

LOCKDOWN UPDATE 10 October 2020

UPDATE FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLOR - 9th October

The news regarding Covid cases is not good and since Monday 5th October we have seen a significant increase of cases up from 700 to 785 in Stratford on Avon District as of 10am this morning. I have also been advised that the worst affected areas across our district are Stratford-upon-Avon, Studley, Stockton and Napton.

The number of cases therefore reported as of this morning across the county are now 3953 up from 3637 on 25 September. Further information has been requested from Public Health Warwickshire regarding our cases in the district

The situation regarding the 423 SWFT Hospital Beds remains similar to all the other stats provided a week ago, which means there are three confirmed cases of COVID-19 at present with one patient in the intensive care unit. The cumulative deaths across Stratford District remains at 168 with the deaths in care home remaining at 82 from a cumulative of 1184 'all cause deaths' in the district. The cumulative total of all COVID-19 deaths in Warwickshire remains at 601 and over the same period there have been 4080 non COVID-19 related deaths in Warwickshire. Across the county there has been a total of 212 COVID-19 deaths in care homes settings (no increase in the last week) compared to 1345 'all cause deaths' in care homes over the same period.

There are 54% of SWFT hospital beds occupied by Non-COVID-19 patients, 1% occupied with confirmed COVID-19 patients and 21% beds occupied with suspected COVID-19 patients and a spare capacity of 25% beds.

The following link leads to a mapping service available on the government website <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=47574f7a6e454dc6a42c5f6912ed7076>

Compared to the wider West Midlands Region, Warwickshire has a lower rate of positive cases, which is somewhat comforting. But this situation is very, very fluid and open to change in a matter of days.

Public Health Warwickshire is taking this situation extremely seriously and have already begun to plan its response to this new phase of the Pandemic. Warwickshire is expecting new national guidance on a 'traffic light' system to group local areas into three levels of restriction based upon a range of indicators including the numbers of 7-day positive tests. Our close neighbours in Solihull and Birmingham already have tighter restrictions, and Coventry may next week be in this position due to elevated case numbers. Inevitably this will lead to an increased duty on all of us to take extra care when moving around the Region. As is necessary, Warwickshire is urging staff to take all possible safeguards against spreading the virus and to both limit their movements and avoid unnecessary journeys.

In terms of transmission within Warwickshire, the contact tracing work has found that household to household transmission is a key feature, where people are mixing with family and friends without adequate protective measures in place. Mixing in hospitality venues is also indicated, and young and working age people form the majority of positive cases.

Whilst I haven't had the full set of figures for today, I have received an email from the Chief Executive of SDC at close of play to advise that SoA District is now at 94.5 cases per 100,000. Extreme vigilance is therefore required and it is imperative that we all follow and adhere to all the guidelines.

Take care and let's all do the right thing to keep our communities safe, particularly elderly and vulnerable residents.

Anne

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