



Somerset Covid-19 Weekly Workstream Update

Friday 31st July 2020

Improving
LIVES

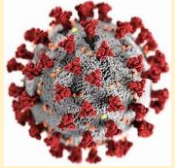


Introduction

Somerset County Council is working tirelessly with community organisations, charities, volunteers and its partners to support communities during the current Coronavirus pandemic. A number of multi-agency workstreams are in place to support this vital work. The following pages advise you of these workstreams, their key actions during the last week, what's planned going forward and what you can do to help. We plan to issue this workstream update every Friday. If you need more information, please check out www.somerset.gov.uk/coronavirus

Public Health

ACHIEVEMENTS



Key Actions achieved this week:

- 1000 invitations for Health MOTs sent to Somerset residents via email. In the first week 22 appointments were made and positive feedback received from those attending the virtual MOT.
- Covid 19 Community Engagement Board has its inaugural meeting 31st July.
- Launch of PHE Better Health Campaign to promote healthy weight and physical activity, work will continue on promoting this in the coming week.
- Domestic Abuse Campaign - Taboola native advertising trial completed, Sky TV commercial launched and Domestic abuse article accepted by Somerset Living

Key Statistics for the week:

- Closed Situational Outbreaks = 77 (cumulative total)
- Open Situational Outbreaks = 1
- **Whole care home testing** – figures not available at time of report. SCC have submitted details of 153 premises providing extra care and independent living support eligible for future roll out of testing.
- **Testing (20/7 - 26/7):**
 - 781 people tested at Taunton racecourse
 - 510 people tested at mobile testing units (Street, Yeovilton, Minehead, Ilminster and Bridgwater)
 - 778 arranged home tests for covid19
- Domestic Abuse Campaign – 11,715 unique visitors to the Somerset Survivors website during the pandemic (compared to 2,547 in the same period last year).

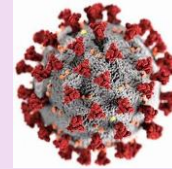


Happy, Healthy & Safe:

- 473 Mindline calls received this week
- 133 users of Healthy Somerset website this week



NEXT STEPS



Key Actions for the coming week:

- Testing outbreak management plan
- Further work on the development of the Advisory Network to support the Covid 19 Community Engagement Board



How to help:

- Help to promote the new guidance on shielding ensuring people understand and feel supported as they transition into this next phase.
- Help to promote social distancing and hand washing messages.
- Help to promote if you have symptoms to isolate and request a test through <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/ask-for-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/> or by dialling 119.



Reinforcing the measures:

Twitter - @SomersetDPH – 31.6k impressions in the past 28 days
Social Media reach this week (FB & Twitter): Infection Prevention Control: 21,129, Healthy Living: 5,401, Domestic abuse: 2,659, Child Accident Prevention: 1,401, Drugs and Alcohol support: 14,561, Sexual Health Support: 1,517, Smoking Cessation: 1,532, Bereavement Support Service: 2,023, Mental Health (Mindline promotion): 3,379, BBC Somerset Wellbeing Slot: 607 End of shielding advice 1,419

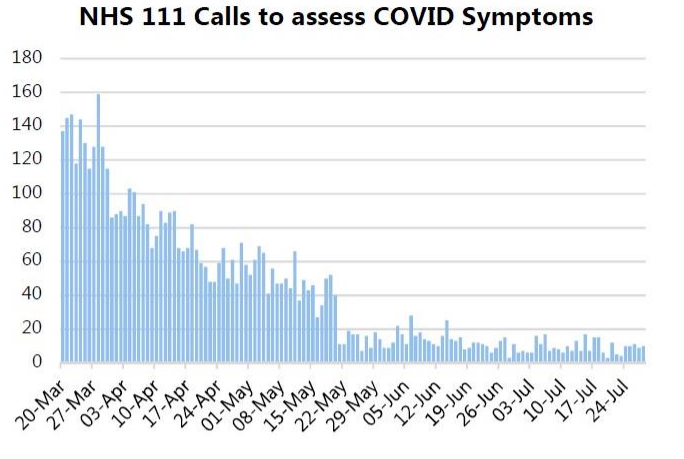
Somerset Public Health COVID-19 Dashboard

NHS 111 COVID Demand



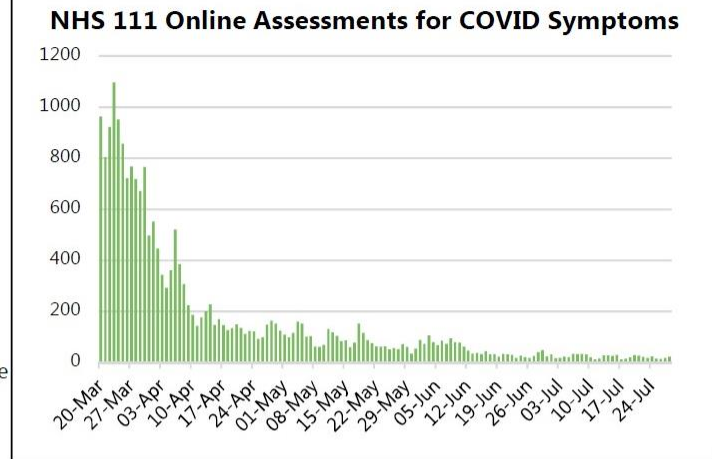
Latest daily Somerset based calls to NHS 111 to assess COVID symptoms

28/07/2020

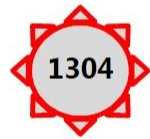


Latest daily NHS 111 Online symptom assessments for COVID giving Somerset postcode

28/07/2020

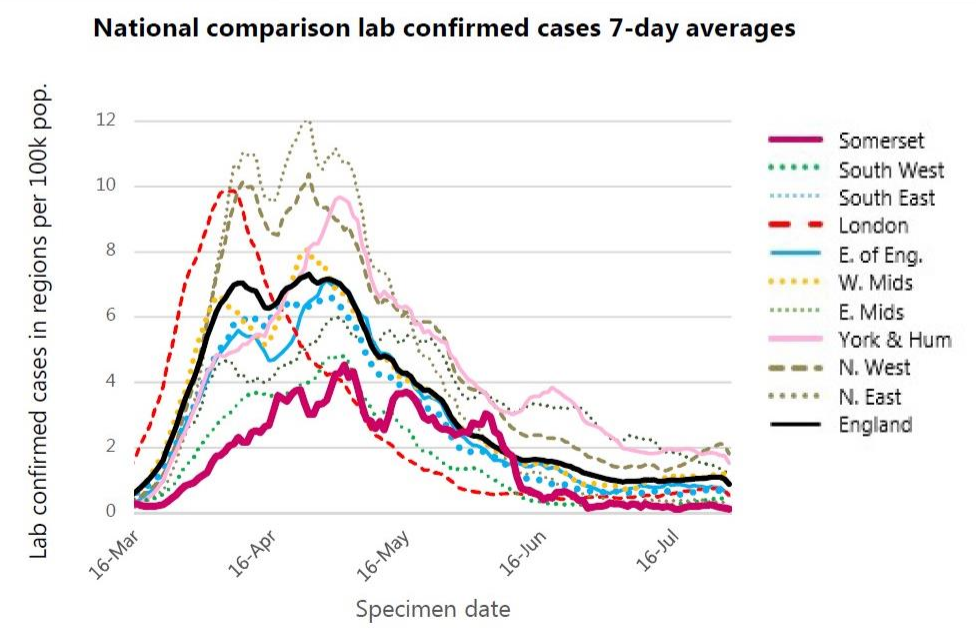
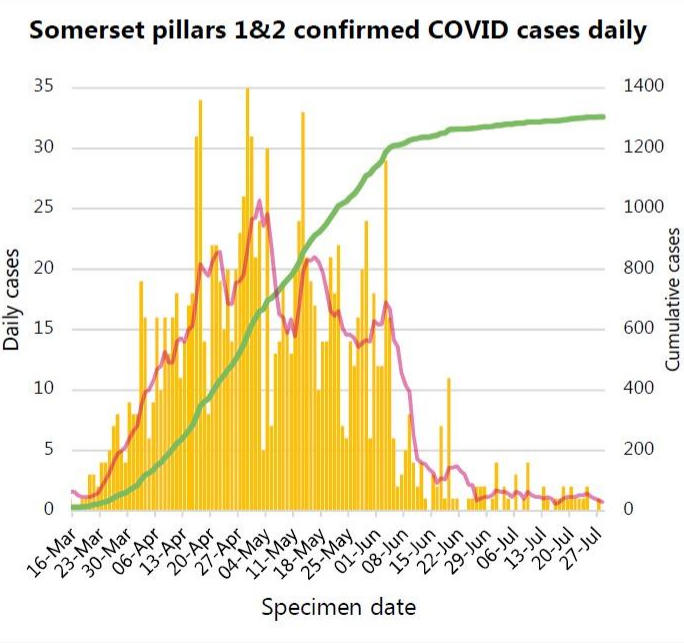


Detected cases



Total pillars 1 & 2 lab-confirmed COVID cases in Somerset

28/07/2020



As of 2nd June 2020, numbers of lab-confirmed positive cases now include those identified by testing in all settings (pillars 1 and 2).

Produced 29/07/2020 For data sources see final page. For more information contact publichealth@somerset.gov.uk



Somerset Public Health COVID-19 Dashboard

Latest R number range for the South West

0.7-1.0

Last updated on Friday 24 Jul 2020

Produced by:

UK Government Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE)

What is R?

The reproduction number (R) is the average number of secondary infections produced by 1 infected person.

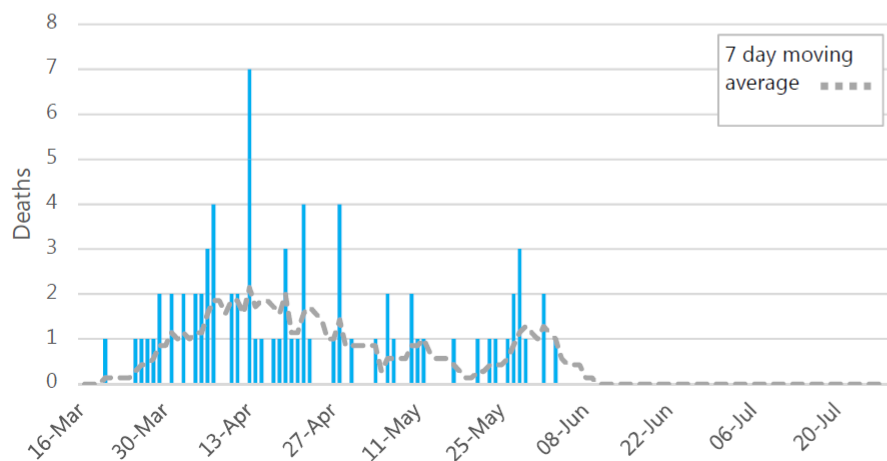
An R number of 1 means that on average every person who is infected will infect 1 other person, meaning the total number of new infections is stable.

Region

R

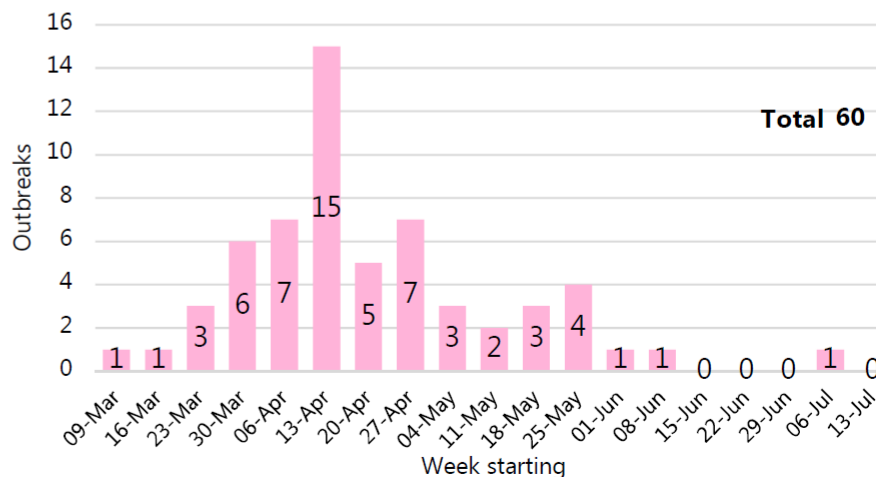
UK	0.8-1.0
England	0.8-1.0
East of England	0.8-1.0
London	0.7-1.0
Midlands	0.7-1.0
NE and Yorks	0.8-1.0
North West	0.7-1.0
South East	0.8-1.0
South West	0.7-1.0

Daily COVID Deaths at Somerset Hospitals



COVID Outbreaks Somerset Care Homes

New Weekly Reports (PHE)



Produced 29/07/2020 For data sources see final page. For more information contact publichealth@somerset.gov.uk



Somerset Public Health COVID-19 Dashboard

COVID deaths week ending

① 17/07/2020

All COVID **0**

Hospital **0**

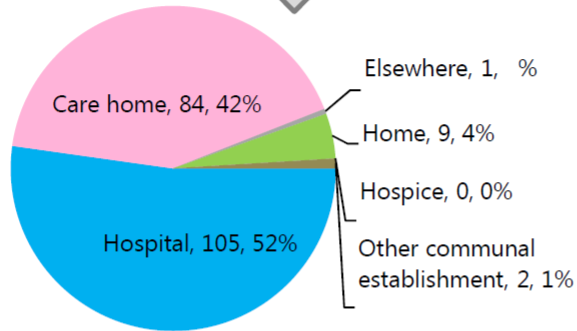
Care Home **0**

Other **0**

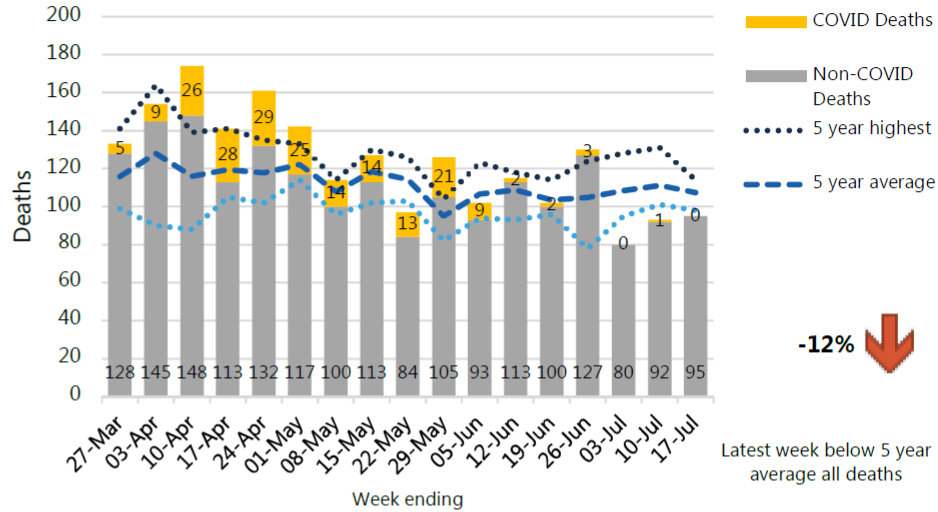
No COVID deaths most recent week.
Total increase due to a registration for a previous week.

All COVID Deaths in Somerset by Place of Death (ONS)

Total **201** 17/07/2020

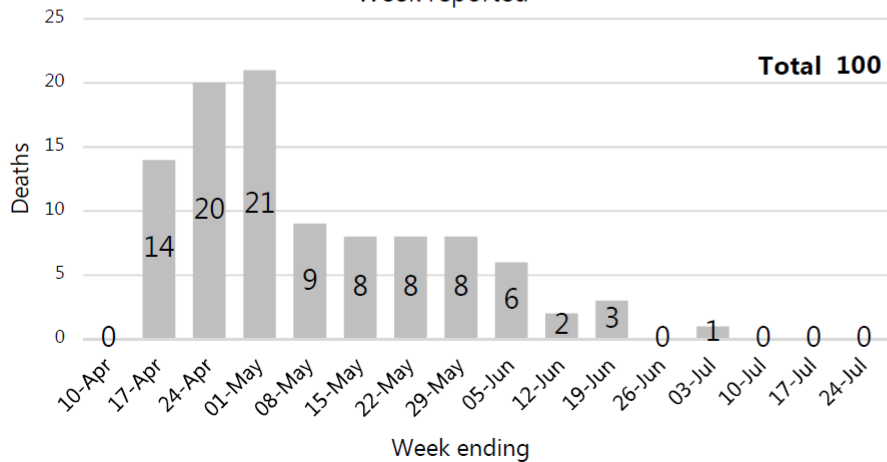


Somerset All Deaths (weekly) (ONS)

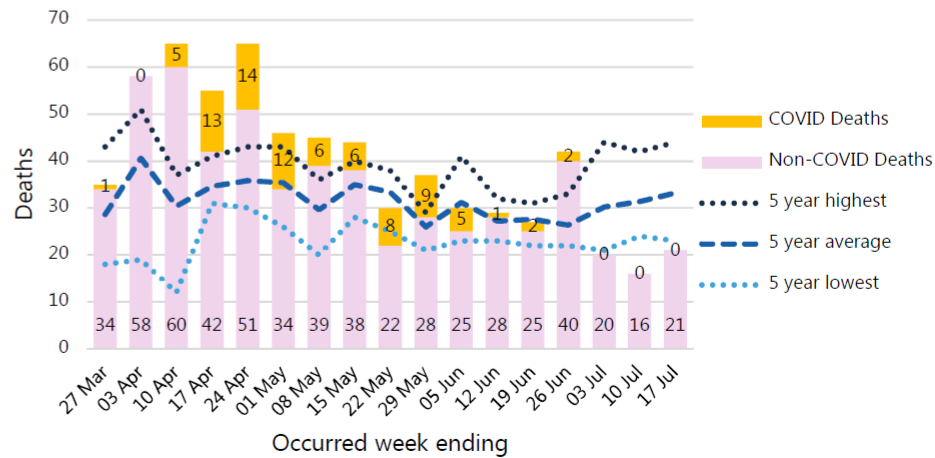


Somerset COVID Care Home Deaths (weekly) (CQC)

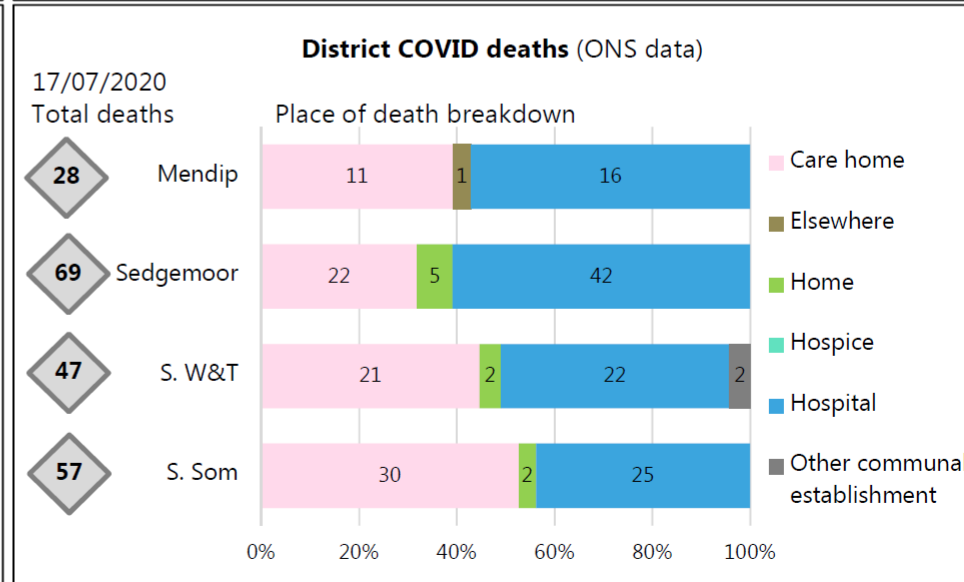
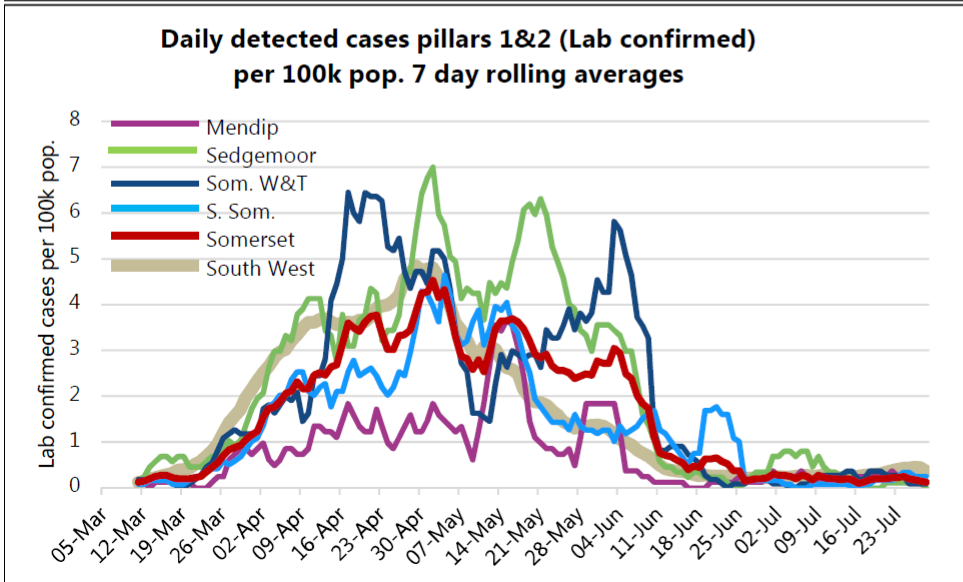
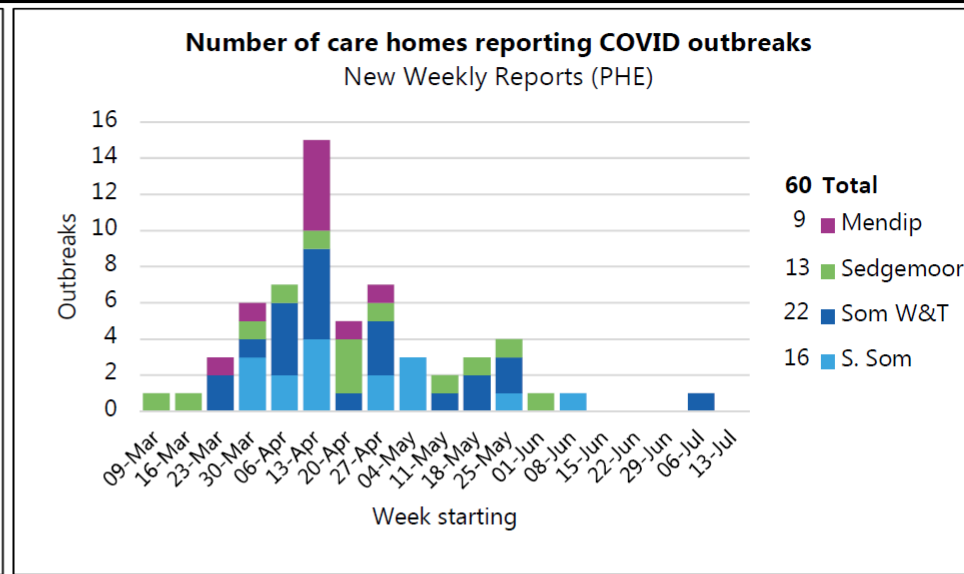
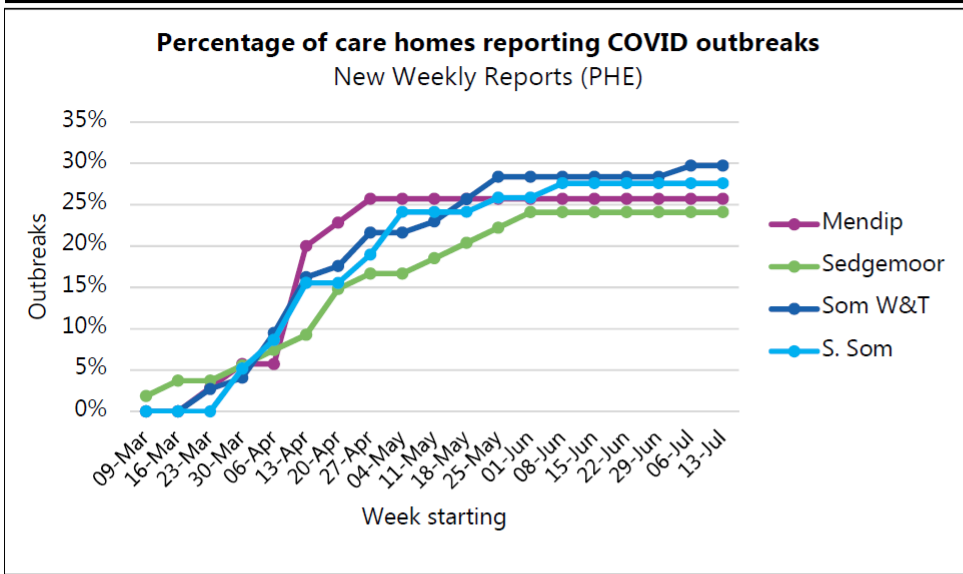
Week reported



Somerset Care Home Deaths (weekly) (ONS)



Somerset Public Health COVID-19 Dashboard



Community & Resilience Cell

Key Points *(figures correct as of 28th July)*

- A paper being prepared regarding funding from Central Government for food and how we can ensure sustainable solutions are in place over the summer and into the winter..
- A task and finish group will be mobilised to look at support required for BAMES communities in Somerset.
- Somerset Community Foundation's Somerset Coronavirus Appeal has now raised £1m for communities in Somerset. <https://www.somersetcf.org.uk/news/381/73/Coronavirus-Appeal-raises-phenomenal-1m-for-communities-in-Somerset>
- The Somerset Coronavirus Support Helpline remains open, seven days a week from 8am – 6pm including Bank Holidays and has received 7349 calls so far.
- Focus on ensuring advisers can offer DEFRA shopping slots those who find themselves due to CV locked down and unable to shop for food. This also supports the Somerset Local Outbreak Management Plan response.
- Attention is also focused on developing a process to channel businesses and individuals who find themselves in a redundancy position following the end of the furlough scheme, to the Helpline for financial, employment, mental health or upskilling support.
- Mindline received 473 calls this week making a running total of 5,542 calls over 18 weeks. In week four of this data the service went 24/7

Actions going forward

- To consider impact on those who were shielding in light of Government stepping down this programme.
- Progressing programme of food and activities to families across Summer Holidays.
- To develop a plan of key milestones as we work towards stabilisation and recovery

How to help / for information

Continued promotion/awareness of;

- Somerset Coronavirus Response & Recovery Fund 2nd phase of grant funding is now open and groups can apply for upto £10k via: www.somersetcf.org.uk/coronavirus. For information on how to donate to the appeal visit: <https://www.somersetcf.org.uk/appeal>.
- If you wish to help your local community, become a Corona helper! Register at <https://www.corona-helpers.co.uk/>
- The Somerset Coronavirus Support Helpline 0300 790 6275
- All Spark Somerset resources can be found at <https://www.sparksomerset.org.uk/covid-19>.
- Reminder that grants of up to £10,000 are available and to apply groups need to complete a short application form via: www.somersetcf.org.uk/coronavirus. For information on how to donate to the appeal visit: <https://www.somersetcf.org.uk/appeal>.
- For further information on Community Council for Somerset (CCS) please use link <https://ccslovesomerset.org/>
- [Mindline](#) – 24/7 emotional support helpline 01823 276 892
- [Bereavement Support Services](#)
- contact Marie Curie 0800 3047 412 Monday – Saturday 09.00-17.00.
- Somerset CAB Adviceline 03444 889623 10am – 4pm Monday – Friday
- <https://citizensadvicesomerset.org.uk/>

Active Travel Cell

Key points & next steps (*as of 30th July*)

- The cell is preparing to publish a members update which will set out a list of indicate Tranche 2 schemes that will be submitted to the DFT next week. As part of this update we shall also provide an indicative list of Tranche 1 schemes that will be continuing past 7 of August subject to funding.
- Schemes identified for Tranche 2 are considered to be within the latest guidance that DFT submitted earlier this week.
- We have stood up an additional meeting to review and sign off the content of our members update and capture progress for the Tranche 2 bid submission.

District	Town	Tranche 1 Scheme notes
Mendip	Frome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closure of Market Place, Palmer street (and therefore Catherine Hill and Stony Street) and King Street (and therefore Church Street and Eagle Lane). Implemented on 22nd June to coincide with Market Place closure. • No issues to report.
Mendip	Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedestrianise High Street from Farm Road to Vestry Road (where market normally takes place) • No issues to report.
Mendip	Wells	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced Scheme now: - closure of Market Place and a small section of the lower high Street • Wells City Council have indicated they would like to amend their closure to be day time only and they will manage this. Being reviewed.
Sedgemoor	Bridgwater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eastover / East Quay / Salmon Parade . One-way traffic movement to provide widened footpaths and facilitate safer cycling • No issues to report.
Sedgemoor	Bridgwater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedestrianisation of Cornhill to High Street • Scheme has now been amended so that it is only in place on Fridays to coincide with the market's operating hours.
Sedgemoor	Burnham on Sea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedestrianisation of High Street • Scheme has been partially removed. No issues
Somerset West & Taunton	Minehead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of some parking bays on The Avenue and The Parade to enable widening of footways • No issues.
Somerset West & Taunton	Taunton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedestrianisation of East Street • No issues to report.
South Somerset	Chard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedestrianisation of Holyrood Street except for delivery vehicles • No issues to report. Generally supported by community but minority not supporting.
South Somerset	Yeovil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedestrianisation of High Street and Middle Street

Economic Response & Recovery

Key points

- ***Business Intelligence** – Business intelligence group provides evidence to support response and recovery, gathered from district partners, business representative organisations, local and national surveys, national statistics and expert organisations and think tanks.
- **The latest Somerset Bulletin on the Economic Impact of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) is available online** at: www.somersetrends.org.uk/covid-19-bulletins - includes latest labour market data released on 16th July, as well as data on uptake of furloughing and self-employment support schemes.
- Feeding headline business issues (incl. challenges relating to Govt financial support) LEP weekly response to BEIS. Oxford Economics preparing economic projections/scenarios on COVID impact and recovery for Somerset and the wider region – SCC feedback on draft report given and awaiting final version.
- **Somerset business survey on the economic impacts of COVID and sentiments/plans regarding recovery went live on 24 July. Results and analyses due late-August.** <https://somersetnewsroom.com/2020/07/24/understanding-the-business-impacts-of-coronavirus-in-somerset/>
- **Small Business Grant Fund As of the 26th of July, 11,034 grants have now been awarded, with circa 85.3% of eligible claims processed and 86.8% of total funding now distributed.** All claims for this original scheme must be processed by **the 28th of August** before funds are returned to central government, leading to a renewed push for distribution this week.
- The new discretionary grants scheme has been launched across the districts, with circa 1080 applications, although a significant number (circa 360) have been rejected due to ineligibility. Much of this funding from the discretionary grant pot has now been distributed across districts.
- * **Local Solutions to Gaps In Local Support for Business**
 - **Working with partners to identify gaps in support and any vulnerabilities in local business support infrastructure – a phased programme of activity will be launched under the Business Rates Retention Scheme – a scheme for clusters/peer networks has just launched offering grants to establish/grow networks.** Has been a good response so far with a mix of local and strategic applications; closing date is 31 July. Additional support will be phased over the coming months to supplement Growth Hub support and respond to local need.
 - **Somerset's Skill Up Service supplying general and bespoke advice to employers on managing their apprentices and other training needs as their businesses diversify to reflect need.**
- * **Employment/Self Employment**
 - **Interventions, under the Business Rates Retention scheme, are being developed to provide a holistic package of employment and skills support to both business and individuals. This will include, but is not limited to, development of an online "hub", support to individuals impacted, mentoring for Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs), recruitment/skills fairs, establishment of employment hubs**

actions going forward

- **Business Intelligence** - Analyse business survey results and disseminate findings mid-late August
- **Comms** – Continuing to promote the Love Somerset Buy Local campaign taking place until mid August.
- Recovery plan – stakeholder engagement, building of evidence and prioritisation of projects and programmes proposed

How to help

- Share/retweet 'Love Somerset Buy Local' campaign posts on social media to help promote our small/micro businesses and farm businesses
- Promote the COVID Business Survey among local businesses and networks – www.somerset.gov.uk/businessrecoverysurvey
- Please keep aware of any information regarding companies /sectors that could be at risk of redundancies and feed this back on a confidential basis to the Recovery and Economic Response cell
- Raising local awareness of the Small Business Grant Fund and the support available to businesses via the Growth Hub

Economic Response & Recovery



BUSINESS GRANTS

11,034

NO. CLAIMS PROCESSED AND PAID



*Figures correct as of 24th July 2020

*Note: All grants must be processed by 28th August before funds are returned

In response to the Coronavirus, Covid-19, the Government announced there would be support for small businesses, and businesses in the retail, hospitality and leisure sectors.



87%

% ELIGIBLE CLAIMS PROCESSED

12,935

TOTAL NO. ELIGIBLE BUSINESSES COUNTY WIDE



£131,520,000

TOTAL VALUE PAID £



Unavailable

TOTAL CLAIMS RECEIVED FROM BUSINESSES



Unemployment benefit Claimant Data Breakdown in Somerset Districts

Unemployment benefit Claimant Data Breakdown	March-20			Increase from March-20 to		Total No. of Claimants as of May-20	No. of new claimants from March-20 to May-20
	Rate	April-20 Rate	May-20 Rate	May-20	May-20		
Mendip	2.3	4.5	5.6	+3.3		3755	2175
	2.8	4.7	5.6	+2.8		4020	2005
Sedgemoor							
South Somerset	1.9	3.8	4.7	+2.8		4495	2630
Somerset West & Taunton	2.2	4	4.9	+2.7		4315	2405
Somerset	2.3	4.2	5.1	+2.8		16,590	9220
South West	2.2	4.3	5.4	+3.2		184,250	108,560
United Kingdom	3.0	5.1	6.4	+3.4		2,675,250	1,406,630

Official

Improving LIVES

SCC Recovery & Renewal Board

The Board will ensure fitness for purpose of council projects and programmes, and make sure SCC works in partnership to deliver recovery and renewal across the county

Work under way

- Review of the Board has been carried out now that it has been operating for a short while. Improvements include strengthened comms.
- H2HY (Help to Help Yourself) prevention project has been approved by SLT to proceed – subject to rescope in light of Covid19 impacts

Return
(what we need to go back to)

Retain
(what new practices will we keep)

Resist
(what will we avoid returning to)

Radical
(new things would we like to see going forward)

Somerset Multi-agency Recovery Coordination Group (MARCG)

The group will bring partners together to maximise **collaboration**, understand impact and deliver recovery activity whilst sustaining necessary response activity

Updates this week

- Handover certificate signed off to allow handover of major incident to local authority control from 28th August.
- Cabinet Office Horizon Scanning document looking at future challenges including risk of a second wave
- LRF Recovery Strategy launched in the next two weeks.
- Local Outbreak Engagement Board first meeting tomorrow. Scenario planning on managing outbreaks is being carried out.
- PHE Better Health Campaign and Obesity Strategy have implications for recovery: opportunities being explored.

Coming up / next steps

- Review and transition preparation as we move towards handover and
- On 6th August MARCG will review EU transition risks in terms of Covid-19 recovery

Transport and Logistics Cell

20/07/20

Key Points

PPE

- Discussions around the central warehousing model have taken place and it was decided not to pursue this now but keep going with the current set-up.
- Temporary Warehouse Manager appointed.

Actions Going Forward / Recovery

Patient Transport

12 vehicles being returned. 9 left with drivers (from end of August).

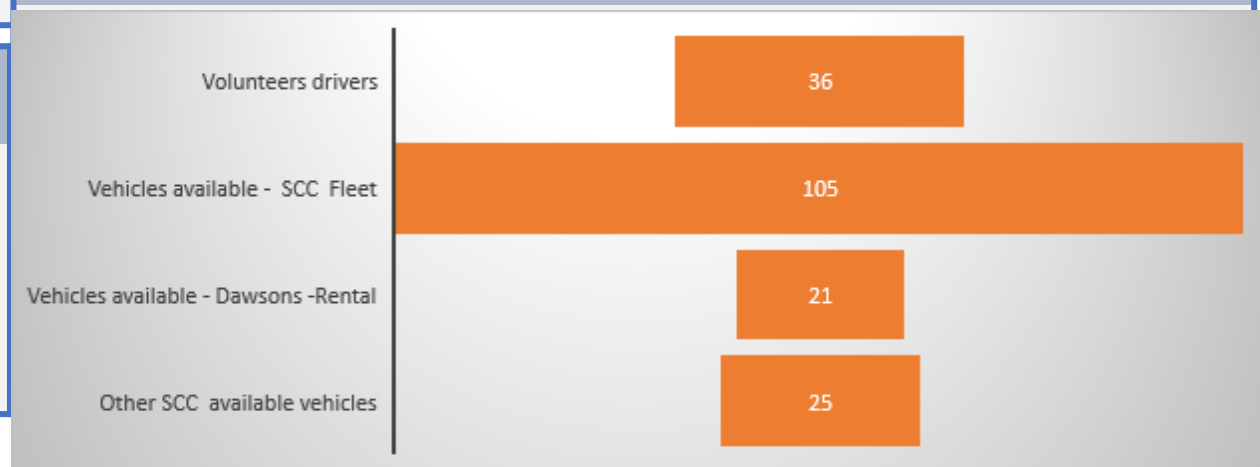
Renal Patient transport	Oncology Patient transport	Food parcels-school meals	PPE deliveries
172	235	0	48



Logistic Requests:

Two requests during the week – one to a care home at Stratton-on-the-Fosse (near Radstock) and one to Sedgemoor District Council in Bridgwater.

Resources:



Health and Social Care – 31/7/2020

(SCC contribution to H&SC Tactical Cells)

Key points

Somerset Business Recovery Survey issued via District Councils' Economic development teams, aiming to understanding the Impacts of COVID-19 on local businesses; specific section has been included to determine impacts on local care market. www.somerset.gov.uk/businessrecoverysurvey Survey will help capture info related to workforce, financial sustainability etc

Infection Control Grant distribution: The second tranche of the Infection Control Fund is expected to reach Local Authorities imminently; our Finance Team will then start processing the second and final allocations to local Care Homes having already made payments to homecare/extra care housing and supported living provision in full. We will distribute first to all homes who have signed grant agreements/completed the reporting requirements for Tranche 1. The Government have now published a table of data from local authorities on how they spent the first tranche of ICF funding (see [here](#))

ICF 1 st tranche	Proportion of LA allocation spent on measures to isolate residents within their own care homes	Proportion of LA allocation spent on actions to restrict staff movement within care homes	Proportion of LA allocation spent on paying staff full wages while isolating following a positive test	Proportion of LA allocation spent on other measures
Somerset	22%	18%	13%	47%
England	21%	25%	19%	34%

Quarantine rules The service is monitoring the potential impact, particularly on the local care market, of recent quarantine rules introduced for people returning from Spain due to a rise in COVID+ cases. Exploring whether the Infection Control Grant funds could be utilized to support costs associated with staff absence/cover and promoting again the temporary/emergency staffing bank solutions available to local care providers in partnership with local Hospital Trusts.

Somerset Home Care Opportunities: Our home care market has worked incredibly hard and successfully over the COVID period, helping us collectively achieve our lowest ever sustained levels of unmet home care need and support individuals in a timely way.

PPE: Comms issued to care market reminding them of need to maintain focus on controlling transmission of the virus, despite low number of current cases/outbreaks and eased restrictions. Reinforced importance of hand hygiene and PPE use.

Good News:

31 care provider briefing emails have now been issued in past 17 weeks outlining latest guidance and practical support alongside dedicated webpage and regular engagement opportunities, helping to improve links and strengthen collaborative working with care providers in Somerset

Actions going forward

Communications

- Promotion of micro-providers: videos being launched <https://somersetnewsroom.com/2020/07/27/meet-the-hidden-heroes-of-somerset-growing-independent-care-market/>
- Present new model of intermediate care for winter 2020/21 to system chief execs with complete modelling and costing.
- Provider webinar arranged 5/8/20 for latest updates and developments, incl care home visiting guidance discussion
- #ProudtoCareSomerset:** Seeking care provider engagement to help us promote our care sector: Local Authority comms team is keen to put together a series of videos to help promote and champion the care sector in Somerset and has shared detail, advice and guidance about how the market can get involved.

How to help

- Directing providers in your local area to our provider webpage for useful info and responses to FAQs etc; <https://ssab.safeguardingsomerset.org.uk/covid19/>
- Talking Cafes - Live sessions are held every day at 11am. You can also watch the video offline and ask questions

For more information..

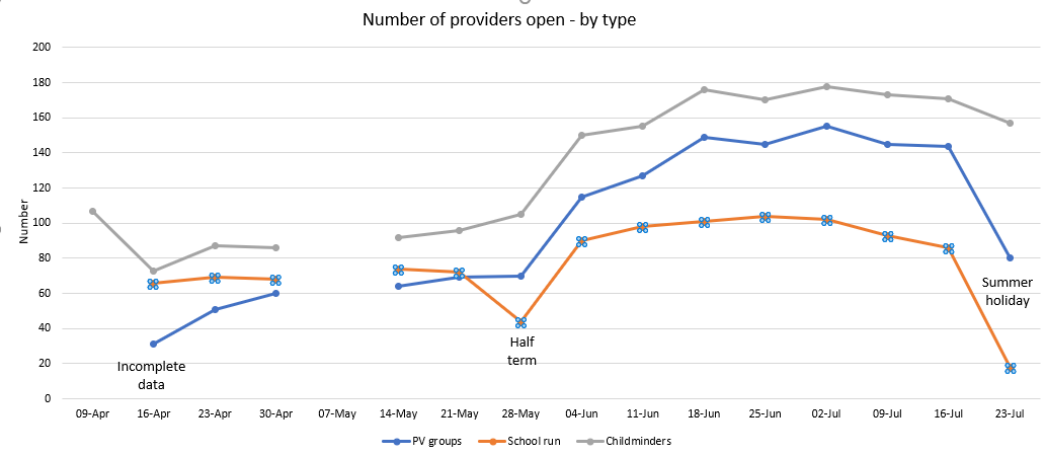
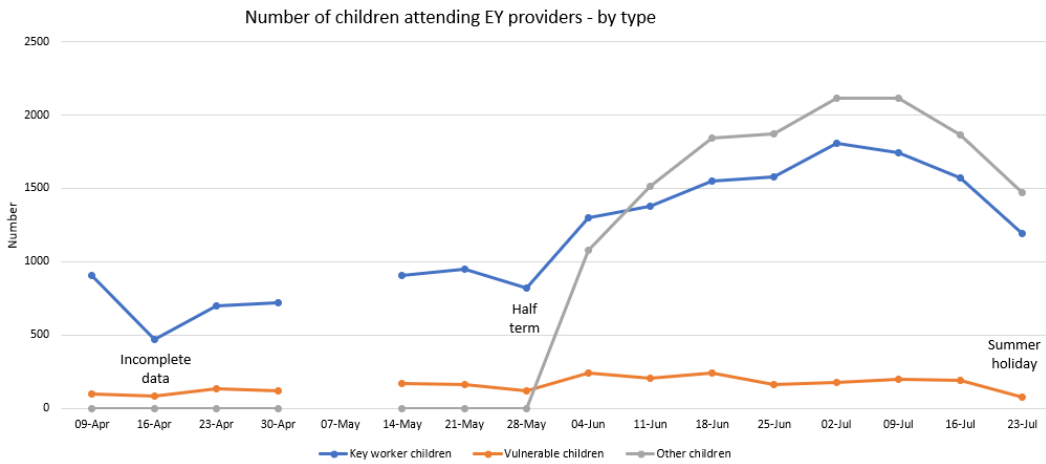
Link to video of our Community/Village agents;

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=zrh0hIMbn5E...>

Schools – Extending Provision

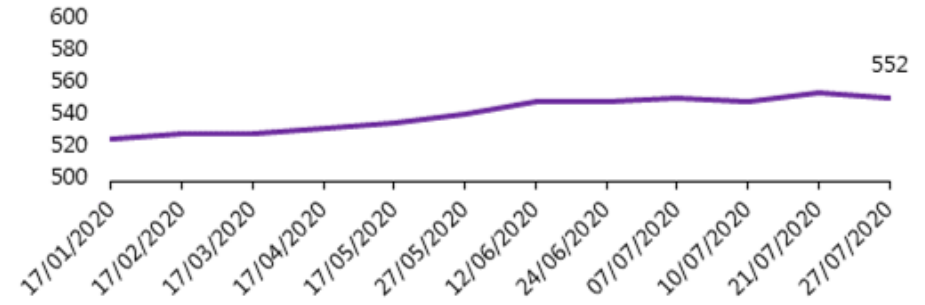
No school data due to commencement of summer holidays

Early Years Data:



Vulnerable Children

Children Looked After



Children's Social Care

