Further easing of restrictions confirmed for 17 May

Yesterday (10 May), the Prime Minister confirmed the government's four tests for easing COVID-19 restrictions have been met and planned easements can go ahead from 17 May.

This includes the reopening of indoor hospitality and indoor and outdoor entertainment, including cinemas, museums, children's play areas and outdoor performances.

From the same date, face coverings will no longer be required in classrooms, or for students in communal areas in secondary schools and colleges, and all remaining university students will be eligible to return to in-person teaching and learning.

Up to 30 people will be able to attend weddings, receptions, and commemorative events including wakes. The number of people able to attend a funeral will be determined by the number that can be safely accommodated in the venue with social distancing in place.

The Stay in the UK restriction will be lifted, and people will be able to travel to green list countries, if they permit inbound travel.

Statement:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-statement-at-coronavirus-press-conference-10-may-2021>

Announcement:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/further-easing-of-covid-restrictions-confirmed-for-17-may>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/face-coverings-no-longer-required-in-schools-and-colleges-from-17-may>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/all-remaining-university-students-to-return-to-in-person-teaching-from-17-may>

Guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-coronavirus-restrictions-what-you-can-and-cannot-do>

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