

Covid-19 Update

Coronavirus Emergency Committee

27 November 2020

Finance Update

LGA:

- Councils face £4bn shortfall in 2021

Spending Review:

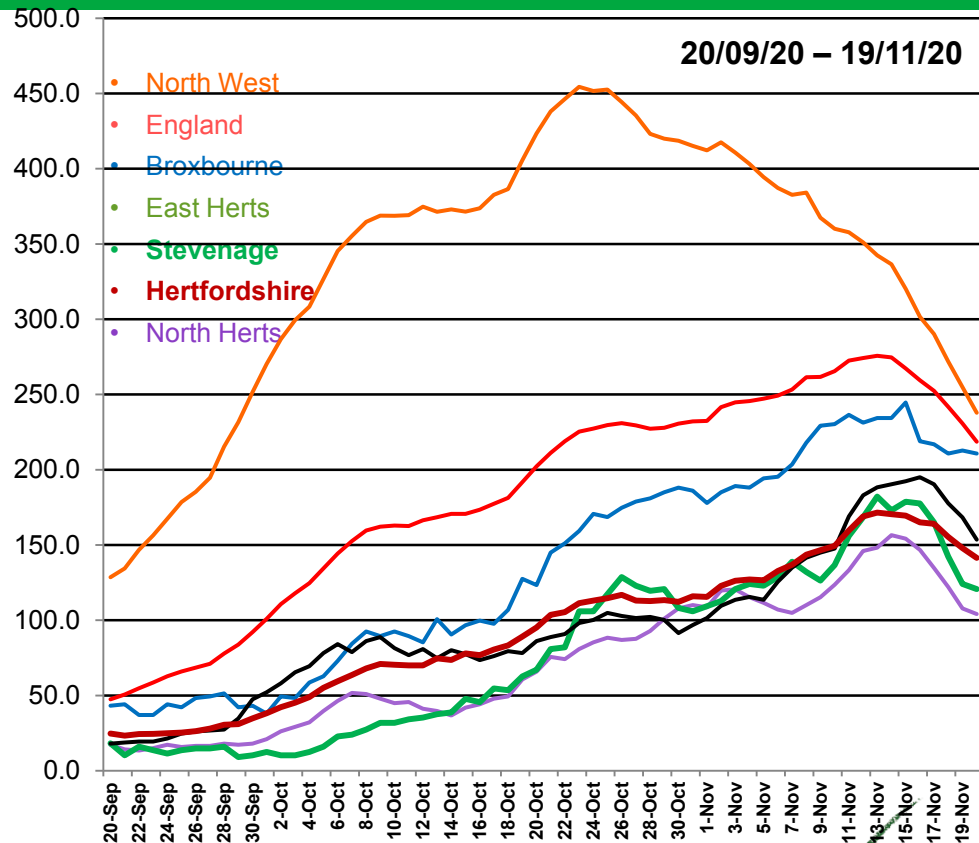
- Over £3 billion to local councils in 2021/22
- Social Care precept increase allowed 2021/22
- More flexibility for Council tax increase allowed 2021/22
- extra £250 million to help end rough sleeping
- New Levelling Up Fund worth £4 billion.

UK Covid-19 Position

- Cases have now started to drop throughout a majority of England.
- The latest UK & England 'R' rate is down to 1.0-1.1. The East of England 'R' rate has also slightly decreased to 1.1-1.3
- The 7 day rolling average for hospital admission for Covid-19 patients was 1,671 up until 19 November, similar to the previous week
- Daily average UK Coronavirus-related deaths are at 405 a day for the week up to 19 November, similar to the previous week.

National & Local Cases

*provisional	Broxbourne	Watford	East Herts	Three River	Hertsmere	Welwyn H	Dacorum	Stevenage	St Albans	North Herts	Hertfordshire	England	North West
provisional change	-23	-18	-52	-51	-10	-27	7	-54	-71	-53	-358	-32,160	-7,681
14.11 - 20.11 / 100,000	210.7	169.8	153.6	147.9	146.8	139.0	130.5	120.7	116.5	104.1	141.4	218.6	237.9
14.11 - 20.11	205	164	230	138	154	171	202	106	173	139	1,682	123,022	17,462
07.11 - 13.11 / 100,000	234.4	188.5	188.3	202.5	156.3	160.9	126.0	182.1	164.4	148.2	171.5	275.7	342.5
07.11 - 13.11	228	182	282	189	164	198	195	160	244	198	2,040	155,182	25,143
31.10 - 06.11 / 100,000	195.3	177.1	125.5	123.2	117.2	163.4	113.1	128.6	107.8	107.1	132.7	249.2	387.3
31.10 - 06.11	190	171	188	115	123	201	175	113	160	143	1,579	140,287	28,430
24.10 - 30.10 / 100,000	188.1	176.0	91.5	94.3	135.3	120.3	78.8	108.1	70.7	107.8	112.1	230.6	418.5
24.10 - 30.10	183	170	137	88	142	148	122	95	105	144	1,334	129,783	30,726
17.10 - 23.10 / 100,000	159.3	139.8	98.2	125.4	137.2	112.2	102.1	105.9	86.9	80.9	111.3	225.3	454.4
17.10 - 23.10	155	135	147	117	144	138	158	93	129	108	1,324	126,817	33,355
10.10 - 16.10 / 100,000	99.7	103.5	73.5	99.7	107.7	86.1	70.4	45.5	58.6	44.2	76.8	173.4	373.8
10.10 - 16.10	97	100	110	93	113	106	109	40	87	59	914	97,620	27,438
03.10 - 09.10 / 100,000	89.4	96.3	88.8	93.2	85.8	63.4	65.3	31.9	55.9	47.9	71.0	162.1	368.9
03.10 - 09.10	87	93	133	87	90	78	101	28	83	64	844	91,259	27,079
26.09 - 02.10 / 100,000	49.3	60.1	58.1	42.9	54.3	31.7	42.6	10.2	42.4	26.2	42.2	110.7	286.7
26.09 - 02.10	48	58	87	40	57	39	66	9	63	35	502	62,324	21,048
19.09 - 25.09 / 100,000	42.1	34.2	24.7	41.8	24.8	17.1	18.7	13.7	29.0	15.7	25.4	65.9	178.5
19.09 - 25.09	41	33	37	39	26	21	29	12	43	21	302	37,108	13,103
12.09 - 18.09 / 100,000	43.2	28.0	12.7	15.0	44.8	10.6	12.9	20.5	31.7	18.7	22.9	38.8	105.4
12.09 - 18.09	42	27	19	14	47	13	20	18	47	25	272	21,823	7,739
05.09 - 11.09 / 100,000	16.4	22.8	11.4	18.2	35.3	34.9	10.3	30.7	35.0	16.5	22.6	34.7	75.7
05.09 - 11.09	16	22	17	17	37	43	16	27	52	22	269	19,525	5,558
29.08 - 04.09 / 100,000	19.5	20.7	8.0	22.5	60.0	18.7	18.7	18.2	20.9	9.0	20.7	23.2	42.8
29.08 - 04.09	19	20	12	21	63	23	29	16	31	12	246	13,084	3,145
Total 29.08 - 19.11	424	419	420	358	539	330	364	203	478	265	3,801	245,336	78,361



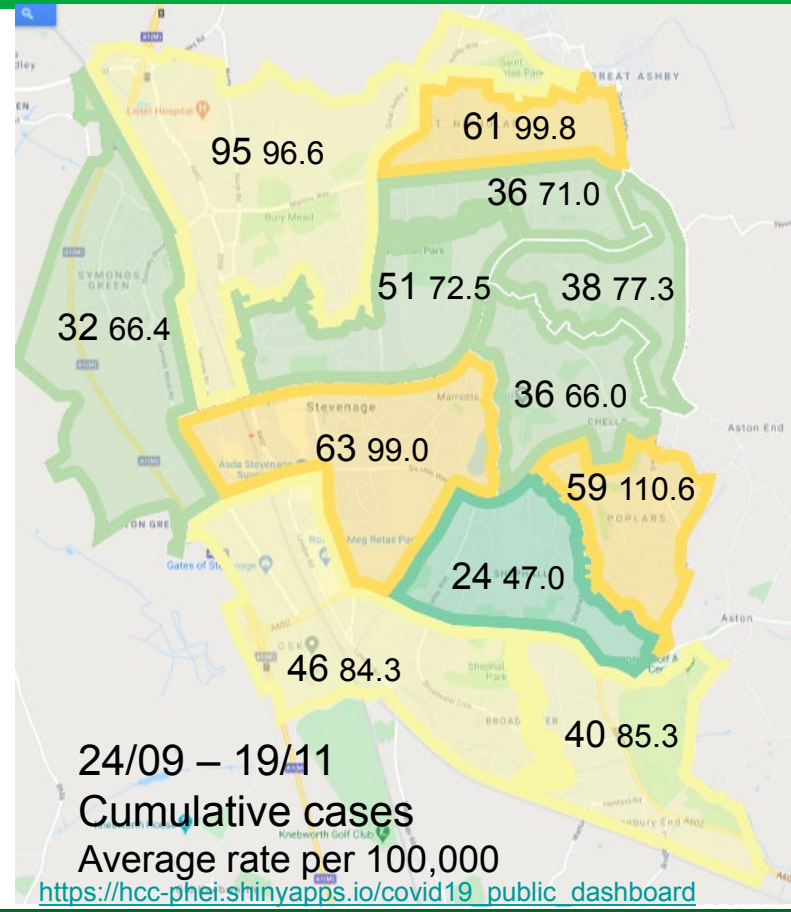
Deaths

Week	Hertsmere	Watford	Three Rivers	St Albans	Welwyn Hatfield	Dacorum	Broxbourne	North Hertfordshire	Stevenage	East Hertfordshire	Total
Total last 10 weeks	13	11	6	7	1	13	7	3	2	3	66
07/11-13/11	2	2	1	3	0	1	4	1	0	0	14
31/10-6/11	3	1	0	0	0	2	2	1	1	1	11
24/10-30/10	2	0	1	1	0	2	0	1	1	0	8
17/10-23/10	3	5	1	1	0	3	1	1	0	0	15
10/10-16/10	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	9
03/10-09/10	1	1	2	1	0	3	2	0	0	1	11
26/09-02/10	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	3
19/09-25/09	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
12/09-18/09	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
05/09-11/09	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
29/08-04/09	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
Rate per 100,000	188.7	143.9	101.8	100.4	92.7	90.5	89.4	76.4	70.6	69.5	100.0
Total	198	139	95	149	114	140	87	102	62	104	1,190

- The deaths data released by ONS has a two week delay in publication.
- Stevenage has had **62** total deaths since the start of the pandemic. Of these **two** have occurred in the most recent 11 weeks since the 29th August with no additional Covid-19 related death in the most recent week 7 -13 November.
- Covid-19 related deaths in Hertfordshire have increased since the start of October and continue at this increased rate in the most recent week's data and there have been **1,190** across all settings since the start of the pandemic.
- Of these, **80** have occurred in the last 11 catalogued weeks starting from the 29th August 2020 up to the 13th November 2020.

Stevenage confirmed cases Geography

Week	Bandley Hill	St Nicholas	Bedwell	Woodfield + Old Town	Longmeadow	Roebuck	Manor	Pin Green + Old Town	Martins Wood	Symonds Green	Chells	Shephall	Stevenage
Average rate	110.6	99.8	99.0	96.6	85.3	84.3	77.3	72.5	71.0	66.4	66.0	47.0	82.8
19-Nov rate	164.9	117.8	226.3	105.8	119.4	131.9	65.1	113.7	110.4	99.6	146.7	78.4	111.7
19-Nov cases	11	9	18	13	7	9	4	10	7	6	10	5	98
11-Nov rate	119.9	196.3	113.1	227.9	221.7	234.5	81.3	193.2	157.7	99.6	88.0	78.4	148.2
11-Nov cases	8	15	9	28	13	16	5	17	10	6	6	5	130
04-Nov rate	239.8	157.0	75.4	146.5	102.3	117.3	146.4	90.9	110.4	99.6	58.7	94.1	102.6
04-Nov cases	16	12	6	18	6	8	9	8	7	6	4	6	90
28-Oct rate	119.9	117.8	125.7	81.4	119.4	146.6	211.5	56.8	78.9	182.6	102.7	62.7	103.7
28-Oct cases	8	9	10	10	7	10	13	5	5	11	7	4	91
21-Oct rate	119.9	157.0	150.8	73.2	68.2	0.0	0.0	68.2	0.0	49.8	132.0	62.7	67.2
21-Oct cases	8	12	12	9	4	0	0	6	0	3	9	4	59
14-Oct rate	45.0	52.3	50.3	81.4	0.0	0.0	48.8	0.0	63.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	28.5
14-Oct cases	3	4	4	10	0	0	3	0	4	0	0	0	25
07-Oct rate	75.0	0.0	50.3	57.0	51.2	0.0	65.1	56.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	26.2
07-Oct cases	5	0	4	7	3	0	4	5	0	0	0	0	23
30-Sept rate	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	44.0	0.0	0.0	47.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.8
30-Sept cases	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	6
Total since 30 Sept	59	61	63	95	40	46	38	51	36	32	36	24	581



Revised 3 Tier Alert Systems

	Tier 1 - Medium	Tier 2 – High	Tier 3 – Very High
Meeting Friends & Family	Rule of 6 indoors and outdoors	No mixing of households (except for support bubbles). Max of 6 outdoors	No mixing of households. Max of 6 in public parks/gardens only
Bars, Pubs and Restaurants	Table Service only. Last orders 10 pm. Close 11 pm	Pubs/bars closed unless operating as restaurants. Last orders 10 pm. Close 11 pm	Closed – takeaway, drive-through or delivery only
Retail	Open	Open	Open
Education	Open	Open	Open
Work and Business	Everyone who can work from home should do so	Everyone who can work from home should do so	Everyone who can work from home should do so
Indoor Leisure	Open	Open	Open – Group activities and classes should not take place
Accommodation (e.g. hotels , B&Bs)	Open	Open	Closed (except for work or where cannot return home)
Personal Care	Open	Open	Open
Overnight stays	Permitted, with household/ support bubble or up to 6	Permitted with household or support bubble only	No overnight stays outside of local area, unless for work or

Revised 3 Tier Alert System

	Tier 1 - Medium	Tier 2 – High	Tier 3 – Very High
Weddings and Funerals	15 at weddings and wakes 30 at funerals	15 at weddings and wakes 30 at funerals	15 at weddings & wakes. 30 at funerals. No wedding receptions
Entertainment	Open	Open	Indoor venues closed
Places of Worship	Open but cannot interact with more than 6 people	Open. Can only interact with household/support bubble	Open. Can only interact with household/support bubble
Travelling	Avoid public transport and car sharing. Avoid Tier 3 areas other than for work or education	Avoid leaving your area or entering Tier 3 areas other than for work or education	Avoid leaving your area other than for work or education
Exercise	Outdoor sport/classes permitted. Rule of 6 indoors. Activities for elite athletes, under 18s and disabled people can continue	Outdoor sport/classes permitted. Indoors with own household/bubble. Activities for elite athletes under 18s and disabled people can continue	Outdoor sport/classes can take place outdoors but should avoid higher-risk contact sports. Indoors with own household/bubble. Activities for elite sport, under 18s and disabled people can continue
Large Events	50% capacity or 4000 people indoors whichever is lower	50% capacity or 2000 outdoors 50% capacity or 1000 indoors whichever is lower	Events should not take place. Drive-in events permitted.

Revised Tier System

- The following criteria is being used to determine which tier an area is in:
 - Case detection rates in all age groups;
 - Case detection rates in the over 60s
 - The rate at which cases are rising or falling
 - Positivity rate
 - Pressure on the NHS, including current and projected occupancy
- Tier allocations will be reviewed every 14 days. Tiering regulations will lapse at the end of March 2021.
- For those areas in the highest level of restrictions, Councils will receive £4 per person per month to support outbreak management.
- Where an area is in Tier 2 or 3, Councils will receive funding to make grants to businesses of £2,100 for each 28 day period.

Christmas Covid Rules

- Between 23 and 27 December, three households will be allowed to form a “Christmas bubble”. They can mix indoors and stay overnight
- Bubbles will be fixed and there is no limit to the number of people in a bubble
- Bubbles will be allowed to meet:
 - In each other’s homes
 - At a place of worship
 - In an outdoor public space, or garden
- Bubbles will not be able to visit hospitality, theatres or retail settings.
- Travel restrictions will also be lifted to enable people to visit their families anywhere in the UK.

Care Homes

- Hoping to use testing to enable better access to visiting
- New guidance on visiting expected soon
- Legislation to be introduced soon requiring care home providers to restrict all but essential movement of staff between settings
- Everyone discharged to a care home to continue to have up to date Covid test results. Anyone testing positive will be discharged to a setting that has been assured by the CQC
- Government intending to provide weekly testing to domiciliary carers
- Government has launched an Adult Social Care Covid-19 dashboard to help Local Authorities monitor outbreaks

National Updates

- Further funding will be announced from 2nd December to the end of this financial year
- An extra £151 million will be made available from April 2021, to support rough sleepers and prevent homelessness.
- Rapid testing is detecting large numbers of people in Liverpool with COVID-19 who have no symptoms
- People arriving from abroad will be able to cut quarantine by more than half with a private test after 5 days
- NHS new appointment system being introduced for emergency care, except for 999 emergencies

National Updates

- More than 6,000 frontline health workers will have their visas extended for a year for free.
- Major spectator sports in England will receive £300 million to protect their immediate futures over the winter period.
- A consensus statement from PHE, HSE and FOM has been published, following the review of disparities of risk and outcomes of coronavirus with a focus on ethnic minority groups.
- Anyone aged between 50-64 will be entitled to a free flu jab from 1 December

Hertfordshire Updates

- Winter Support Plans are being developed for rapid deployment of support activities across the county
- Acute Trusts are seeing cases on the increase. For example, East and North Herts case numbers have doubled last week. However ICU patients remain low
- Care Home cell report a spike in deaths and are working on profiles of Covid-positive patients in Acute settings, in order to understand what further capabilities are needed in care homes
- PHE advise that contact tracing for under 18s living with someone in a household that has tested positive will no longer take place
- Capacity issues with Herts Help have now been resolved and the clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) work is progressing well.
- Shielding will cease at end of lockdown regardless of Tier and therefore the VPAC is looking at how to manage this
- Mass testing is being piloted in locations in Hertfordshire with the potential to carry out 120,000 tests a week

Mass Vaccinations

- Working with NHS (including Primary Care Trusts) Hertfordshire County Council and other Districts and Boroughs to roll out vaccine pods in response to mass vaccination programme.
- Seeking to enter an agreement to enable this.
- Providing non-clinical staff for example marshals, front of house roles
- Plan is to work from December – April and to keep under regular review.
- Vaccines will be prioritised as per the Government's vaccine prioritisation plan.

Outbreak management



**PLAY
YOUR
PART**

Protect your community

- Wash your hands
- Keep your distance
- Wear a face covering where required
- Isolate and get tested if you have symptoms

 If you've been in close contact with someone who has tested positive, isolate immediately for 14 days

If you develop symptoms, book a test at www.nhs.uk or call 119

NHS Hertfordshire

Stay Safe Hertfordshire

- Roll-out of 10,000 Lateral Flow Device (LFD) test kits across the county
- Self Isolation and Retail Tactical Plans being finalised for implementation
- Covid Marshal cover to be configured after 2nd December

Compliance and enforcement

- New enforcement powers to support local authorities in their vital compliance and enforcement work
- Cinemas, concert venues and theatres to have a Covid-19 recording and reporting system in place
- Ongoing work by Environmental Health to enforce existing restrictions and investigate clusters



Community and Housing

- Stevenage Helps continue to offer advice and support to vulnerable residents
- The following community and leisure facilities will re-open:
 - Museum
 - Stevenage Arts & Leisure Centre
 - Stevenage Swimming Centre
 - Stevenage Golf & Conference Centre
 - Fairlands Valley Park – Café
- The Council is supporting 165 households currently in Emergency, Temporary and B&B accommodation
- Government has updated guidance for landlords and tenants in the private and social rented sectors to explain the possession action process in county courts

Business Support

- Funding to continue as come out of lock down – Job Retention Scheme, SEIS & loans
- Local Restrictions Grant – support for businesses required to close, £60,348 paid to 37 businesses (26 Nov)
- Stevenage Works – utilising existing and future development to support to support apprenticeships & jobs for local people
- Additional Restrictions Grant – funding to support businesses forced to close and those impacted by pandemic, will include support for those not previously supported
- Winter Plan – Further funding to March 2021, £4 per head of population per month for highest Tiers

SBC Business Continuity and Workforce

- Weekly senior team assessment
- Absence is stable, though with pressures on particular services in housing, repairs, So Safe and a range of front line services
- Resources are focussed on protecting essential frontline services
- Additional capacity in place to support contact tracing this week and for future support for Stevenage Helps, Covid Marshalling
- Developing proposals to support vaccination efforts
- Welfare support package in place
- Assessing medium-term priorities and Forward Plan



Communications update

- Chronicle Covid Special delivered to residents
- #StaySafeStevenage Campaign ongoing - digital/online/print
- Self-isolation and safety messages shared on social media
- Digital screens/boards: In progress following Director of Public Health support and approval
- Wardens continue distributing masks to local people
- Frequently Asked Questions - on the council's website

Chronicle

Autumn 2020 Special

Lockdown 2.0 Explained

Our Local Response to COVID-19

As we head towards the winter season, we have already begun our second national lockdown. We understand that individuals, families, organisations and businesses will all have their concerns and you may be wondering what this means for our Stevenage community. We learned a lot from our lockdown earlier in the year and want to reassure you that we have quickly set up our incident management systems and our Emergency Committee so that we can continue to support our communities through this second phase.

Our motto 'The heart of a town lies in its people' is an understatement. The 2020 spring/summer lockdown showed exactly how resilient we are in Stevenage. Many people supported friends, neighbours and family who needed help, from shopping for food to collecting medicine and prescriptions. Our recent virtual Pride of Stevenage Awards 2020 - Covid Special showcased some of the incredible people who selflessly helped others of which the SIC team and I are very proud. We have already received many offers of support from local community organisations and we will all be working together to ensure Stevenage is as safe as it is possible to make it.

We will always want to support the vulnerable, elderly, lonely and those experiencing difficulties with their health and wellbeing, and they were

a priority for us as we went into the first lockdown period. We are in the autumnal season which presents a few challenges. We no longer have summer evenings and warm weather on our side. This means we need to consider how we interact with each other carefully and how we keep the 'at risk' groups already mentioned connected with the right information and support services. Our Stevenage Helps service delivered 539 food parcels to vulnerable members of the community and took 739 calls from local people. We reached out to over 730 vulnerable and elderly Caroline Alarm customers, continued support to more than 90 Stevenage residents over 70, offering advice, support and a friendly ear to those who may have been feeling particularly isolated. This work will continue to ensure we look after this group in particular.


We know that our businesses have had a tough time this year, during the first lockdown we got over 800 grants out quickly to support those who are at the heart of our local economy. As soon as we are able to do so, we will be providing details of the latest round of grant funding to local businesses that are affected.

The four weeks may not seem too long for a second lockdown in comparison to what we have already experienced this year. However, we need to work together to make sure Stevenage

continues to keep its positive Coronavirus figures as low as possible. The basic guidelines remain the same – washing hands, making space and wearing a mask when going to get essentials.

It is clear #StaySafeStevenage is making a difference to our town, an even better difference. Let's continue to work together and use the town's motto to keep all members of our community as safe as possible. Contact us on 01438 242452 and the email address is: [community.development@stevenage.gov.uk](mailto:development@stevenage.gov.uk) if you need our help. Herd's Help can also provide support and can be contacted on 0300 123 4044 or www.herdshelp.net. You can visit our council website to stay informed <http://www.stevenage.gov.uk/town-and-community/emergencies/coronavirus> and look at our Coronavirus Frequently Asked Questions to understand the latest guidelines.

Cllr Sharon Taylor,
Leader of Stevenage Borough Council



Stevenage
BOROUGH COUNCIL