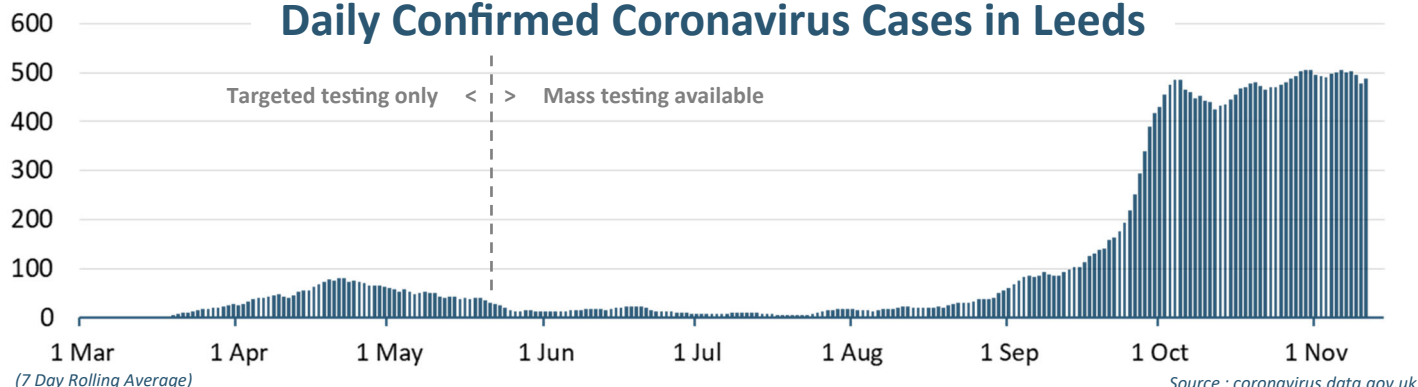


Coronavirus Update - LEEDS

Report - 16 November 2020

Daily Confirmed Coronavirus Cases in Leeds



Headlines for Leeds

The national economy grew by 15.5% in the third quarter to September, with most sectors of the economy experiencing some recovery. However, growth has slowed again and remains well below its pre-pandemic peak. This latest GDP data is from before the new restrictions came into effect.

Recent business intelligence confirms that the new national restrictions, and lead up to them, are having an impact on businesses, with a return to the furlough scheme, particularly by those businesses in or supporting hospitality. Businesses are also concerned that the financial support on offer will not be sufficient to meet costs during the latest restrictions and may have no choice but to

make redundancies. Again, this is particularly true for businesses whose trade has been most severely curtailed.

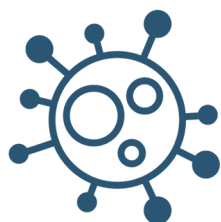
The introduction of tiered local restrictions in October impacted on Leeds City Centre with footfall at 51% of 2019 levels at weekends and 69% at weekdays, indicating that while some commuters continue to come to the city centre weekend leisure trips are decreasing. These trends have remained fairly constant with the introduction of the new national restrictions. Levels of bus and rail use saw surge in use in the days before the new restrictions, then a marked reduction in use as they started.

There has been little change in Out of Work Benefit claimants in recent months, since the doubling of claimants in April 2020. In October,

there were 35,640 people claiming Out of Work Benefits (6.9%), slightly above regional (6.5%) and national rates (6.3%).

The latest 7 day average rate per 100,000 reported for Leeds is 441.5 per 100,000 (442.6 a week before). The latest regional average is 441.4 (394.7 a week before) whilst the latest national average is 243.8 (226.4 a week before).

Leeds is currently recorded the following figures



441.8 New Cases
recorded daily in Leeds
(7 day rolling average)



242 Current Cases
Reported across 39 Care
Homes in Leeds



864 Registered Deaths
That mention Covid-19, an
increase of 106 over last 14 days



49% Footfall
In Leeds City centre in
comparison to 2019



458 Covid-19 related
Incidents reported to West
Yorkshire Police in last 7 days



31.5 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$
Nitrogen Dioxide levels.
Below UK target of 40 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$

Coronavirus Update - LEEDS

Report - 16 November 2020

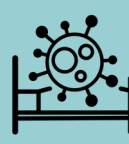
Health and Social Care Impact & Recovery



Cases rate
per 100,000 people
(7 day rolling average)



Current Cases
Reported active in
39 Leeds care homes



Covid-19 Beds
Currently occupied at
LTHT hospitals



Registered Deaths
That mention Covid-19
over the last 14 days

Health Summary

Infection Rates (16th November)

The latest 7 day average rate per 100,000 reported for Leeds is 441.5 per 100,000 (442.6 a week before). The latest regional average is 441.4 (394.7 a week before) whilst the latest national average is 243.8 (226.4 a week before).

The latest 7 day positivity for Leeds is 15.9% (down from 17.1% this time last week).

Covid-19 Cases

AS of the 15th November, The number of patients in COVID occupied beds at LTHT this week is 302 COVID positive patients, up slightly from 270 at this time last week. LYPFT has 6 COVID positive patients in a bed this week.

This week has seen 263 positive COVID tests carried out within LTHT (up from 202 last week); 223 attributed to inpatients and 40 attributed to new admissions. LYPFT had 6 positive COVID tests in the last week (up from 2 last week) all case were attributed to inpatients.

There are currently 23 positive COVID patients in a HDU/ITU bed in LTHT, up from 12 this time last week.

Care Homes

In total there are 242 active Covid19 case declared in 39 Care Homes in Leeds. These figures have seen a large increase over the last week.

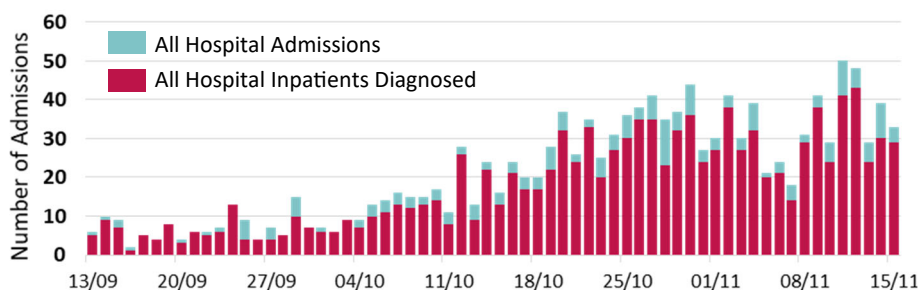
Registered Deaths in Leeds

As of 30 October 2020, a total of 864 COVID-19 related deaths had been registered by Leeds Registrars Office. The number of deaths registered where COVID-19 was mentioned on the death certificate has increased slightly in recent weeks, with 73 Covid-19 deaths recorded in the last 14 days (at time of publication). This is still considerably lower than late May when over 200 Deaths were recorded over a two week period

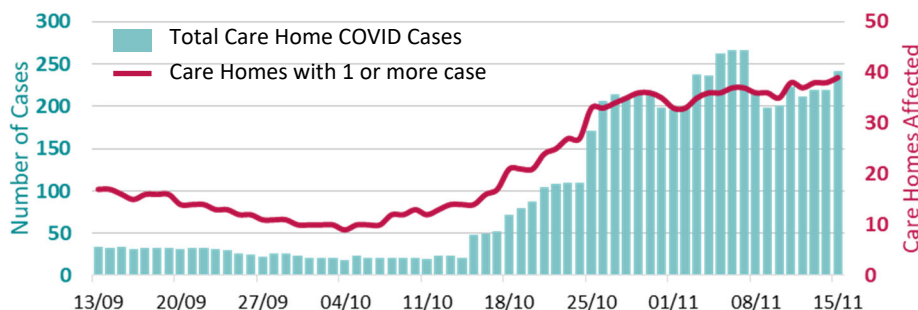
Capacity

Current capacity in LTHT and MYHT hospital based mortuaries is at 45%. This is a reduction from 7 days ago when it was recorded at 60%.

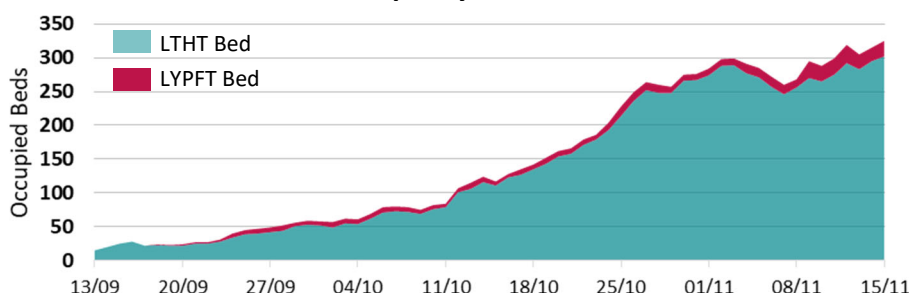
New Covid19 Admissions and Inpatients



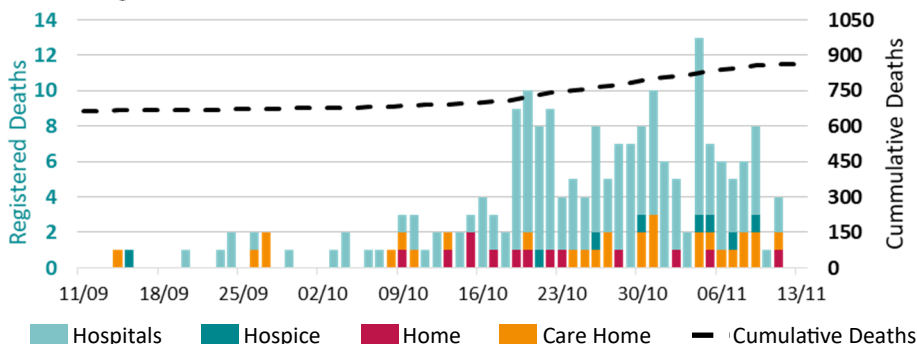
Covid19 Cases in Care Homes



Confirmed Covid19 Bed Occupancy



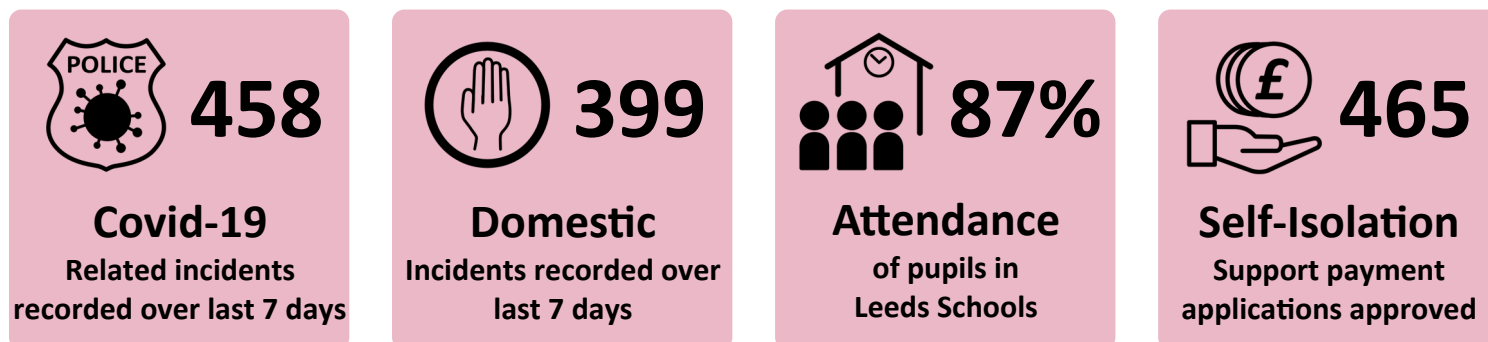
Deaths registered with LCC that mention Covid19



Sources:

- [Coronavirus.gov.uk](https://coronavirus.gov.uk) - 15/11/20
- [Leeds Teaching Hospital Trust](https://www.leedsteachinghospitaltrust.nhs.uk) - 16/11/20
- [Leeds Registrars Office](https://www.leeds.gov.uk) - 13/11/20

Citizens & Community



Citizens & Community Summary

Incidents and Crimes Overview

There have been slight reductions in total crime reported although general trends are not expected to change significantly

Volumes of reported ASB incidents, especially relating to fireworks, are expected to reduce following bonfire period.

COVID related calls are expected to continue at higher levels during the current restrictions.

Children & Education

Last week, 237 (86.1%) schools submitted data to the DfE at least once during the week. Attendance increased in the week following the half-term break with 87 per cent attending on Wednesday 5th November. There was a steady decrease the following week with average daily attendance at 80 per cent, compared to 82 per cent in the previous week. Pupils absent due to covid exposure increased from 6.5 per cent on the first day back from half term, to 10.8 per cent on Friday 13th November.

Self Isolation Payments

Starting on 28th September, persons that are required to self-isolate who are on lower incomes, cannot work from home and have lost income as a result, can apply for a support payment of up to £500. In the last 7 days Leeds has received 313 new applications, averaging 45 claims per day or 63 claims per working day. This is an increase of 10 applications per day compared to last week.

Welfare Support

In the previous week there were 929 calls recorded to the Local Welfare Support Service's (LWSS) Helpline, with a 94% answer rate. Information on the support provided will appear in future reports.

Waste Management & Recycling

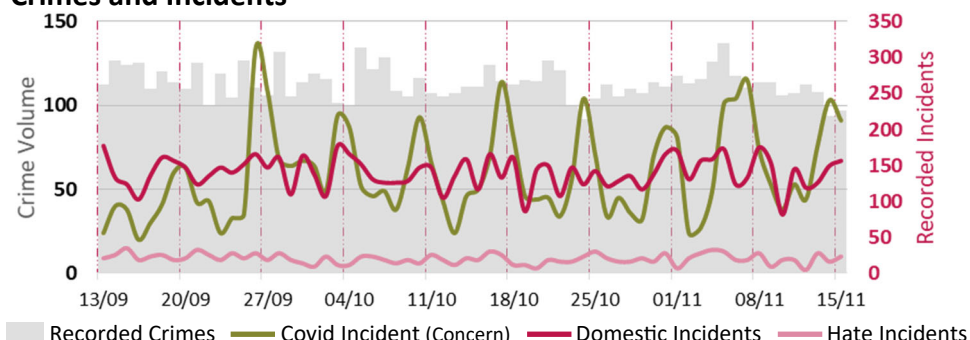
Tonnage of waste collected at the kerbside continues to be higher than normal for this period. The current national restrictions has seen tonnage raise above the already increased recent levels. Black bins are 14% up, green bins are 5% up, and brown bins are 49% up.

Extra crews are being deployed where possible, but crew bubbles continue to be stood down where a staff member becomes symptomatic.

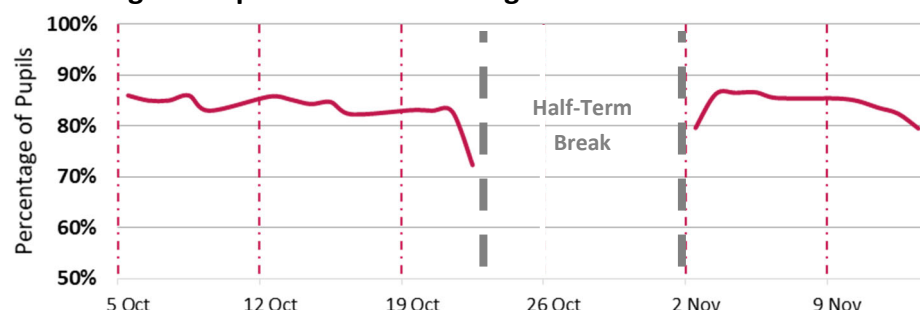
Sources:

- Safer Leeds - 16/11/20
- Children's Services Leeds - 16/11/20
- Leeds & York Partnership NHS Foundation Trust - 16/11/20
- Leeds City Council Environment Team - 16/11/20

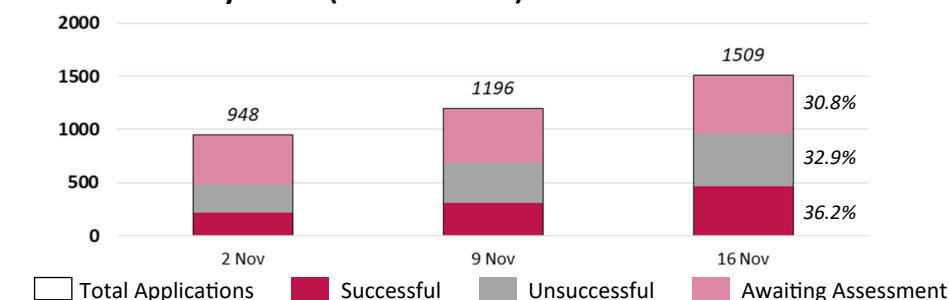
Crimes and Incidents



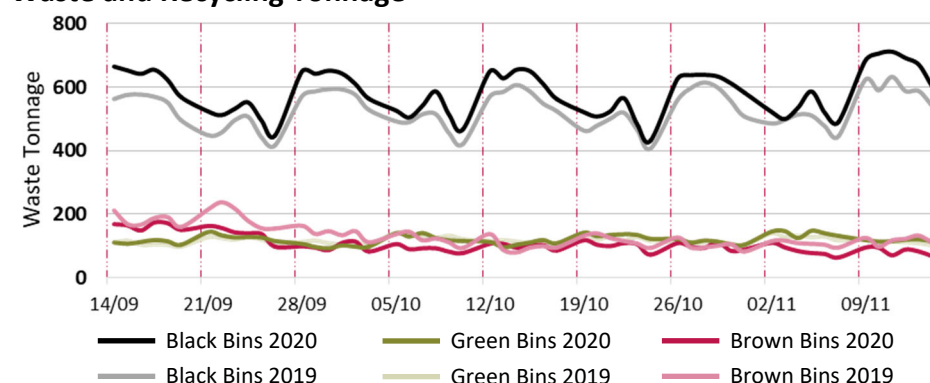
Percentage of Pupils on Roll Attending School



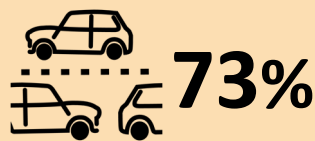
Self Isolation Payments (accumulative)



Waste and Recycling Tonnage



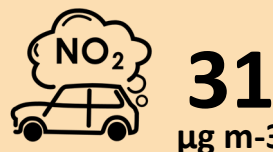
Infrastructure & Supplies



Traffic Flow
Compared to recorded
traffic flow in 2019



Footfall
In Leeds City centre in
comparison to 2019



Nitrogen Dioxide
Levels, lower than UK
target of 40µg m⁻³



Thousand
Units of PPE issued
over the last 7 days

Infrastructure & Supplies Summary

Traffic & Pedestrian Flow

The introduction of tiered local restrictions in October impacted on Leeds City Centre with footfall at 51% of 2019 levels at weekends and 69% at weekdays, indicating that while some commuters continue to come to the city centre weekend leisure trips are decreasing. These trends have remained fairly constant with the introduction of the new national restrictions. Levels of bus and rail use saw surge in use in the days before the new restrictions, then a marked reduction in use as they started.

Leeds Air Quality (October 2020)

The plot to the lower right shows the monthly mean Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) for all the Leeds air quality monitoring sites.

The effect of the lockdown earlier in the year shows a dramatic reduction across all sites in Leeds and the City Centre area, since easing of measures began in May, levels of NO₂ have begun to rise slightly to an average of 31 µg m⁻³ in October. This indicator would normally record increased levels over the later months of the year.

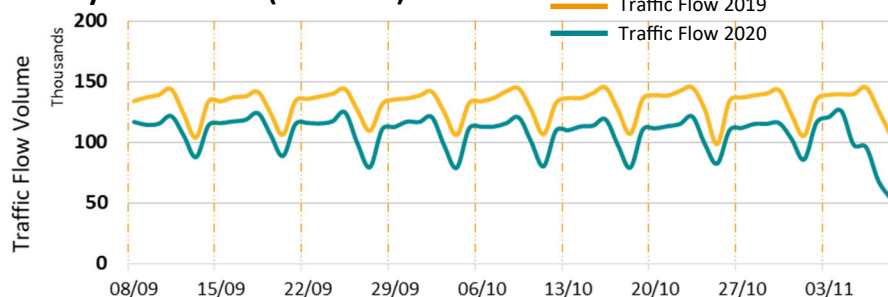
PPE Supplies

LCC stock the levels are still rated as good. Forward orders for sanitiser and antibacterial wipes have been placed this week.

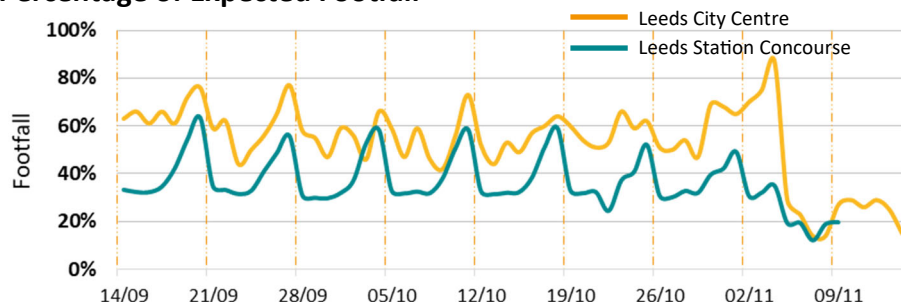
DHSC deliveries remain constant, with the additional delivery for educational settings to begin next week. Schools have been able to access this stock prior to their specific delivery arriving.

LRF Supplies are rated as good and the stock is not being frequently accessed, due to the DHSC and in house stock levels being adequate.

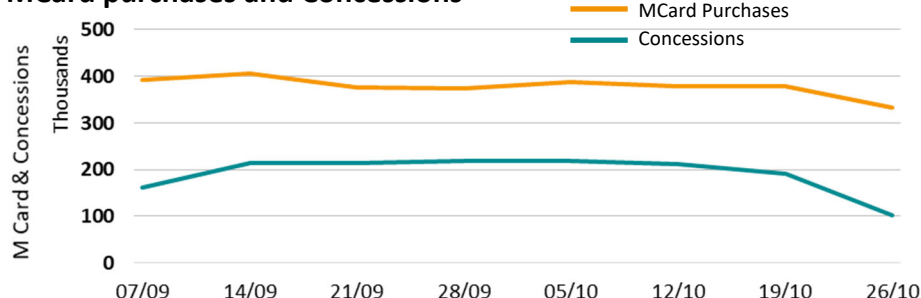
Two-way 24hr Traffic (5 Radials)



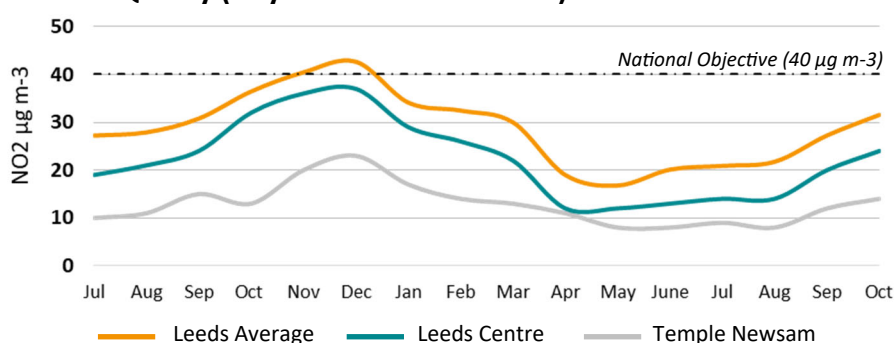
Percentage of Expected Footfall



MCard purchases and Concessions



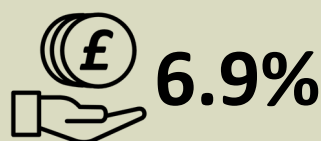
Leeds Air Quality (July 2019 - October 2020)



Sources:

- West Yorkshire Combined Authority - 16/11/20
- Leeds City Council - 13/11/20

Economy and Business



**Out of Work
Benefits Claimant
Count**



**Million
Of new local restriction
support grants available**

Economy and Business

The economy grew by 15.5% in the quarter to September, compared to the previous quarter. Whilst all main sectors continued to recover, the rate of growth slowed again with the overall economy still remaining well below its pre-pandemic peak. This latest data is from before the new restrictions came into effect. The return of children to school boosted activity in the education sector. Housebuilding also continued to recover and business services saw stronger activity after a poor August. However, pubs and restaurants saw less business, after the 'eat out to help out' scheme ended, and accommodation saw less business after a summer boost.

The most recent set of business surveys confirm that the new national restrictions, and lead up to them, are having an impact on businesses, with a return to the furlough scheme, particularly by those businesses in hospitality, and sectors supplying that industry. Businesses are also concerned that wider financial support will not be sufficient to meet costs during increase restrictions and may have no choice but to make redundancies.

The introduction of tiered local restrictions in October impacted on Leeds City Centre with footfall at 51% of 2019 levels at weekends and 69% at weekdays, indicating that while some commuters continue to come to the city centre weekend leisure trips are decreasing. These trends have remained fairly constant with the introduction of the new national restrictions. Levels of bus and rail use saw surge in use in the days before the new national restrictions, then a marked reduction in use as they started.

Employment

There has been little change in Out of Work Benefit claimants in recent months, since the doubling of claimants in April 2020. However, the number of vacancies advertised online has fallen across the City-Region for the third consecutive week, suggesting businesses are more hesitant to recruit in light of further restrictions.

Concerns regarding the impact on young people remain, with many younger workers concentrated in sectors which had been most affected such as hospitality and retail. A recent survey by the Resolution Foundation found that 19% of 18-24 year olds furloughed during lockdown were unemployed in September 2020. For BAME workers the figure was 22%, compared to 9% for the general population.

Financial Support for the city

On 31st October the Prime Minister announced that a second set national restrictions, lasting a month, would commence on 5th November. A number of supporting measures were announced:

Grant to support 'Clinically Extremely Vulnerable' of around £32m nationally, with local allocations to be confirmed.

Additional Restrictions Grant of £1.1bn – local authorities will receive £20 per head "to enable councils to support businesses over the coming months more broadly". This funding is intended to be used to provide discretionary support to local businesses, e.g. that do not have an RV or have significantly higher costs. Businesses can be severely impacted rather than closed. The funding is for 2020/21 only and the Leeds allocation is £15.9m.

Financial Support for the city continued....

Local Restrictions Support Grant (closed), again £1.1bn nationally, payable to businesses that are required to close due to the new restrictions, with the amounts payable based on Rateable value: "For properties with a rateable value of £15k or under, grants to be £1,334 per month, or £667 per two weeks; "For properties with a rateable value of between £15k-£51k grants to be £2,000 per month, or £1,000 per two weeks; "For properties with a rateable value of £51k or over grants to be £3,000 per month, or £1,500 per two weeks." The Leeds allocation is £13m.

The Contain Outbreak Management Fund was initially announced when the new national tiering system was introduced in November, with authorities expected to receive £1 per head of population in Tier 1, topped up to £3 in Tier 2 and to £8 in Tier 3. As a consequence of the national restrictions all local authorities will now receive the highest per head allocation, £465m nationally of which £6.3m for Leeds. This funding is required to be used for a range of Test, Track and Trace and Compliance measures.

Local Restrictions Government Support Grant, (Open): Government confirmed that cash grants for Businesses in Tiers 2 and 3 prior to national restrictions were still payable for the period from 1 August to 5 November. This grant supports businesses in hospitality, leisure and accommodation sectors that have suffered from reduced demand. The Leeds allocation £7.9m

On the 8th November Government announced a £170m Covid Winter Grant Scheme to support children, families and the most vulnerable over winter, covering the period to the end of March 2021. The Leeds allocation is £2.84m and this funding will be ring-fenced, with at least 80% earmarked to support with food and bills. In addition the Holiday Activities and Food programme to be expanded (costing £220m nationally) to cover Easter, Summer and Christmas in 2021 and Healthy Start payments are set to rise from £3.10 to £4.25 a week from April 2021.

An additional £15m has been made available nationally through the Homelessness – Protect Programme to help areas that need additional support most during the restrictions and throughout winter. This will run alongside the ongoing 'Everyone In' campaign, which is helping to move rough sleepers into settled accommodation.

LCC's financial position

The latest financial projection of the impact Covid-19 has had on the Council's financial position, which will be reported to November's Executive Board later this week, shows an estimated gap for 2020/21 of £30.5m, a £20.6m improvement on the position reported in October. This movement is entirely explained by Leeds's share (£20.6m) of the additional £1bn support for local authorities announced by Government on the 12th October. This position estimates that the Council will receive £18.9m of Government compensation in 2020/21 to mitigate sales, fees and charges income losses, but the actual figure will not be known until the financial year end. This financial position does not reflect the potential impact of the national restrictions which commenced on 5th November and the impact of this will be reflected in future Financial Health reports to the Council's Executive Board.

The projected overspend for 2021/22 as reported to September's Executive Board in the Medium Term Financial Strategy is £118.8m. The September Executive Board agreed that consultation should commence, where appropriate, on an initial set of Budget Savings Proposals exceeding £32.6m to address the 2021/22 gap. Additional Savings Proposals totalling £7.9m were agreed at October's Executive Board and this reduces the estimated budget gap to £78.3m.

Further savings options totalling £17.6m will be considered by the November meeting of the Executive Board, reducing the estimated budget gap for 2021/22 to £60.6m. Work continues to identify further savings, with proposals to be taken to the December Executive Board through the 2021/22 Provisional Budget report.

Sources:

- Leeds City Council - 2/11/20
- Department for work and Pensions - 13/10/20

Communications Update & Policy Announcements

Policy Announcements

2 November 2020

The next self-employed income support grant, covering November to January, will increase from 55% to 80% of average profits, up to a maximum of £7,500. Grants will also be paid faster than previously planned, with the claims window opening at the end of November rather than the middle of December.

[Source: www.gov.uk \(webpage\)](https://www.gov.uk/webpage)

3 November 2020

The government announced that Liverpool was to be the first UK city to undergo a trial of mass testing, with all residents and workers in the city offered repeat Covid-19 testing, even if asymptomatic. Armed forces personnel are supporting Liverpool City Council, NHS Test and Trace and the Ministry of Defence to deliver mass testing in the city.

[Source: www.gov.uk \(webpage\)](https://www.gov.uk/webpage)

4 November 2020

Updated guidance published for people considered to be clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) to Covid-19. Clinically extremely vulnerable people are advised to stay at home as much as possible, except to go outdoors for exercise (including with one other person from outside their household or support bubble) or to attend essential health appointments. People who are CEV are strongly advised to work from home, and if they cannot work from home, should not go to work for the period of restrictions, and may be eligible for Statutory Sick Pay, Employment Support Allowance or Universal Credit. CEV people are advised not to visit shops or pharmacies, and to use friends, family, volunteers or local authority support to access food and medicine.

[Source: www.gov.uk \(webpage\)](https://www.gov.uk/webpage)

Guidance published to support safe visiting from friends and relatives to people living in care homes, which is a permitted exemption for people to leave their home during the national restrictions. Guidance states that Covid-secure visits can take place using systems such as floor to ceiling screens, visiting pods, window visits, virtual visits and outdoor visits with one other person. Arrangements should be tailored to the circumstances of each care home.

[Source: www.gov.uk \(webpage\)](https://www.gov.uk/webpage)

5 November 2020

National restrictions introduced in England until 2 December 2020. People required to stay at home and only leave the home for limited named purposes. Non-essential shops, leisure and entertainment venues required to close and pubs, bars and restaurants required to close with the exception of takeaway services.

[Source: www.gov.uk \(webpage\)](https://www.gov.uk/webpage)

The Chancellor announced that the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (furlough scheme) will be extended until the end of March 2021.

[Source: www.gov.uk \(webpage\)](https://www.gov.uk/webpage)

The Housing Secretary confirmed that evictions will not be enforced whilst national restrictions are in place, and evictions will not be enforced by bailiffs until 11 January 2021 at the earliest, except for the most egregious cases such as anti-social behaviour. Six month notice periods remain in place until at least the end of March 2021, except for the most serious cases.

[Source: www.gov.uk \(webpage\)](https://www.gov.uk/webpage)

7 November 2020

Travel restrictions imposed in response to a Covid-19 outbreak on mink farms in Denmark. Denmark removed from the travel corridors list and British Nationals or residents returning from the country from 4am on 7 November required to self-isolate until 2 weeks have passed since they were in Denmark, along with all other members of their household. Unlike other travel to the UK, there will be no exemptions to this quarantine policy. In addition, people arriving into the UK from Denmark who are not British Nationals or residents will not be permitted entry into the UK. This excludes freight and hauliers.

[Source: www.gov.uk \(webpage\)](https://www.gov.uk/webpage)

9 November 2020

Pfizer and BioNTech published efficacy results of Phase 3 of their vaccine candidate, which was found to be more than 90% effective in preventing Covid-19 infection. The government has ordered 40 million doses of this vaccine candidate, enough for one third of the population (as two doses are required). The Prime Minister delivered a press briefing in response to the announcement, to remind the public of the need to continue to follow national restrictions, and to announce that, should the vaccine candidate pass all safety checks, it will be rolled out to the population via an NHS-led national vaccination programme.

[Source: www.gov.uk \(webpage\)](https://www.gov.uk/webpage)

Further to the pilot scheme of mass testing in Liverpool, the government announced that it will be distributing batches of 10,000 antigen lateral flow tests, which deliver results in an hour, to more than 50 Directors of Public Health to allow targeted asymptomatic testing of priority groups. Directors of Public Health will determine how to prioritise the allocation of these tests, based on the specific needs of their communities, and will determine how people in the local area are tested.

[Source: www.gov.uk \(webpage\)](https://www.gov.uk/webpage)

11 November 2020

Guidance published for universities to allow students to return home at the end of the national restrictions for the Christmas holidays. A 'student travel window' between 3rd and 9th December will allow students to return home, if they wish to, on staggered departure dates set by universities, which should be agreed in partnership with other institutions in the region. Tests are to be offered to as many students as possible before they travel home for Christmas, with universities in areas of high prevalence prioritised.

[Source: www.gov.uk \(webpage\)](https://www.gov.uk/webpage)

The Communities Secretary confirmed that relaxed measures for restaurants, pubs and cafes to provide takeaway services will be extended for a year. Rules were relaxed in March to allow businesses to offer takeaway service during the pandemic without having to go through a planning application process. This was due to end on 23 March 2021 but will now be extended by another year. The government will also consider whether to make these reforms permanent.

[Source: www.gov.uk \(webpage\)](https://www.gov.uk/webpage)

16 November 2020

Pilot scheme of testing of visitors begins in 20 care homes in Hampshire, Devon and Cornwall. One designated visitor per care home resident will be offered a PCR or lateral flow Covid-19 test, to allow for indoor visits without a screen. If successful, the approach is to be rolled out more widely in December.

[Source: www.gov.uk \(webpage\)](https://www.gov.uk/webpage)

Global pharmaceutical company Janssen begins clinical trials of its potential vaccine in the UK, involving 6,000 volunteers.

[Source: www.gov.uk \(webpage\)](https://www.gov.uk/webpage)

Communications Update

Website Visits

Around 17K visited the COVID information web pages last week, of which 10K were new users. This has continued to drop from a high of 86k a month previous.

The GovDelivery Covid email bulletin, which is sent out to 114K residents, had an open rate of 37%, consistent with recent weeks. Most popular features included info on shielding, national restrictions and Remembrance Sunday.

Council/others

Connect & Support local contact tracing: LCC/CCG two-phase communications strategy being developed: phase 1 in-house to support soft launch of service followed by agency boost once up and running to maximise take-up. #TogetherLeeds branding to be incorporated.

Reducing transmission rates and protecting over 60s: campaign plan completed and agency briefing to begin shortly; agency to be CCG/health partnerships managed with LCC support.

Mobile testing units: working on boosting communications around local testing sites.

Awaiting more information on local testing and future vaccination programmes so we can work out what support is needed.

Working with universities on planning for possible December/Christmas moves.

Joint work with communities teams and public health on enabling specific support where needed in target areas such as Hyde Park and Headingley/Garforth and Swillington/Crossgates and Whinmoor.

Social media monitoring

What conversations, topics and questions are we seeing discussed that are outside of the general national conversation?

Some saying current restrictions is not working as roads, streets, parks in Leeds are still busy.

Discussion over Leeds rate up again.

Parents concerned about extra-curricular activities in Leeds schools and whether they should still be going ahead for the wellbeing of pupils

People still asking for free parking in the city centre

Number of questions about accessing business support

What conversations, topics and questions are we seeing being shared and discussed regularly?

Some discussion around the vaccine. Mixed feelings – many think it seems really promising while others are sceptical and say they would not be willing to have it.

Still lots of positive discussion around looking after your mental health during the current restrictions

Christmas – people wanting to start making plans but unable to due to the uncertainty of what will happen when the current restrictions end.

What are the overriding feelings, behaviours and beliefs from people regarding the key and emerging themes?

Frustration that the current restrictions is not working/is not strict enough to have a real impact

A lack of trust/faith in the government – #BorisTheLiar trending nationally on Twitter as people are frustrated he needs to isolate during such an important week for the country.

Some people worried about being apart from their families over Christmas as December approaches.