

District Council report for December 2021

Rough Sleeping in the District:

Every year Council finds out anyone sleeping rough, the definition of sleeping rough does not include the people in hostels or shelters, people in campsites or other sites used for recreational purposes or organised protest, squatters or Travellers.

Council estimates those rough sleeping on that single night. A typical night has been chosen taking into account local factors, a weekday and it is the same night as some of the neighbouring authorities are estimating or counting their figures.

For the purpose of the estimates, people sleeping rough are defined as:

“People sleeping, about to bed down (sitting on/in or standing next to their bedding) or actually bedded down in the open air (such as on the streets, in tents, doorways, parks, bus shelters or encampments). People in buildings or other places not designed for habitation (such as stairwells, barns, sheds, car parks, cars, derelict boats, stations, or “bashes”). A bash is a makeshift shelter structure, often made from tarpaulin or wood.”

To prevent double counting, the count should notify:

- Their location
- Gender
- Age brackets (under 18/ 18-25/ 25 and over)
- Nationality (UK National/ EU National/ Non-EU National).

Please send the notifications of any rough sleeper at: Susan.carter@scambs.gov.uk

Community Safety Partnership meeting: Cambourne

I have attended the Community Safety Partnership meeting and had gone through the crime data update for Cambourne which is currently high.

I requested to South Cambs Community Safety Partnership partner, Harriet Ludford from Cambridgeshire Research Group, to share and explain the crime data analysis to Cambourne Town Council to assist with future place-based events and awareness raising programmes, in Cambourne.

Omicron case confirmed in South Cambridgeshire

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has confirmed on 1st December that a case of the Omicron COVID-19 variant has been detected in South Cambridgeshire. It is among a further nine cases of this variant in England, bringing the total number to 22. Our public health colleagues at Cambridgeshire County Council have confirmed that the subject is isolating, and they are working with the UKHSA to identify all contacts so that they can self-isolate.

COVID-19 Update: how to stay safe and help prevent the spread

People are at higher risk of catching or passing on COVID-19 in crowded and enclosed spaces, where there are more people who might be infectious and where there is limited fresh air. As such, businesses should continue to ensure they have adequate ventilation and people should wear face coverings if in crowded or enclosed spaces. It is recommended that people take a rapid lateral flow device (LFD) test before attending any higher risk spaces. As workplaces start to draw up plans for Christmas parties, employers may therefore wish to encourage staff to take a test to reduce the risk of people spreading COVID-19 without knowing it. The government has also updated the guidance for arranging or attending a funeral or commemorative event during the COVID-19 outbreak in line with the change in messaging on when to take an LFD test.

Guidance:

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

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/coronavirus/equipment-and-machinery/air-conditioning-and-ventilation/index.htm>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-managing-a-funeral-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic>

PM's statement on COVID-19 and the useful links:

Prime Minister gave a statement on 30th November on COVID-19 and the vaccination programme. He confirmed that the government will aim to offer a COVID-19 booster to everyone eligible over 18 by the end of January 2022.

Targeted measures the government is taking to slow down the spread of the new COVID-19 Omicron variant took effect from 4:00am, 1st December while the government gathers more information. The measures are:

- Face coverings are compulsory in shops and settings such as banks, post offices and hairdressers, as well as on public transport unless individuals are exempt. All hospitality settings are exempt.
- All international arrivals must take a PCR test by the end of the second day after arrival and self-isolate until they receive a negative result. The PCR tests are available online from private providers.
- All contacts of suspected Omicron cases must self-isolate, regardless of their age or vaccination status. They will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace.

Statement:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-opening-statement-at-covid-19-press-conference-30-november-2021>

Announcement:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/measures-against-omicron-variant-come-into-effect-30-november-2021>

Guidance:

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

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/how-to-quarantine-when-you-arrive-in-england>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

Legislation:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2021/1340/contents/made> (Face masks)

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2021/1339/contents/made>

(International Travel)

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2021/1338/introduction/made> (Self-isolation)

Shrobona Bhattacharya

Cllr.Bhattacharya@scambs.gov.uk

07852753216