

Dear Councillor

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (PERFORMANCE AND GROWTH) -
WEDNESDAY, 8TH JULY 2020**

I am now able to enclose for consideration at the above meeting the following reports that were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

**Agenda Item
No.**

4. RECOVERY REPORT (Pages 143 - 210)

The Panel are to receive the Recovery Report.

(a) EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

To resolve:

that the press and public be excluded from the meeting because the business to be transacted contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

(b) ANNEXE 1 (Pages 211 - 212)

Members are to discuss the contents of Annexe 1.

(c) RE-ADMITTANCE OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

To resolve:

that the press and public be re-admitted to the meeting.

5. DECISION TRACKER (Pages 213 - 216)

The Decision Tracker is to be presented to the Panel. Members are expected to review the document and make comments.

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Public
Key Decision - No

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Title/Subject Matter: Recovery planning for Huntingdonshire: the impact of Covid-19

Meeting/Date: Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Performance and Growth) – 8th July 2020

Executive Portfolio: Executive Leader, Councillor R Fuller

Report by: Managing Director

Wards affected: All

Executive Summary:

The onset of the global pandemic does have significant local impacts and whilst up until now the focus has been on responding to the immediate consequences, we have for a while begun starting to shift focus to the longer term requirements of recovery. This report presents the initial conclusions of research into understanding the impact of Covid within our communities and our place. It is the starting point for recovery planning and creates a baseline against which the recovery can be mapped.

The impact assessment is a living document, and as such does have gaps since data is not always available in real time; it will be maintained as a working document for as long as it has value.

Recommendation(s):

1. Overview and Scrutiny accept the impact assessment as a comprehensive summary of the impacts of Covid-19 on Huntingdonshire.
2. Overview and Scrutiny are asked to support the construction of recovery plans based on the themes of:
 - Economy
 - Environment
 - Social
 - Community

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The impacts, both direct and indirect, of Covid-19 are wide ranging and we should seek to understand what has happened before we formalise any plans for recovery. The Community Impact Assessment(App1) sets out what we know but also looks at the issues that need further research. The assessment is the starting point for the planning of recovery but it is by no means the end point, as new evidence will emerge over coming weeks and months. Recovery will be a long term commitment, which will involve all parts of the community: local people; businesses and employers; voluntary sector agencies; local volunteers; other public agencies and national government; and, every person attached to the council, Members and officers alike.
- 1.2 Everyone will have a part to play and the recovery plan will involve engagement with stakeholders. The aim is to prepare for a sustainable recovery plan which will reflect the unique strengths and opportunities faced by Huntingdonshire; and will reflect the needs of the people and place and the role of elected Members will be central to ensuring that the plans are grounded in the reality of our communities.
- 1.3 Covid-19 has reset the boundaries for how local government operates within the wider public sector system. For our communities it has caused reflection on what is important and for our business community it is likely to result in seismic change, particularly in who exists and how they operate. The pandemic has hit different parts of our geography differently and communities, and their residents, who were already deemed to be disadvantaged have according to the evidence experienced a greater impact.
- 1.4 There have been extraordinary changes in how the council operates, in how our residents interact with the council, often resulting in things that we have spent many years aspiring to deliver in policies and plans having now been achieved in just a few months. The opportunity exists to ensure some of these positive changes endure for the longer term. Finally, if we do not plan, then the already skewed impact of the pandemic will become hard wired into the community and the opportunities for a strong response will be lost.

2. OPTIONS CONSIDERED/ANALYSIS

- 2.1 As individual organisations the public services in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough will be setting ambitions and making plans for individual agency recovery, based on local need. Local plans will need to have regard to these and ensure that the maximum benefit accrues to local communities.

- 2.2 The disruption caused by Covid-19 has been unprecedented. The economic impacts are set to be considerable, with many commentators suggesting that the recovery will need to be thought of in terms of years. The social impacts have not fallen equally across our communities and the evidence is indicating that there is a likelihood that the most obvious impact will be to increase the underlying inequalities that predated the pandemic, whether they relate to personal circumstances or access to opportunity. The evidence demonstrating the profile of impact is set out in App 1. The challenge for recovery is to balance the response to the immediate situation but to also allow for any subsequent waves of potentially both infections, and of any second order consequences.
- 2.3 The Council's finances have been impacted both in terms of additional costs incurred and income foregone, and these factors will be included in recovery plans. However, the predicted demand patterns suggest that with unemployment rates likely to be increasing, demand will rise across all safeguarding services, housing, benefits, and some emergency services and this type of more detailed demand analysis will be considered as part of the recovery plans which will emerge.
- 2.4 The need for robust recovery plans means that the normal cycle of a discrete Corporate Plan will be replaced by a combined plan which will set out the Council's ambitions, and strategy to respond to the impacts of Covid in a single document. The likely timescale is to aim for a draft proposal for the autumn, subject to no local outbreaks during the summer months.
- 2.5 The recovery plans are built for Huntingdonshire by the council will be part of a wider system involving other stakeholders and the ambition is not to focus recovery as a series of silos or organisations but to collectively work toward desired outcomes, though the development of a better integrated system based on the principles of common purpose, learning the lessons from the last 3 months and the understanding that our current policies and strategies may need to be revisited.
- 2.6 All of this implies risks; we are coming out of a period of managing risks of an unknown nature and we will continue to respond proportionately as we move into a period of new opportunity. A clear evidence base of the sort presented here will be instrumental in enabling us to quantify and appropriately manage this risk.

3. KEY IMPACTS / RISKS

3.1 The risks surrounding the pandemic have been monitored and managed throughout the response phase; as recovery comes to the fore a separate review of risks will be undertaken and managed accordingly.

4. WHAT ACTIONS WILL BE TAKEN/TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 The endorsement of the impact assessment will allow the formal planning process to begin based on the four main themes outlined in the report. The timescale will depend on the communities' exposure to further waves of Covid-19 but the target is to have a draft ready for consultation during the autumn

5. LINK TO THE CORPORATE PLAN, STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND/OR CORPORATE OBJECTIVES

5.1 The proposal is for a single plan to be prepared which captures both the objectives of the Corporate Plan and the recovery activity.

6. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDED DECISIONS

6.1 The Council's response to the pandemic will set out the ambitions for Huntingdonshire over the coming years. It will be based on analysis of evidence and the Community Impact Assessment marks the first stage in that process.

7. LIST OF APPENDICES INCLUDED

Appendix 1 – Community Impact Assessment

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COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT, SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY RECOVERY)

| <u>Stage</u> | <u>Reviewer</u> | <u>Consultation</u> |
|----------------------------------|--|---|
| <u>Version 1.0 (26 May)</u> | <u>Emma Charter</u> | <u>David Edwards</u> |
| <u>Version 1.1 (1 June)</u> | <u>David Edwards</u> | <u>Emma Charter</u> |
| <u>Version 1.2 (17 June)</u> | <u>Emma Charter</u> | <u>Economy and Environment Recovery</u> |
| <u>Version 1.3 (19 June)</u> | <u>Emma Charter</u> <u>David Edwards</u> | <u>Joanne Lancaster</u> <u>Oliver Morley</u> |
| <u>Version 2.0 (22 June)</u> | <u>Emma Charter</u> <u>Daniel Buckridge</u> <u>Claudia Deeth</u> <u>David Edwards</u> <u>Oliver Morley</u> | <u>Senior Leadership Team</u> |

Introduction

This impact assessment relates to the recovery of the Huntingdonshire district from the effects of Covid-19, focussing on the key areas of the local economy, our local environment, wider local community and social effects. The document will provide an assessment of the impact of the pandemic within our communities and incorporate information from our wider partners and agencies, as detailed in the Consultation Table. This assessment will use official/locally collected data to present a current baseline of how our people and our local businesses have been affected. Whilst this document addresses the economic, social and environmental impacts district wide, recovery [action plans](#) have been developed, relating to urban spaces/high streets located within our market towns, St Ives, Huntingdon, St Neots and Ramsey. Wider, knock on effects, such as public concerns around safety and associated behaviour, the potential for further spikes in the number of COVID-19 cases (and the response that will be required), the phasing out and conclusion of the furlough scheme, the latter likely to result in significant job losses have not been considered in detail but will be addressed as the plan progresses. The risk and impact section has been scored by a panel of officers based on current understanding of the situation and the data available. This will change as we get access to new information.

Information on the Incident (Covid-19)

The incident is at an international level, with national, regional, and local interventions. Much of the recovery will be influenced by national decisions. Whilst data from Public Health England shows the level of new cases and deaths have started to reduce nationally, there are still significant concerns amongst the public over safety with the longer-term impact on health and behaviour unknown. For example see results from the Opinions and Lifestyles survey from the National for Statistics.

There were 478 lab confirmed Covid-19 cases within Huntingdonshire up to the 10 June 2020. The cumulative lab-confirmed cases rate for the district was 269.5, which is higher than the County average (189.7) and regional rate (237.7) but was lower than the rates on a national level on this date.

Sources: Public Health England, 21/06/2020 <https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/>

About Huntingdonshire – People and Place

Huntingdonshire is the largest district in Cambridgeshire, with a population of 178,000 and a land area of over 900 square km (350 square miles). The district is predominately rural in nature but the settlement pattern gives a close to 50/50 urban/rural split in terms of population distribution. In addition to the market towns of Huntingdon, Ramsey, St Ives and St Neots, Huntingdonshire contains one other town, Godmanchester, and a large number of villages of varying sizes, hamlets and isolated dwellings in the countryside across 80 parishes.

Demography

Huntingdonshire has a slightly older than average population, with 14.8% of the district's residents over 70 compared to 13.4% nationally. Health and life expectancy are better than average, with 84.5% describing their health as 'Very Good' / 'Good' in the 2011 Census, although a high proportion are overweight (68%). Residents are predominantly "White British" but the district has over 8,000 BAME residents.

Towns and Villages

Outside the towns the larger settlements have a range of services such as a primary school, a range of shops, public transport services, a community meeting place, a general practitioner's surgery and a range

of employment opportunities. These settlements often play a role in providing services for residents of nearby smaller villages and countryside areas. See Appendix 1 for a summary of services in key places.

Community Involvement

There are currently 71 Town/Parish Councils and 9 Parish Meetings listed on the District Council website. Huntingdonshire has a well-established community and voluntary sector, well supported by Hunts Forum.

Economy

Residents are more likely to be economically active and more likely to be in employment than average, with average wages for those living in the district (regardless of where they work) also above average. However, local jobs tend to pay lower wages as reflected in commuting patterns with over a third of employed residents travelling outside the district to work in 2011. A high proportion of local employment is linked to the manufacturing industry at nearly 15% compared to a national average of just over 8%.

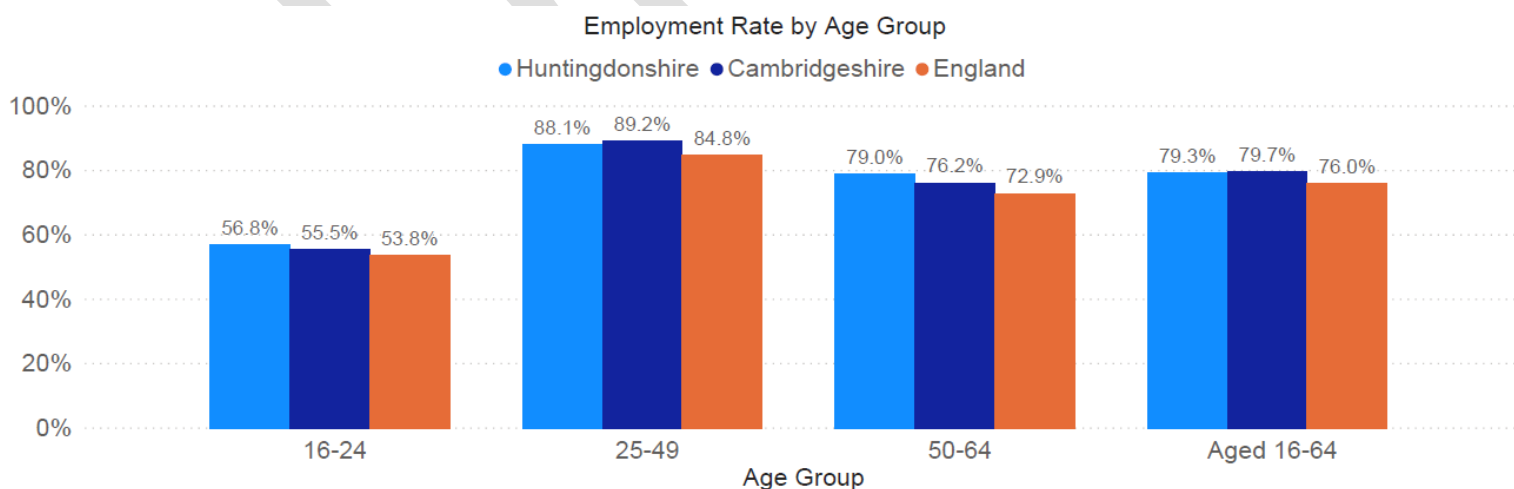
Beyond the physical geography, Huntingdonshire is part of three economic geographies - Greater Cambridge, Greater Peterborough and the Fens - as stated in the [Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Economic Review](#), which was developed by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Economic Commission.

Economic Profile

Employment

The Annual Population Survey (APS) Jan 2019 – Dec 2019 from the Office for National Statistics, states 82.3% of the people who live in Huntingdonshire and are aged between 16 and 64 are economically active. The employment rate for this age group was 85,500 (Jan 2019 – Dec 2019) which equates to 79.3% of the district. This is higher than the employment rate in England of 76.0%.

The graph below shows how the employment rate (number of people in employment expressed as a percentage of all people aged 16-64 from the APS) in Huntingdonshire compares with the Cambridgeshire County and England. Three quarters (75.2%) of 16 – 64 year olds in employment worked full time, which is slightly lower than Cambridgeshire County (77.1%) but similar to England of 75.3%.



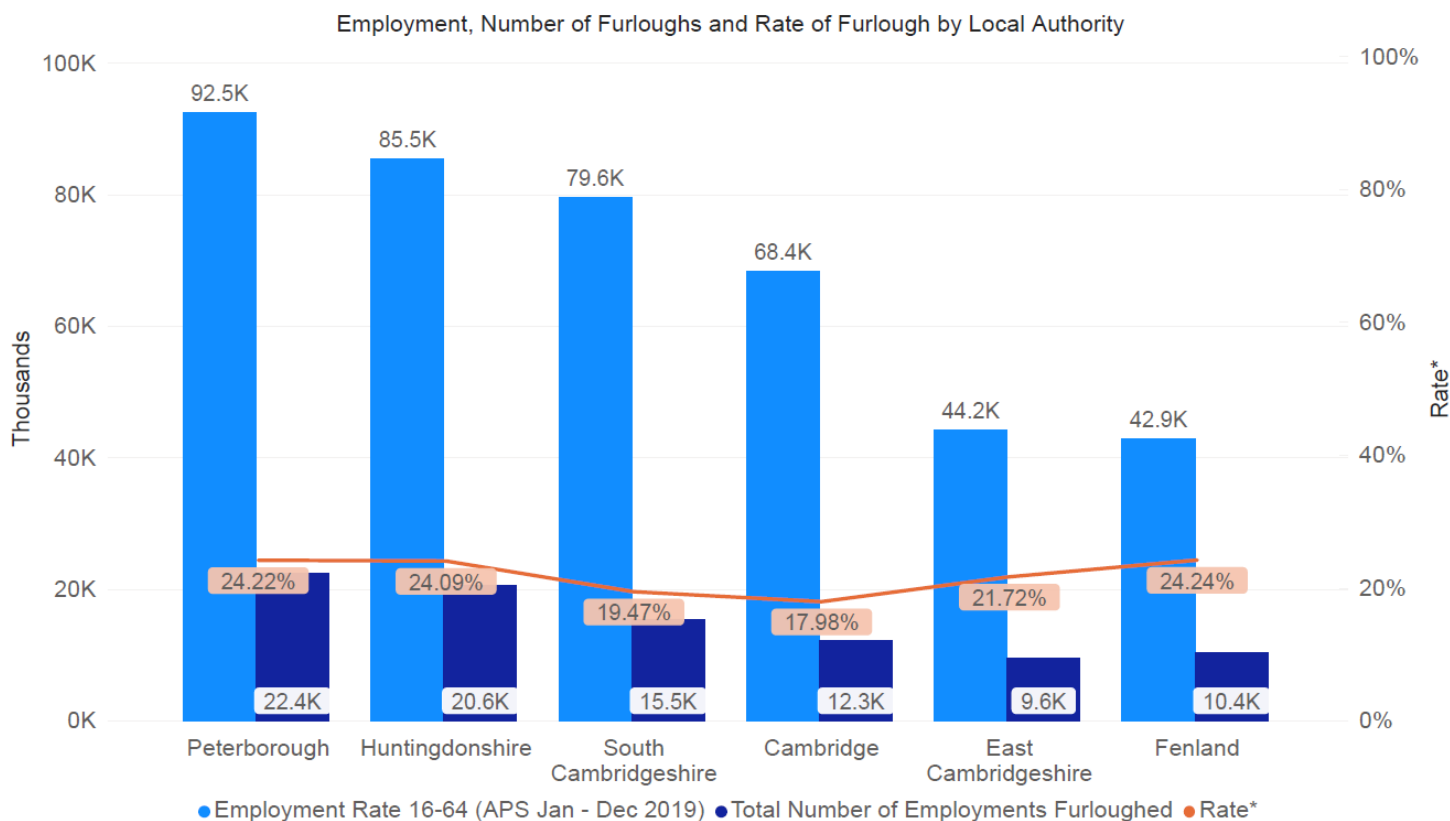
Sources: Office for National Statistics (ONS) Annual Population Survey Jan 2019 – Dec 2019

<https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/aps>

ONS, Annual Population Survey Jan 2019 – Dec 2019 via Cambridgeshire Insight

<https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/economy/report/view/63a04d7b08954ee396395366ac5e2dbc/E07000011>

Claims submitted by employers from the start of the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) up to 31 May 2020 showed there were a total of 20,600 CJRS furloughed employments within Huntingdonshire (24.09%). The overall Cambridgeshire County rate was 21.34%, in England this was 24.36%. Huntingdonshire is ranked 105th out of 188 District Councils, a ranking of 1 is the district with the highest rate of furloughed employments.



The graph above shows how Huntingdonshire compares to other Local Authorities. There has not been any data produced on sector furlough rates at Local Authority levels. The sector with the highest employments furloughed (1.6m) in the United Kingdom is Wholesale and retail, repair of motor vehicles, by 161,900 employers, with a value of claims made totalling over £3.3m.

*The rate of furlough is calculated by dividing the number of employments furloughed (any age) by the number of people aged 16-64 in employment as this is the only data available. However, both locally and nationally, most people employed are aged 16-64 so this measure should provide reasonable comparison between areas.

Sources: HM Revenue & Customs Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme statistics : June 2020

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/coronavirus-job-retention-scheme-statistics-june-2020>

Office for National Statistics Annual Population Survey Jan 2019 – Dec 2019 via Cambridgeshire Insight

<https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/economy/report/view/63a04d7b08954ee396395366ac5e2dbc/E07000011>

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<https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/economy/report/view/63a04d7b08954ee396395366ac5e2dbc/E06000031/>

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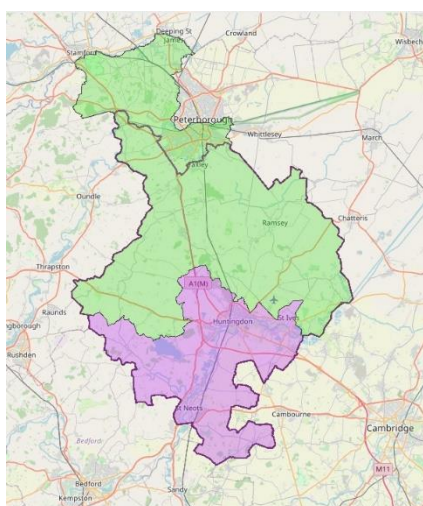
<https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/economy/report/view/63a04d7b08954ee396395366ac5e2dbc/E07000012/>

<https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/economy/report/view/63a04d7b08954ee396395366ac5e2dbc/E07000008/>

The 2011 Census showed only 64.5% of Huntingdonshire’s employed residents worked within the district, so our ability to support the security of jobs within Huntingdonshire is limited to the employers within our boundaries. We have limited influence over job losses made by employers outside of our district and these impacts may be felt in our local economy and communities due to the number of commuters that live here.

When considering the area by parliamentary constituency, the following table shows that the Huntingdon parliamentary constituency (including the three market towns of St Neots, Huntingdon and St Ives) had a higher rate of furloughed employments compared to the more rural setting in the north of Huntingdon to Yaxley.

| Type of Area | Geographical Area | Total number of people aged 16 - 64 in employment | Total number of employments furloughed | Rate* |
|--|---|---|--|-------|
| Local Authority | Huntingdonshire | 85,500 | 20,600 | 24.1% |
| Huntingdon Parliamentary Constituency | Southern part of the district including St Neots, Huntingdon & St Ives (purple area on map) | 53,500 | 14,100 | 26.4% |
| Outside Huntingdonshire Parliamentary Constituency | North of Huntingdon to District Border (part of green area on map) | 32,000 | 6,500 | 20.3% |



According to data from the Inter Departmental Business Register, 65% of all the business enterprises in the district are located in the Huntingdon Parliamentary Constituency area and the remaining 35% fall within the North-West Cambridgeshire Parliamentary Constituency.

A study by the University of Southampton in April 2020 indicated that the economic impact of COVID-19 on the three largest towns in Huntingdonshire was likely to be slightly less than average (when compared to 800 others). This is based on the proportion of an area's residents who are employed in sectors most likely to have closed during lockdown.

| Town | Ranking* |
|------------|----------|
| St Neots | 589 |
| Huntingdon | 615 |
| St Ives | 687 |

*A ranking of 1 would be the town most economically at risk

Sources:

- 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics from Nomis <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census>
- Office for National Statistics, Inter Departmental Business Register, 2019 <https://www.ons.gov.uk/aboutus/whatwedo/paidservices/interdepartmentalbusinessregisteridbr>
- University of Southampton Article, April 2020 <https://www.southampton.ac.uk/news/2020/04/coastal-communities-covid19.page>
- Centre for Towns, Covid-19 and our Towns Report 23 April 2020 <https://www.centrefortowns.org/reports/covid-19-and-our-towns/viewdocument>

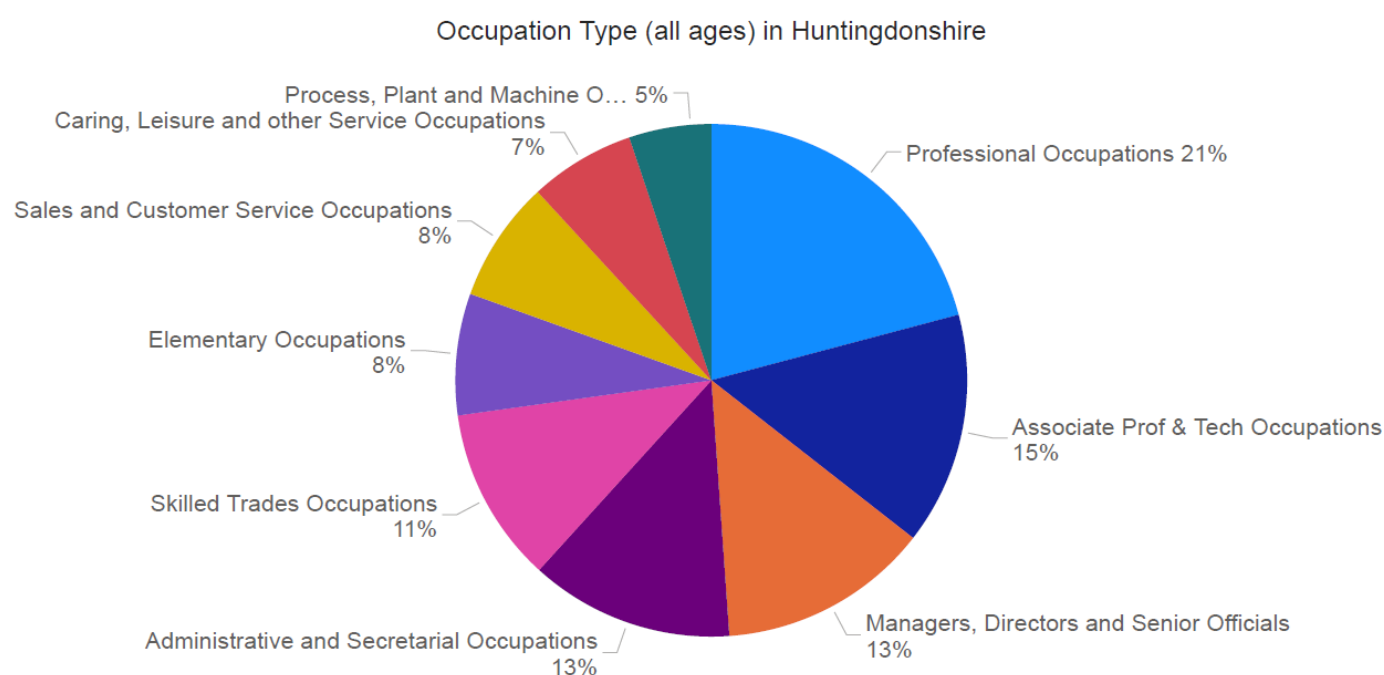
Sky News, 23/04/2020 (table published although the data set is not available)

<https://news.sky.com/story/coronavirus-coastal-and-ex-industrial-towns-most-economically-at-risk-11977233>

Wages and Occupations

For the tax year ending 5th April 2019, the median annual pay of the workforce (of all workers) in the district was £27,779 per annum, which was higher than when comparing the England median pay of just over £25,118. The average house price in Huntingdonshire (all property types based on sales and valuations) was £314,915 at December 2019. Data from the latest Cambridge Sub-Regional Housing Market Bulletin shows the median house price was 7.1 times the median household income and the lower quartile house price was 9.8 times the lower quartile household income at December 2019. While both ratios were slightly better than the regional average, they are higher than mortgage lenders are typically prepared to offer.

The graph below shows the proportion in employment by occupation type as at December 2019.



More than one-fifth of usual household spending has not been possible during the lockdown, Office for National Statistics analysis reveals. In the financial year ending March 2019, UK households spent an average of £182 per week on activities that have since been largely prevented by government guidelines (such as travel, holidays and meals out). This is equivalent to 22% of a usual weekly budget of £831, money that households could be saving, spending in other areas or using to cover any loss of income. Young people and those renting may find it difficult to cut back on spending because they spend a lower proportion of their budget on goods and services that are not essential. As at 24 June 2020, there is not data available at Local Authority level on how household spend has been impacted by Covid-19.

Sources:

Office for National Statistics Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings October 2019 (provisional)

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/earningsandworkinghours/datasets/pla-ceofresidencebylocalauthorityashetable8>

Hometrack house price data and CACI data on household incomes, as published in the [Cambridgeshire Sub-Regional Housing Market Bulletin](#))

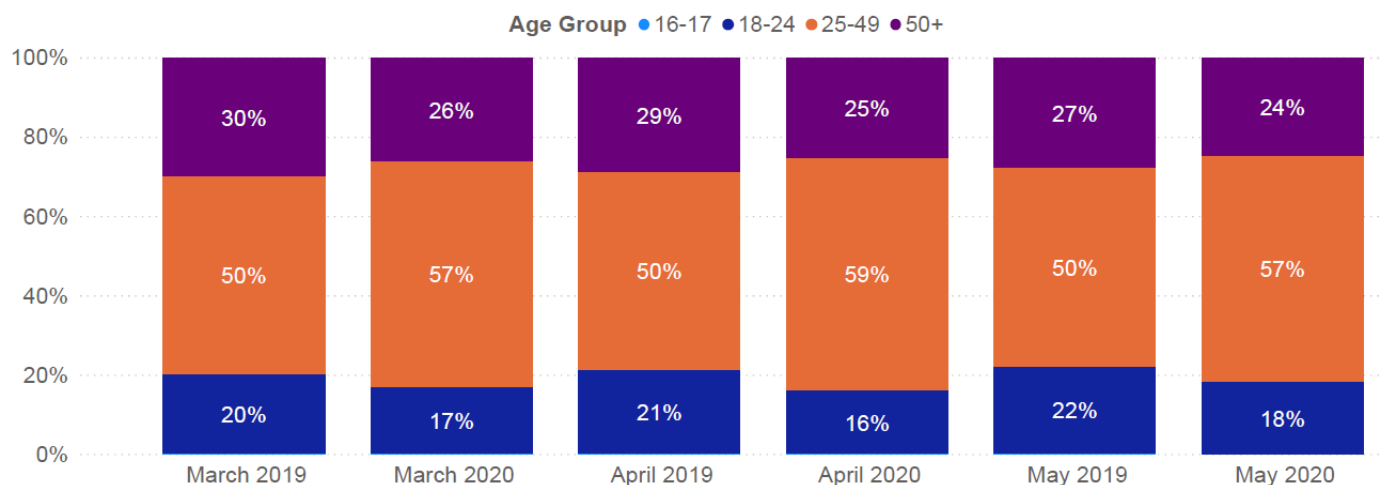
Office for National Statistics Annual Population Survey Jan 2019 – Dec 2019 via [Cambridgeshire Insight](https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/economy/report/view/63a04d7b08954ee396395366ac5e2dbc/E07000011)

Unemployment

In Huntingdonshire, 2.8% (3,025) of people aged 16+ were claiming Universal Credit and/or Job Seekers Allowance in April 2020. This increased to 4.2% in May 2020 with 4,645 claimants, which is nearly three times higher than the total in March. The Cambridgeshire average in May was 4.2% and nationally this was 6.5%. The table below shows the claimant counts, which is the number of people claiming benefit principally for the reason of being unemployed, for March, April and May 2020.

| Age Group | No of Claimants March 2020 | No of Claimants April 2020 | No of Claimants May 2020 | Increase March to May (% increase in brackets) |
|-----------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 16-17 | 5 | 10 | 10 | +5 (+100%) |
| 18-24 | 275 | 480 | 845 | +570 (+207%) |
| 25-49 | 935 | 1,780 | 2,655 | +1,720 (+183%) |
| 50+ | 425 | 760 | 1,135 | +710 (+167%) |
| Aged 16+ | 1,640 | 3,025 | 4,645 | +3,005 (+183%) |

Proportion of Claims by Age Group



The graph above shows the proportion of claims made by each age group in March, April and May 2020 compared to the same period of 2019. This data is taken as a snapshot on the same date each month and published monthly.

It is anticipated that young people will be most adversely affected by the loss of jobs in the gig economy. In the UK young workers are most concentrated in the distribution (21.4%) and accommodation and food services (16.3%) industries. They also constitute a large proportion of workers on non-standard forms of employment (for example, zero-hours contracts) nationally. In the period April to June 2019, ONS states that in the UK the 16 to 24 years age group had the largest proportion of its members on zero-hours contracts (8.8%), followed by the 65 years and older age group (with 4.0%).

Sources:

Department for Work and Pensions, Office National Statistics Claimant Count from NOMIS: 16 June 2020

<https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/cc>

BBC News, 18 May 2020 <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-52717942>

Self-Employment

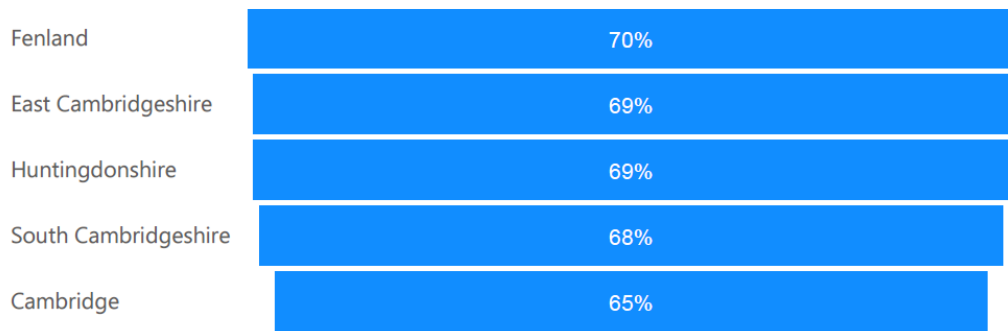
There was a total of 13,900 self-employed people in Huntingdonshire aged 16 and over, as at December 2019 (APS) which is 12.1% of people aged 16-64 who were employed. This is slightly higher than Cambridgeshire (10.1%) and in England, 11.1%.

The Self-employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS) claims in Huntingdonshire to 31 May 2020 were made by 69% of self-employed people who were potentially eligible to claim, with an average value of £3,200.

of claims
the East
England
was 71%.

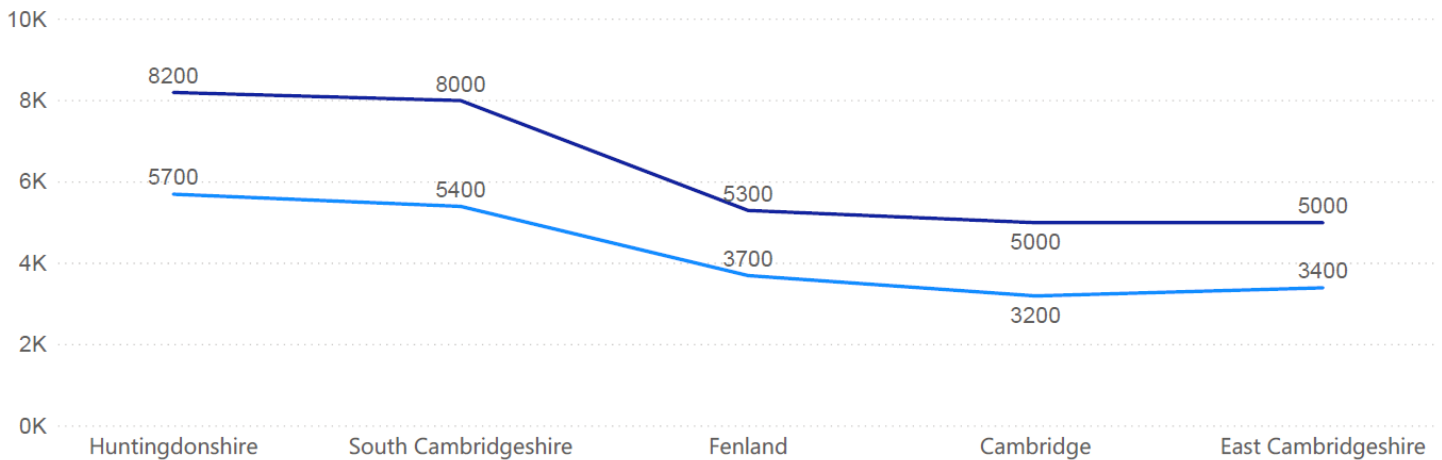
The rate
made in
of
overall

SEISS Take-Up Rate by Local Authority



SEISS Claims Made to 31/05/2020

● Total no. of claims made ● Total potentially eligible population



Sources:

HM Revenue & Customs, Self-employment Income Support Scheme Statistics : June 2020

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/self-employment-income-support-scheme-statistics-june-2020>

Local Businesses

There were 7,930 enterprises (an enterprise can be thought of as the overall business) within Huntingdonshire as at March 2019 and nearly 90% are described as 'micro' employing up to 9 people according to the Inter Departmental Business Register, published by the ONS.

According to ONS, monthly gross domestic product (GDP) for the UK fell by 20.4% in April which is the largest monthly contraction on record. Manufacturing and construction saw significant falls of 10.5% and 18.2% respectively. Manufacturing and retail are the largest GVA contributors in Huntingdonshire.

Further assessments of the impact from Covid-19 are being undertaken through the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority which includes work with the Greater Cambridge Partnership. ¹ Further information is enclosed within Annexe 1 (Restricted)

The table below shows Huntingdonshire District Council estimates of the number of grants expected to be paid out at the start of the recent grant schemes to local businesses. This shows that there were a significant number of businesses operating in the Retail, Hospitality, Leisure sectors at March 2020.

| Grant Name | No of grants expected to be paid out at the start of the scheme |
|---|---|
| Small Business Grant | 1,930 |
| Retail, Hospitality, Leisure <£15k Grant | 322 |
| Retail, Hospitality, Leisure >£15k<£51k Grant | 402 |
| Total | 2,654 |

Some businesses, including many public sector and front line NHS services, have continued to operate as usual, however where services can be run remotely many have changed their working practices on at least a temporary basis. According to the Opinions and Lifestyle Survey (OPN) from the ONS nearly half of all working adults (49%) had worked from home between 11 and 14 June 2020, an increase from 41% the previous week.

The Economic Development Team have invited businesses in Huntingdonshire to take part in two consultations. The Business Impact Survey opened on 21st May and had received 450 responses as at 31st May from over 9000 targeted emails and social media promotion. A Business Restart Survey has collected 459 responses to 5th June 2020. Whilst this survey is still being completed by businesses and analysis is yet to be done, the early responses tell us that around 42% of the businesses that have taken part have said they have paused trading and nearly 2% have ceased trading entirely.

The three steps to begin to lift the measures imposed in response to Covid-19 commenced on 13th May and between the 1st and 15th June, some schools and businesses, including non-essential shops, reopened. From the 4th July, some remaining businesses such as hairdressers, social spaces such as cinemas and pubs will be allowed to reopen. In the retail and leisure sector many hotels are closed and although some businesses have altered their business models (supermarkets expanding home delivery) and restaurants providing take out services, the majority of businesses in these sectors remain closed.

Sources:

Office for National Statistics, Inter Departmental Business Register, via Nomis 2019

<https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157208/report.aspx#tabempunemp>

Office for National Statistics, GDP Monthly Estimate, UK: April 2020, released 12 June 2020

Environment Profile

The availability of publicly accessible open space provides valuable opportunities for informal recreation and sport and is important in helping people to lead healthy lifestyles. It is also essential to wildlife and biodiversity by creating new habitats and helping to protect against habitat fragmentation.

In 2011, there was 4,300 hectares of open space in Huntingdonshire, the majority of which is natural green space. Sites such as Hinchingsbrooke Country Park and Paxton Pits Nature Reserve are run by the Council with support from volunteers. Huntingdonshire has a significant amount of strategic open space with the majority of the district's settlements having good levels of accessible strategic open space per 1,000 population. As visitor numbers to our parks and green spaces are not collected, it is not possible to state levels of activity seen before or during lockdown in our local open spaces available to the public.

One key site within the district is The Great Fen, although the majority of its nature reserves have remained open, visitors have been requested to continue to follow social distancing guidelines to help control the spread of Covid-19. Grafham Water closed at the end of March and remained closed until 2 June 2020; some facilities are still closed to ensure the site can continue to meet with government guidance.

Cambridgeshire County Council closed the three Household Recycling Centres within the district on 24th March and reopened only to vehicles not requiring a permit on 11th May for the disposal of essential waste. Vehicles requiring a permit could book a place to dispose of waste from 1 June. Subsequently a booking system was introduced to help reduce traffic queues and waiting times for all vehicles from 22 June 2020 to Alconbury or Bluntisham sites and from 29 June 2020 to St Neots.

During April and May 2020 (during the CCC Household Recycling Centres closure period), fly tip investigations by the Enforcement Team at HDC doubled across the district from 38 to 84 from the previous year. The type of waste fly tipped was household related. This has resulted in a number of investigations (approx. 28 at 25 June 2020) which are backlogged due to the redeployment of staff to help vulnerable people across the district and the inability to conduct face to face interviews with persons of interest. Further impact will continue due to the backlog at courts and prioritisation of cases. The Street Cleansing Team also report that litter in the open spaces owned by HDC has increased dramatically during the lockdown period and as a result have deployed more bin capacity at select parks to cope with this.

Levels of household waste has increased during the lockdown period, resulting in 135 additional lorry loads of dry recycling and garden waste and 60 additional lorry loads of refuse collected. Further analysis on the levels of household waste has not yet been completed at the time of this report. Communication by the Council has advised our residents on how to safely dispose of all personal Covid-19 waste such as used tissues.

The Environment Agency monthly water situation report in May 2020 states that East Anglia had the driest month of May since the year 1891. Reservoir levels have decreased at all indicator sites during May with 60% reporting normal levels and 40% reporting below normal levels. This source (nor any alternative sources) does not reference Covid-19 as having an impact on water consumption, so at the point of

publication it has not been possible to determine any possible links. May 2020 was also the sunniest calendar month on record in England, according to Met Office Statistics.

As at 24 June 2020, there has not been a source of evidence located to document the impacts of Covid-19 on biodiversity at national or local levels.

The town centres of the three largest market towns within the district, St Neots, Huntingdon and St Ives have been included within the environment theme. Our four market towns (Huntingdon, St Ives, St Neots and Ramsey) are all served by Town Councils and Huntingdon has a Business Improvement District. Only Huntingdon currently has a footfall counter which has shown that year on year footfall is down by 63% at May 2020, which is smaller than seen regionally (-73%) and nationally (-78%) Footfall is a measure that the Council is considering using (in a basket of measures) to monitor economic recovery in the High Streets of St Neots and St Ives also, however currently there are not any mechanisms in place to collect this.

A report has been published on examining the impact of lockdown measures on air quality and the community team has advised that data shows the mean reduction in NO2 (Nitrogen Dioxide) looks to be 21% from the beginning of lockdown to 18th June 2020.

Sources:

Air Quality England

https://www.airqualityengland.co.uk/assets/reports/162/Huntingdonshire_report_covid_analysis.html

Huntingdonshire District Council Open Spaces Strategy 2011-2016

<http://applications.huntsdc.gov.uk/moderngov/documents/s32966/Open%20Spaces%20draft3%20080211.pdf>

Great Fen Coronavirus update: <https://www.wildlifebcn.org/news/how-we-are-responding-covid-19>

Grafham Water Current Service Availability: <https://anglianwaterparks.co.uk/grafham-water>

Cambridgeshire County Council : Household Recycling Centres 22 June 2020:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/waste-and-recycling/household-recycling-centres>

Environment Agency: Water situation area monthly reports, East Anglia May 2020

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/water-situation-local-area-reports>

Sky News: England records driest ever May, 1 June 2020

<https://news.sky.com/story/uk-weather-sunniest-may-on-record-and-driest-for-england-during-lockdown-11998487>

Huntingdon First (BID Huntingdon) Footfall Information: May 2020

<https://www.huntingdonfirst.co.uk/bid-huntingdon/footfall-information.html>

Transport and Infrastructure

Google have been producing mobility reports showing how frequently several types of place have been visited during the lockdown and comparing this to baseline, which is the median value, for the corresponding day of the week during the five-week period 03/01/20 to 06/02/20. The table below shows a snapshot of these changes as at 14 June 2020. Whilst a big increase in visits to parks is shown, we would expect to see a greater number of visits to parks in warmer months than in January and February.

The table below shows the percentage change in how visits and length of stay changed (compared to baseline) on 14/06/2020 in Cambridgeshire

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| Retail and recreation | Supermarket and pharmacy | Parks |
| -68% | -20% | +84% |
| Public Transport | Workplaces | Residential |
| -48% | -18% | +8% |

In Great Britain, patterns of transport have also been impacted, cycling use has increased, whilst bus and national rail have seen drops in use. Provisional road traffic estimates for Great Britain, released by the Department for Transport covering the period April 2019 to March 2020 report a decrease in all motor traffic by 2.1%, the largest drop since the quarterly records started in 1994. Motor vehicles usage has been increasing since the initial drop around the end of March, according to the Department for Transport which published changes in transport use on 4 June 2020 as part of the Daily Coronavirus briefings.

The Office of Rail and Road state that passenger journeys in Great Britain via railway fell 11.4% in Q4 2019/20 compared to the same period in 2018/19, which was the largest fall for any quarter since the time series began in 1994, in the Quarter 4 Statistical Release. In 2018/19 it is estimated there were 1.786m entries or exits through Huntingdon Train Station and 1.325m made via St Neots. This is stated within the estimates of station usage published by the Office of Rail and Road, more recent data is not available for inclusion within this report.

It is anticipated that local bus travel has been affected with passenger numbers reduced, however as at 24 June 2020, data is not available for Huntingdonshire to include within this report. Clearly Huntingdonshire would not be impacted as much as Cambridge with regards to public transport, however it is anticipated the impact of fewer public buses could lead to an increase inequality within the district. Research into the connection between transport and socio-economic inequality for the Department of Transport published in October 2019, states that those who depend more on the bus network to participate in the labour market tend to be lower paid, live in areas of deprivation, and are more likely to turn down employment due to transport limitations.

The impact felt by other transport providers for example taxi drivers is unknown as data is not available on national or local levels. The licensing team within Huntingdonshire District Council have seen lower levels of new applications for licenses being made however they are not seeing a drop in the number of drivers and vehicle proprietors renewing licences. Due to impacts on airline travel, it is anticipated that the Chauffeur or Executive Operators (for example those that provide airport transfers) within the district could experience a significant slowdown.

Central Government announced a £2 billion package on the 9 May for improvements to cycling and walking routes. Alternative ways to travel, such as walking and cycling, could relieve the pressure on public transport. Cambridgeshire County Council is considering a large number of schemes for improving the cycle network and there is also a wider aspiration by HDC to connect our market towns and main employment areas (e.g. Alconbury Weald) by improving the current cycle provision within the district.

Sources:

Google LLC COVID-19 Community Mobility Reports

https://www.gstatic.com/covid19/mobility/2020-06-22_GB_Mobility_Report_en-GB.pdf

Department for Transport, Changes in Transport Use (Great Britain) 4 June 2020

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/slides-and-datasets-to-accompany-coronavirus-press-conference-4-june-2020>

Provisional Road Traffic Estimates Great Britain, April 2019 to March 2020

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/provisional-road-traffic-estimates-great-britain-april-2019-to-march-2020>

Office of Rail and Road Quarter 4 Statistical Release, published 4 June 2020

<https://dataportal.orr.gov.uk/media/1740/passenger-rail-usage-2019-20-q4.pdf>

Office of Rail and Road, Estimates of Station Usage 2018-19 published 14 January 2020

<https://dataportal.orr.gov.uk/statistics/usage/estimates-of-station-usage/>

UK Government £2 billion package to create new era for cycling and walking, 9 May 2020

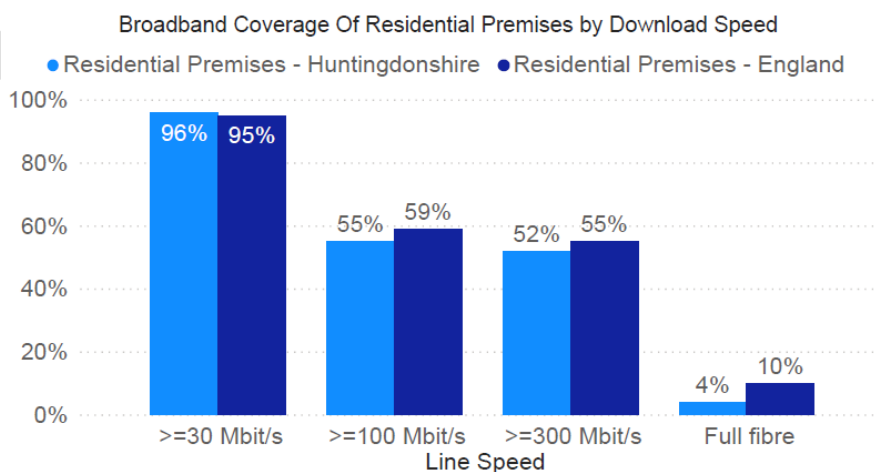
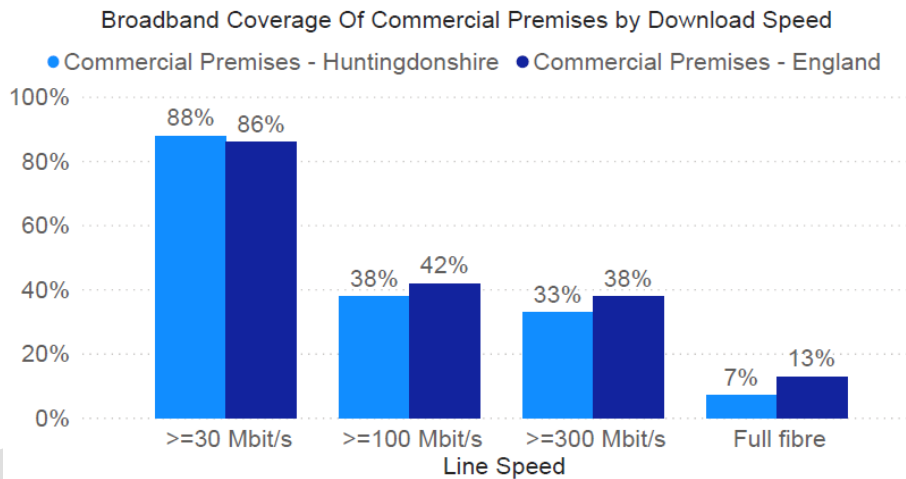
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/2-billion-package-to-create-new-era-for-cycling-and-walking>

Department for Transport, October 2019 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/transport-and-inequality>

Infrastructure

In terms of this assessment the infrastructure requirement is picking up broadband and 4G/5G provision. With more people working remotely during Covid-19 we need to ensure there is adequate infrastructure in order to support that. Ofcom release the Connected Nations Report annually, and in 2019 they stated that most of Huntingdonshire (98% of commercial and resident properties combined) received over 10Mbit/s coverage of broadband to their premises and over 70% of premises had an active broadband connection. There are lower levels of Full Fibre broadband in Huntingdonshire when compared to England for both commercial and residential properties.² Further information is enclosed within Annexe 1 (Restricted)

These graphs show the broadband coverage (by at least one provider) and download speed for commercial and residential properties within Huntingdonshire.



Sources: Ofcom, Connected Nations 2019 <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/research-and-data/multi-sector-research/infrastructure-research/connected-nations-2019/interactive-report>

Community Profile

Huntingdonshire has a broad range of communities of geography, interest and characteristics. The large rural aspects of the district contribute to a well-established set of community organisations linked to towns, parishes and villages. In addition, there is an existing and vibrant community and voluntary sector, and a well-established community infrastructure organisation in the shape of Hunts Forum. Beyond this, social capital is further supported by a range of organisations including social clubs and sports and leisure groups.

Towns and Villages

Huntingdonshire is made up of 5 towns, each of which has an active Town Council. Outside the towns a number of the villages are well served by amenities, and a breakdown of the amenities in the towns and larger villages can be seen in Appendix 1. These settlements often play a role in providing services for residents of nearby smaller villages and countryside areas, with the Local Plan designating Buckden, Fenstanton, Kimbolton, Sawtry, Somersham, Warboys and Yaxley as 'Key Service Centres' where land is allocated for development. Many of these villages also serve as hosts for community organisations.

Parish Councils

There are currently 71 Town/Parish Councils and 9 Parish Meetings listed on the District Council website. The scale of these differs significantly, as does the scale of service delivery they provide. However, a number of these are highly active and very proactive in terms of understanding and meeting the needs of their residents. A full list of which is available here:

<http://applications.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/moderngov/mgParishCouncilDetails.aspx?LS=15&SLS=1&bcr=1>

Community and Voluntary Sector organisations

Huntingdonshire has a well-established community and voluntary sector, well supported by Hunts Forum. Prior to Covid, Hunts Forum were engaged with approximately 350 identified community and voluntary organisations across Huntingdonshire, who provided support to 18,429 households in 2019/20. There are many other community and voluntary organisations operating within Huntingdonshire.

Community and Voluntary Sector – Covid response

Following the outbreak of Coronavirus in March 2020, the District Council worked with Hunts Forum to identify Recognised Organisations (ROs) who meet the basic requirements laid down by Hunts Forum in terms of stable and appropriate governance, across the District who in turn could provide support at a community level to those affected by Covid-19. The definition of a Recognised Organisation is a volunteer-involved organisation which has a governing structure (Charitable Incorporated Organisation, Community Interest Company, Charity, Timebank, Association) that was in place before the outbreak of the Covid-19 epidemic. This means that they already had good practice policies and procedures in place to safeguard those both supporting and being supported by the group. They also can support more volunteers within their organisations and have the resources to support those mutual aid groups surrounding them. There are 15 ROs operating across the district and, where one does not exist, the support role for coordinating Covid response has been picked up by the relevant Town or Parish Council.

The offer from the ROs has varied but ranged from picking up shopping and prescriptions to dog walking. Those utilising the offer from the ROs are residents that are shielding or vulnerable as well as people who are isolated or lonely or experiencing financial hardship. As explained earlier, the 15 organisations were in existence pre-Covid but had different priorities, over the last 13 weeks, their entire focus has been on responding to needs created by Coronavirus.

Impact of RO Activity (mid-May)

| Recognised Organisation | Existing volunteers | New volunteers | Total volunteers | Households supported |
|---|---------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Brampton Community Hub | 798 | 600 | 1,398 | 2,583 |
| Caresco | | | | |
| Godmanchester Timebank | | | | |
| Hail Weston Parish Council | | | | |
| Hemingford Hub | | | | |
| Hilton Parish Council together with Town Trust, WI, Churches and Village Hall | | | | |
| Houghton and Wyton Timebank | | | | |
| Huntingdon Community Group | | | | |
| Kimbolton and Stonely Parish Council | | | | |
| Loves Farm Community Association | | | | |
| Ramsey Neighbourhoods Trust | | | | |
| Somersham and Pidley Timebank | | | | |
| St Neots Timebank | | | | |
| St Neots Community Support Group | | | | |
| Yaxley and Farcet Support Group | | | | |

The offer in the form of additional new volunteers has been significant. The ROs have been overwhelmed by the number of residents who have put their names forward to help and early on it was highlighted that there were more volunteers than the number of requests for assistance received. Residents have also been able to volunteer via the County Hub and the NHS GoodSAM app.

Over the last 4 weeks, we have been informed that there has been an increase in the number of residents returning to work following a period of furlough. For those that had been volunteering, the majority have not continued but the ROs report that this has not negatively impacted them being able to sustain their offer of support to the community.

Outbound HDC calls

One of the most significant pieces of work undertaken in response to Covid, was collating multiple sources of customer data which indicated a potential underlying risk or vulnerability and combining them to provide a holistic view of need. Traditionally this data is held at a service level, but combining data on age, disability status, potential isolation and indicators of potential financial strain enabled us to conduct targeted welfare calls, to check people had the support they need.

Re-deployed One Leisure staff have made a total of 8,796 successful outbound calls to potentially vulnerable households between 27 March and 30 June 2020. 920 households have required some form of support, with 707 signposted to ROs for support and 111 directly referred to them. The initial support on offer centred on immediate needs, with 7.7% of those contacted in the first month needing food parcels delivered. Just 1.4% of those contacted for the first time from 27 April onwards have needed a food parcel, although some have ongoing needs. Similarly, the need to collect prescription medicines has decreased

since our earliest contact with residents, with the practical support arranged by our Active Lifestyles team now replaced by delivery services put in place by pharmacies and by local community groups.

As other forms of support became available from the Council or the community groups we are working with, we were able to signpost or refer people to services such as help with shopping, financial support, someone to talk to and for help with a range of other matters. We were also able to help find solutions to other problems such as those needing help with cleaning or care and a range of housing issues.

Reduction in need for both food and other support over time appears to reflect not just a change in the types of people contacted (groups targeted in the early stages were those identified as potentially most vulnerable, such as those aged 70 or over and those receiving our assisted bin collection service or known to be disabled) but also the response from individuals affected, friends, family, neighbours and other local groups in making arrangements for ongoing support as lockdown restrictions have continued. The impacts of the end of the furlough scheme and on moratoriums on evictions and debt collection will be monitored.

While recent calls have targeted households more likely to be at risk from financial pressures and analysis using customer segmentation data has shown the 'Financially Stretched' most likely to need food parcels (see Appendix 3), most of those contacted recently have had no concerns. Should unemployment continue to rise, it is possible that many of those previously contacted will need support that is not currently required.

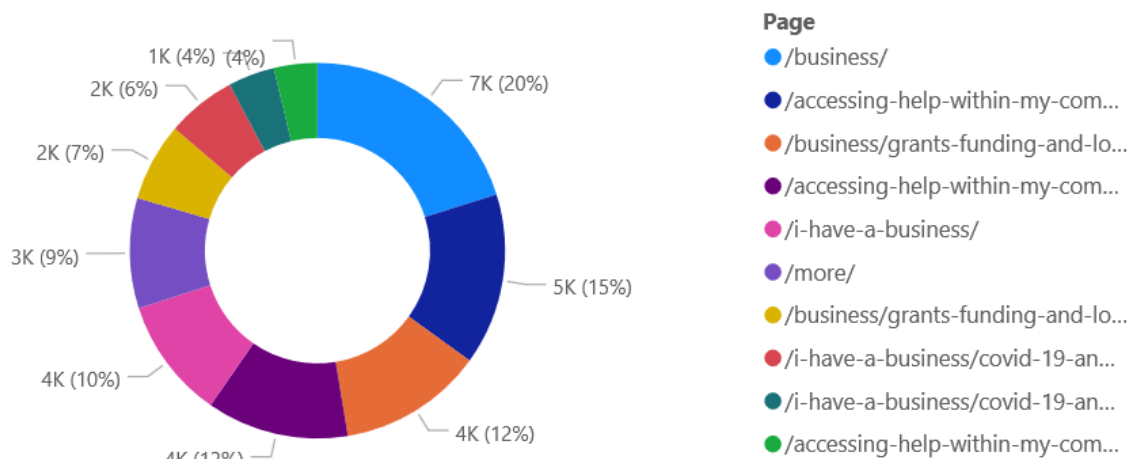
Community Chest

£50k was allocated to the 2020-21 Community Chest, an increase on the initially allocated budget, which has welcomed applications that specifically provide a response to Covid-19. 28 applications have been received and an amount of £21,225 has been awarded to the end of June. The projects vary from providing funding to supply food parcels to delivering activity sessions to isolated members of the community via Zoom. A significant proportion of the applications have been submitted by the ROs so further building on the excellent work that they have been doing. Further work is being undertaken to see how remaining funds could be used to support longer term recovery activity.

Dedicated Covid-19 Portal

We have received a total of 119,855 visits to our Covid 19 portal website from the start of the pandemic to 29 June 2020. The primary cause for contact remains support for businesses, followed by those wanting to access support in their communities.

Covid 19 Hub Top 10 Page Views (Excluding Key Advice Landing Page 46k views)

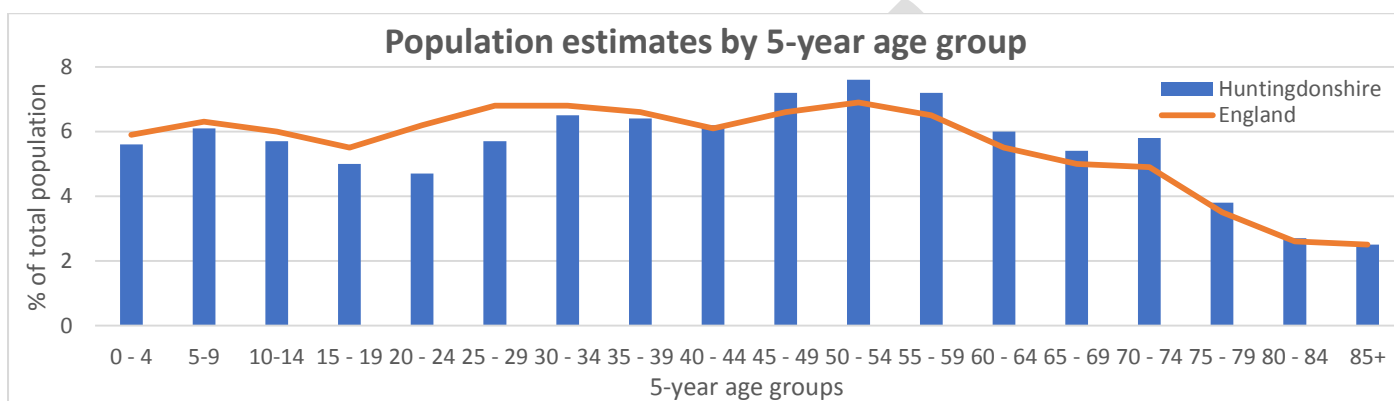


Residents were able to make referrals for themselves or other residents who might be in need via a webform linked from this portal. Over 400 were submitted in a 15-week period from 27 March, although on review not all were in need of direct help.

Demography

- Age profile – older people

[Mid-2019 population estimates](#) from the Office for National Statistics show that Huntingdonshire has an older than average population, with lower proportions of residents in every 5-year age group under 40 and higher proportions of residents in every 5-year age group over 40 compared to the national average. 15% of the district’s residents are over 70.



Those aged over 70 were warned that they were likely to be more seriously affected by Covid-19 and advised to avoid unnecessary social contact prior to lockdown measures affecting the general population. Health risks to this age group remain high with Age UK advising that those over the age of 70 are able to form a support bubble but they are at greater risk from coronavirus so may want to take extra care such as avoiding forming a bubble with a household that is more exposed to coronavirus, such as a household including healthcare workers. There are 26,250 residents aged 70+ in the district, with most living in residential properties rather than care homes or other institutions. As would be expected, there are higher numbers of over 70s in our more densely populated urban areas but areas with high proportions of over 70s also include the Buckden, Hemingford Grey and Houghton and Great Staughton wards which are rural areas where around a fifth are aged over 70. Office for National Statistics estimates and projections suggest nearly 30% of those aged 70 or over live in single person households. This group was among those targeted in the early stages of our vulnerable persons work.

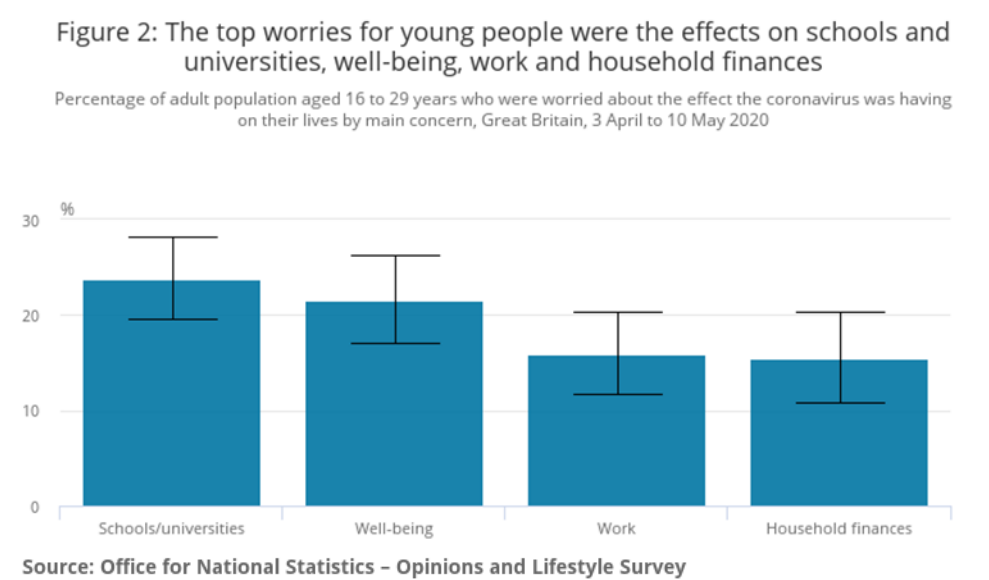
- Age profile – children

While the district has a lower proportion of children and young people than the England average, it is estimated that over 36,600 under 18s live in Huntingdonshire. The highest concentration in the St Neots East ward (Love’s Farm area) where a third of residents are aged under 18. While health risks to most in this age group are relatively low (Great Ormand Street Hospital has [advised](#) that the evidence to 16th June 2020 “suggests that although children do develop COVID-19, very few children develop severe symptoms, even if they have an underlying health condition”), many are likely to have been affected by other impacts of the pandemic such as school closures and reduced social contact.

The likely impacts on education are listed separately.

- Age profile – young people

According to the Office for National Statistics' [Opinion and Lifestyles Survey](#), the main concerns of young people (aged 16 to 29 years) who were worried about the effect the coronavirus (COVID-19) was having on their lives were effects on schools or universities and their well-being, work and household finances. However, young people were less likely to be very worried about the effect the coronavirus was having on their lives than older age groups.



Young people who reported that their well-being was being affected were much more likely to report being bored and lonely than other age groups. They were also more likely to say the lockdown was making their mental health worse.

- Disability

The 2011 Census estimated that Huntingdonshire had over 24,000 residents aged 16 or over who had a long-term health problem or disability (including those related to age) that limited their day-to-day activities and that had lasted, or was expected to last, at least 12 months. This total was 17.6% of all residents in the district, compared to a national average of 20.9%. A further 1,215 residents aged under 16 had a limiting long-term health problem or disability. There is a high correlation between age and disability, with more than half of the district's residents with a limiting long-term health problem or disability aged 65 or over compared to just 10% of residents whose day-to-day activities were not limited.

Huntingdonshire District Council's assisted bin collection service is used by residents who are unable to move their bins to the kerbside for emptying so is a useful indicator of frailty and/or disability. Our records show that just over 9% of households known to include at least one resident aged over 70 are using this service compared to just 0.9% of other households.

Many with a disability are likely to face barriers to accessing goods and services in their day-to-day lives, with the additional restrictions on over-70s adding to these difficulties for many during the lockdown. Support has been targeted at these residents but limited information on other individuals receiving disability benefits is available to local service providers. Many residents with a disability or limits on their day-to-day activity will be receiving support from friends, family or more formal arrangements but there may be disruption to this support if those helping become ill.

See separate section on carers and those receiving care.

- Black and Minority Ethnic (BAME)

The 2011 Census indicated that Huntingdonshire had 8,800 non-white residents, which was just over 5% of the total population at the time. There are no recent reliable or official sources of information on ethnicity at the district level but data tables accompanying a recent research report from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) gave an estimate of approx. 8,000 non-white residents in 2016.

The 2011 Census also indicated that 9,000 residents had Other White (White Irish/Gypsy/Irish Traveller/Other) ethnicity, with many in this group born in EU Accession countries and migrating to the UK in the previous few years. The research report from the ONS indicates that the number of Other White residents had increased to 11,000 by 2016.

Public Health England's 'Beyond the data: Understanding the impact of COVID-19 on BAME groups' [report](#) has found that the highest age standardised diagnosis rates of the virus per 100,000 people were in people of Black ethnic groups (486 in females and 649 in males) and the lowest were in people of White ethnic groups (220 in females and 224 in males). Further analysis into survival following a diagnosis showed that people of Bangladeshi ethnicity had around twice the risk of death compared to people of White British ethnicity, and people of Chinese, Indian, Pakistani, Other Asian, Caribbean and other Black ethnicity had between 10% and 50% higher risk of death compared to White British.

Although the proportion of residents with BAME ethnicity in Huntingdonshire is likely to remain low compared to the national average (14.6% from the 2011 Census, 15.1% from the 2016 estimates in the ONS research report), the findings of the Public Health England report do raise concerns about the health risks to 8,000+ local BAME residents.

- Language barriers

The pandemic has affected countries across the globe and widespread media coverage makes it likely that information is easily available for most people in their main language. However, direct communications in the form of letters and leaflets sent to all households have been in English so there is a risk that some may not have understood the messages. However, the 2011 Census estimated that although there were 6,395 residents aged 3 or over whose main language was not English, most people with other main languages also speak English well. The Census asked people whose main language was not English how well they can speak English and the results estimate that over 99% of all district residents aged 3 or over either have English as a main language or speak English "well" or "very well". Only 1,136 people did not speak English well and 201 people did not speak English at all. In making calls to thousands of potentially vulnerable residents, HDC has encountered very few instances where a language barrier was a problem and has been able to find someone to talk to households in Portuguese, Polish and Turkish.

- Religion/belief

People identifying as Muslim, Jewish or Hindu in England and Wales are [more vulnerable to death involving Covid-19](#) according to recent Office for National Statistics data. When standardised for age, the Muslim religious group had the highest mortality rates at 198.9 deaths per 100,000 males and 98.2 deaths per 100,000 females. People who identified as Jewish, Hindu or Sikh also showed higher mortality rates than other groups.

The 2011 Census estimated that there were fewer than 3,000 residents whose religion was Muslim, Jewish, Hindu or Sikh in the district, equivalent to 1.8% of the population. Nationally, 7.8% of the population at the time were estimated to be Muslim, Jewish, Hindu or Sikh.

- Sex

As nationally, the district's residents are split fairly evenly between males and females although there are more women in the oldest age categories due to female life expectancy being longer on average.

During the pandemic, there have been concerns raised that some impacts on women may have generally been greater than those on men with regards to work and income. For example, we know that women are more likely than men to be employed in sales and customer service roles (the 2011 Census showed 10.5% of the district's employed females were in these roles compared to 4.5% of employed males) with many of these roles not needed while rules required establishments such as non-essential shops, pubs and restaurants to close. Men were also more likely to be employed in industries such as manufacturing and construction (29% of employed men and 9% of employed women in the district according to the 2011 Census) that have been able to continue where safe to do so. However, a slightly higher proportion of women than men worked from home [prior to the lockdown](#) and the latest ONS' [Opinions and Lifestyles Survey](#) shows a slightly higher proportion of women than men working from home due to the Covid-19 outbreak.

There are concerns that responsibility for childcare and other domestic labour is having a disproportionate effect on women although different surveys show different results. Despite a lack of consistent findings, it does appear that even in surveys where women have spent less time on this unpaid work since lockdown, the average woman still spends more time doing this than the average man. Women are also more likely to be single parents (see separate section) responsible for all childcare and domestic labour in their homes.

[Age-standardised mortality rates](#) from the Office for National Statistics show the overall mortality rate due to Covid-19 for men in England in March was twice as high as for women (99.4 per 100,000 compared to 47.2 per 100,000).

See separate section on domestic abuse.

- Single Parents

The Government has recently acknowledged the difficulties faced by single parents and others living alone by allowing them to form 'support bubbles' with one other household, which may enable childcare to be shared as well as other forms of support. Pressures from work and reductions in income may be higher where there is only one person working and/or looking after children.

The 2011 Census estimated there were over 5,600 lone parent households in the district, of which over 3,600 included at least one dependent child. The highest numbers of lone parents with dependent children lived in our urban areas, with the highest level in Huntingdon North where they represented more than one in ten households.

- Other single adult households

As with single parents, other adults living alone may now form 'support bubbles' which is a change introduced to support the loneliest and most isolated. In addition to lone adult households referred to above, the 2011 Census estimated there were a further 17,700 one person households with largest numbers in urban areas. Data obtained from Council Tax at the end of March 2020 showed 22,800 households in the district were in receipt of Single Person Discount, which includes lone parent with dependent children households.

- Residents living in Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs)

Those living in HMOs with shared spaces and facilities are likely to have found it more difficult to isolate from those outside their households compared to those living in separated household spaces. [Government guidance](#) stated that residents could not be removed from their home due to contracting Covid-19 and that there was no obligation for landlords to provide alternative accommodation for tenants if others in the property contracted the virus. It encouraged tenants to adhere to general guidance on cleanliness and hygiene.

[MHCLG guidance](#) on HMO and residential property licensing reform states that HMOs often provide cheaper accommodation for people whose housing options are limited and can be occupied by the most vulnerable people in society. This suggests those living in HMOs may be at greater risk than average from the impacts of the pandemic on jobs and income. The District Council has details of 30 licensed HMOs but it is only a requirement to licence if the HMO has 5 or more residents so there are many more in existence below this threshold.

- Gypsy/Roma/Traveller community

Lord Greenhalgh, Communities Minister, has [written](#) to local authority chief executives to highlight that some members of Gypsy and Traveller communities are likely to be particularly vulnerable to Covid-19, and may need support in accessing basic facilities such as water, sanitation and waste disposal, to enable them to adhere to public health guidelines around self-isolation and social distancing during the outbreak. There are currently fewer than 100 pitches across Huntingdonshire.

- Refugees/asylum seekers

Access to income and services may be issues for this group, particularly for those with no recourse to public funds (NRPF) due to their temporary immigration status. However, the [Home Office](#) has advised that many of the measures put in place as a response to coronavirus are not considered public funds and are available to all, including the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme, Self-Employed Income Support Scheme, sick pay and support for vulnerable people available from local authorities. The District Council's contact with this group is typically through our housing team and support with food parcels or other arrangements has been available through the district hub and local community groups.

- Families affected by Covid-19

With Covid-19 involved in the deaths of 119 local residents as reported to 12 June, many families will be suffering from the impacts of their bereavement. Many others will have seen friends and relatives seriously ill during the pandemic. Our previous work on life events has identified negative impacts on the bereaved. For example, a study by Clark et al. (2008) showing that widowhood has the largest negative impact of a range of life events on an individual's life satisfaction and this lasts for years after the death of a spouse (more than three years before returning to a normal level for men).

Source: Clark, A. E., Diener, E., Georgellis, Y., & Lucas, R. E. (2008). Lags and leads in life satisfaction: A test of the baseline hypothesis. *The Economic Journal*, 118(529)

Level of need

- Homeless people/residents in temporary accommodation

The District Council's Housing team has continued to provide support to those at risk of homelessness and those placed in temporary accommodation or sleeping rough, with accommodation made available to all

rough sleepers and arrangements made to provide hot food for those in temporary accommodation with limited cooking facilities. There were 117 residents in temporary accommodation at 18 March 2020 and support such as food parcels has been available from the district hub and local community groups where a need has been identified by their housing case workers.

- Residents receiving Adult Social Care services

While responsibility for ensuring the continuity of existing care arrangements lies elsewhere, those receiving Adult Social Care support can still be affected by other issues arising from the pandemic such as reduced access to food. As such, the district hub has provided support as required with the help of local community groups. Data provided to the hub by Cambridgeshire County Council shows that there are currently 1,250 Adult Social Care clients with at least weekly service provision living in Huntingdonshire and a further 1,250 who are known to have had contact with Adult Social Care within the last 6 months but who are not in current regular contact with the service. The highest numbers of residents receiving Adult Social Care services are in the district's most populated areas.

- Unpaid/informal carers

In addition to care arranged through Adult Social Care, many households have private arrangements with care companies and/or receive support from unpaid/informal carers such as friends and family. These arrangements are more likely to be at risk due to staff or volunteers being unable to work due to their own illness or need to self-isolate where there aren't reliable backup options available. Information on care and cleaning support available locally has now been shared with the district hub so we can pass details on to residents in need. While there is no data available on the use of private carers locally, the 2011 Census estimated that over 16,500 residents provided at least one hour of unpaid care each week - almost 10% of all residents at the time, similar to the national average.

- Children Social Care

An Association of Directors of Children's Services (ADCS) [research project](#) in November 2018 concluded that increase in demand for children's social care arose from a range of factors including wider social determinants linked to poverty. They stated that the cumulative impact of these factors "affect children's wellbeing, which in turn affect their outcomes and life chances" and there are fears such as those expressed by the [Child Poverty Action Group](#) that the coronavirus pandemic will cause child poverty to rise. Cambridgeshire County Council data published on [Cambridgeshire Insight](#) shows that Huntingdonshire had 654 open Children Social Care involvement cases, 631 open Early Help cases and 1,190 open Education, Health and Care Plan cases at 31 March 2019. The Huntingdon North ward has the highest numbers in all categories of all wards in the district.

- Council Tax Support claimants and deferral of Council Tax payments

Data from our Benefits team shows that there were 7,019 residents claiming Council Tax Support at 1 April 2020. This had increased by nearly 650 to 7,668 by 1 June and by nearly 100 more to 7,764 at 22 June. Residents receiving this support have made successful claims which have been means-tested, indicating that their income and savings are below the threshold to qualify.

In addition to making a claim for Council Tax Support, Huntingdonshire District Council also offered the option for residents to request a Council Tax deferral which provided a payment holiday for those whose finances were temporarily affected by loss of work/income. 2,276 requests had been submitted by 24 April via our online form, with nearly 300 more received since then.

Despite the take-up of the deferral scheme and the rise in Council Tax Support claimants, there has been a recent increase in the number of households with an active Direct Debit for payment of Council Tax – this has increased by nearly 2,200 since the end of April.

- Discretionary Housing Payments

It has not been possible to collate this data at the time this report was compiled however this might be worth reviewing to identify whether demand has been greater than usual and whether there are any patterns in the type of resident requesting this financial support from the Council.

- Foodbank data

There are four Foodbanks in Huntingdonshire being delivered from Godmanchester, St Ives, St Neots and Ramsey. There are also a number of other organisations across the district that as part of their community offer, also offer food parcels in a time of need. For a resident to be able to access a food parcel they need to be referred by an authorising agency or organisation who in turn will issue them with a voucher. The voucher is then taken to the foodbank and exchanged for a food parcel. The process is also an opportunity for the issuing foodbank to learn a little more about the resident’s situation and where appropriate, identify and offer other forms of help.

The number of food parcels issued by local foodbanks has increased significantly compared to the same period last year, as shown by the table below. While Godmanchester recorded a 37% increase in food parcels issues, they also recorded a 41% increase in new clients which suggests a high level of new demand rather than returning clients. Further information on Godmanchester foodbank is in Appendix 2.

| Foodbank | Food Parcels issued since 16 th March 2020 to date | Compared to the same period last year | % change compared to same period last year |
|---------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| Godmanchester | 417 | 304 | +37% |
| St Ives | 226 | 76 | +197% |
| St Neots | 312 | 237 | +32% |
| Ramsey | | | |

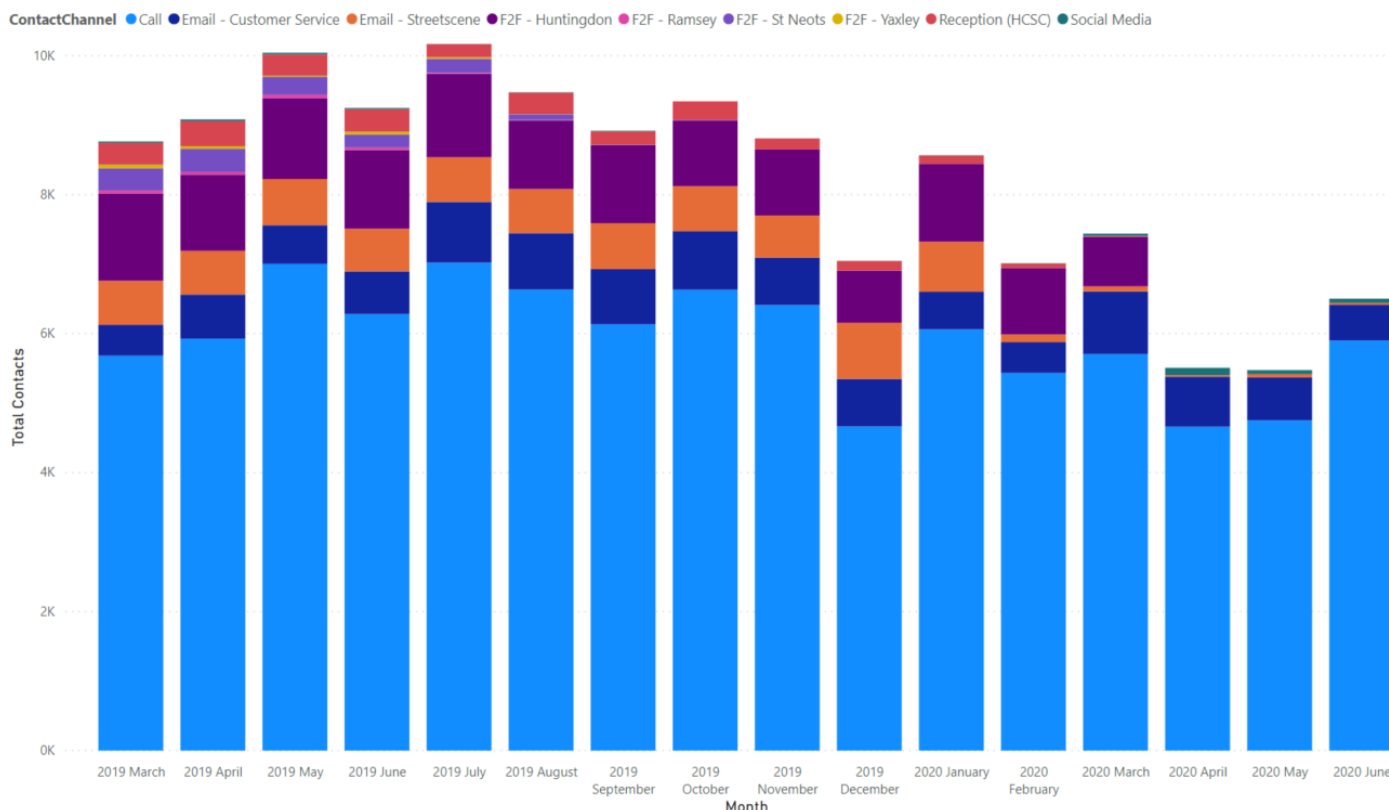
Since March 2020, foodbanks have also reported an increase in the number of agencies and organisations applying to be able to issue food parcel vouchers. CAB and DISH also shared early on that they were receiving increased numbers of requests from individuals and families for foodbank as well as supermarket vouchers. By 14th May 2020, CAB reported that they had issued the equivalent of £3k in supermarket and Community Local Assistance Scheme (CLAS) vouchers to Huntingdonshire residents since the beginning of the outbreak as well as foodbank vouchers.

Donations to the foodbanks have remained high and there is recognition of real generosity from the community to ensure that the stock levels remain consistent. Some recipients have reported difficulties in accessing the foodbanks because they do not drive and the foodbanks do not offer a delivery services as well as the fact that they operate out of more urban areas meaning those living in the rural areas are more likely to dismiss this offer due to ability to afford public transport. During this period, the foodbank in Ramsey has offered a delivery service in partnership with the church and Ramsey Neighbourhoods Trust.

Customer contact and change of profile

- Impact of digitisation

Statistics collected since the Coronavirus impacted have shown a significant reduction in customer contact between March and April and when compared to the same periods last year (note: figures for June 2020 are not final totals). Contact volume is likely to be significantly impacted by reductions in some activities which generate contact (e.g. planning applications) and the public being concerned with other matters. However, when combined with main website statistics for June, and the WeAreHuntingdonshire site having received over 115,000 visits, it does suggest the possibility of a longer term change in behaviour and an opportunity to deliver more services digitally at the convenience of our residents.



The HDC website usage figures below compare website usage in June against the pre-Covid position in February, indicating a sharp increase in usage although it is also partly explained by the absence of face to face channels:

- 48k different customers, up 22% compared to February 2020
- 77k times visited, up 21% compared to February 2020
- 200k pages viewed, up 7% compared to February 2020

Health

Health indicator results in Huntingdonshire are generally reasonable, with 84.5% describing their health as 'Very Good'/'Good' in the 2011 Census and the district exceeding the national average on many indicators. The age profile of the area does inform some health characteristics and does present some increased risk of Covid-related issues. The following table extracted from the area's Health Profile identifies some areas for reflection, particularly underperformance in terms of physical activity of adults and the obesity rate. Diagnosis rates for diseases may be affected by the controls put in place during lockdown, although this is yet to be shown in this data.

Compared with benchmark: ● Better ● Similar ● Worse ○ Not compared

Quintiles: Best ● ● ● ● Worst ○ Not applicable

Recent trends: — Could not be calculated ➔ No significant change ↑ Increasing / Getting worse ↑ Increasing / Getting better ↓ Decreasing / Getting worse ↓ Decreasing / Getting better ↑ Increasing ↓ Decreasing

Benchmark Value
Worst/Lowest 25th Percentile 75th Percentile Best/Highest

Export table as image

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| Indicator | Period | Hunts | | Region England | | | | England | |
|---|-----------------|--------------|--------|----------------|-------|-------|--------------|---------|--------------|
| | | Recent Trend | Count | Value | Value | Value | Worst/Lowest | Range | Best/Highest |
| Life expectancy at birth (Male) | 2016 - 18 | — | - | 81.4 | 80.3 | 79.6 | 74.5 | | 83.9 |
| Life expectancy at birth (Female) | 2016 - 18 | — | - | 84.4 | 83.7 | 83.2 | 79.5 | | 87.0 |
| Under 75 mortality rate from all causes | 2016 - 18 | — | 1,304 | 261 | 302 | 330 | 544 | | 220 |
| Under 75 mortality rate from all cardiovascular diseases | 2016 - 18 | — | 257 | 51.3 | 63.4 | 71.7 | 124.6 | | 39.1 |
| Under 75 mortality rate from cancer | 2016 - 18 | — | 581 | 116.0 | 126.0 | 132.3 | 190.3 | | 94.8 |
| Suicide rate | 2016 - 18 | — | 35 | 7.7 | 10.0 | 9.6 | 20.7 | | 4.2 |
| Killed and seriously injured (KSI) casualties on England's roads | 2016 - 18 | — | 268 | 50.5 | 46.7 | 42.6* | 109.8 | | 17.7 |
| Emergency Hospital Admissions for Intentional Self-Harm | 2018/19 | ➔ | 360 | 214.8 | 173.1 | 193.4 | 497.7 | | 51.6 |
| Hip fractures in people aged 65 and over | 2018/19 | ➔ | 200 | 600 | 563 | 558 | 852 | | 350 |
| Cancer diagnosed at early stage (experimental statistics) | 2017 | ➔ | 404 | 57.6% | 54.7% | 52.2% | 36.8% | | 61.0% |
| Estimated diabetes diagnosis rate | 2018 | — | - | 80.9% | 76.7% | 78.0% | 54.3% | | 98.7% |
| Estimated dementia diagnosis rate (aged 65 and over) | 2019 | — | 1,420 | 67.4% | 65.7% | 68.7% | 41.4% | | 90.2% |
| <div style="background-color: #d4edda; padding: 2px;">≥ 66.7% (significantly)</div> <div style="background-color: #fff3cd; padding: 2px;">similar to 66.7%</div> <div style="background-color: #f8d7da; padding: 2px;">< 66.7% (significantly)</div> | | | | | | | | | |
| Admission episodes for alcohol-specific conditions - Under 18s | 2016/17 - 18/19 | — | 40 | 36.4 | 23.4 | 31.6 | 112.7 | | 7.8 |
| Admission episodes for alcohol-related conditions (Narrow) | 2018/19 | ➔ | 1,182 | 665 | 634 | 664 | 1,127 | | 389 |
| Smoking Prevalence in adults (18+) - current smokers (APS) | 2018 | — | 20,323 | 14.4% | 14.0% | 14.4% | 26.1% | | 3.6% |
| Percentage of physically active adults | 2018/19 | — | - | 62.7% | 66.9% | 67.2% | 46.7% | | 80.0% |
| Percentage of adults (aged 18+) classified as overweight or obese | 2018/19 | — | - | 68.0% | 63.3% | 62.3% | 75.9% | | 41.7% |

- Mental health

Isolation, loneliness, and anxiety have been factors that have been picked up during our vulnerability calls and reported to us by community groups. Whilst we do not have more quantifiable data, we have worked to develop a section of the WeAreHuntingdonshire website which supports those who have found challenges with the impact of lockdown. We have also worked with community groups to support and share resources that have been developed to support those who are isolated, such as be-friending schemes, and resource packs to support people who are isolated. We will monitor this over time.

- The 'shielded' – residents with health conditions which place them in the 'extremely vulnerable' group

During the Coronavirus outbreak, over 4,000 people have been identified within Huntingdonshire as requiring shielding. These have been supported throughout the lockdown by the County hub and through direct food deliveries from government suppliers. This direct support will come to an end on the 31st July, with the change in advice around the shielding that vulnerable people need to do. Work is currently

underway to work with these people to develop transition plans to ensure all previously shielded individuals have appropriate arrangements in place, either through friends and family, directly with supermarkets through dedicated delivery slots or through the community and other support. HDC are inputting into this process to ensure that support is in place for both vulnerable shielded residents and others who may not meet this criteria. HDC have registered with Defra to enable us to nominate vulnerable households in need of a supermarket delivery slot.

- Obesity

[According to the World Obesity Forum](#), obesity-related conditions seem to worsen the effect of COVID-19 with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reporting that people with heart disease and diabetes are at higher risk of COVID-19 complications. They have also [stated](#) that, based on emerging data and the patterns of infection we have seen in other viral infections, overweight and obesity are also likely to be risk factors for worse outcomes in those who are infected by COVID-19.

The [Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Core dataset 2019](#) highlights Huntingdonshire as having a statistically significantly worse prevalence of excess weight in adults (overweight or obese) at 66.4% in 2016/17 compared to a national average of 61.2%. However, the level of obesity in adults was statistically significantly better than the national average at 8.7% in 2017/18 compared to 9.8% for England. There were three GP surgeries with statistically significantly worse than average rates of recorded obesity in 2017/18 – Church Street (Somersham), Moat House (Warboys) and Priory Fields (Huntingdon).

Education

- Homeschooling and access to school places

ONS data from the Opinions and Lifestyle Survey for the period to 14 June showed that children being homeschooled spent on average 13 hours learning, with the most common resources used being:

- school-provided digital resources accessed through online learning platforms (for example, pre-recorded lessons, assignments, e-workbooks; 85%)
- devices provided by parents (such as laptops and tablets; 80%)
- school-provided digital online learning resources (for example, BBC Bitesize, YouTube; 64%)

However, almost 6 in 10 adults (59%) who had homeschooled their children that week said their children were struggling to continue their education at home. Lack of motivation, limited parent or carer time to support and lack of guidance and support were the most common reasons for children to be struggling.

In England, some children are now able to return to school. Of those who have been asked to send their children back to school but have taken the decision not to, almost 7 in 10 (68%) said this was because they were not comfortable with how prepared their school or college was for keeping pupils safe, and over 6 in 10 (64%) had not sent their children back to school or college as they were worried about them catching COVID-19 there.

Local data on homeschooling and attendance among those able to return to school is not currently available, although it may be possible to get some insight from local schools.

- Impacts on future learning

Plans for all primary school children to return to school before the summer break have recently been dropped and secondary schools in England may not fully reopen until September “at the earliest” according to a Downing Street briefing by the Health Secretary. Those in Reception and Years 1 and 6 have begun to return, as have those in secondary school years 10 and 12 (pre-GCSE and A Level exam years).

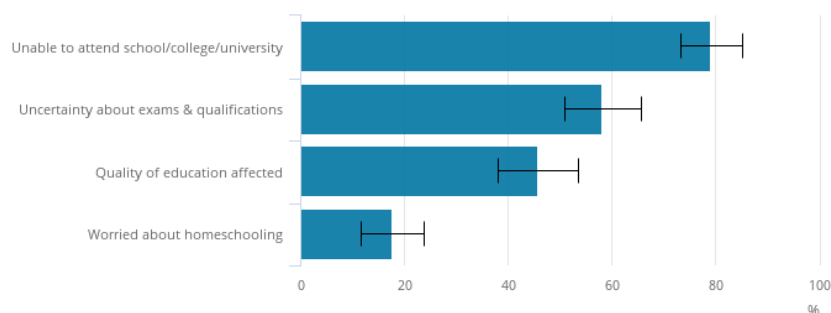
A consultation has been launched by the Government on proposals that GCSE and A-Level exams in 2021 be moved from May to July to give pupils more time to prepare after being affected by school closures due to coronavirus.

Students who applied to attend university in 2020/21 were due to reply to their offers on 18 June 2020, with [deferral rates expected to be higher than usual](#) because of uncertainty related to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Universities are unlikely to be operating as normal in the next academic year (social distancing guidelines could mean restrictions on face-to-face teaching and social activities), while any students unhappy with A-Level results determined by teachers’ assessments could be unable to sit exams until the autumn.

While many students will be concerned about this, the ONS has used past data from the Annual Population Survey to [examine the outcomes](#) of those aged 16 to 35 years with a degree, depending on whether or not they deferred going to university. Their focus is on education and work outcomes, although there are many other reasons for choosing to delay starting at university (dependent on people’s personal and family situations). They found that nearly one in five students who deferred went on to gain a first-class degree and they were more likely to have gone on to obtain a higher degree than those who went straight to university from school. People who deferred going to university were also slightly more likely to be in a high-skilled job in 2019 than those who went straight from school (47.3% compared with 44.6%).

The most commonly reported impact by young people whose schools or universities had been affected was being unable to attend their schools, colleges or universities

Percentage of population aged 16 to 29 years worried about the effect of the coronavirus on schools or universities, by type of impact, Great Britain, 3 April to 10 May 2020



Source: Office for National Statistics – Opinions and Lifestyle Survey

Crime

The Prime Minister announced the UK lockdown on 23rd March 2020. The measures introduced were some of the most restrictive the UK has ever faced and resulted in a huge shift in the way that people behaved. The restrictions have understandably had an impact on levels as well as types of crime across

the district. With the majority of shops being closed and residents only being able to leave their homes once a day for exercise, this has resulted in a reduced number of incidents of shop theft, criminal damage and other crimes against society. A year on year comparison for 2019 to 2020 for the types of crimes listed details reductions of 7%, 29% and 11% throughout the months of March, April and May 2020.

| Huntingdonshire Offences | March 2019 | April 2019 | May 2019 |
|------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Violence Against the Person | 274 | 268 | 254 |
| Sexual Offences | 33 | 30 | 23 |
| Robbery | 6 | 6 | 9 |
| Theft offences | 452 | 434 | 380 |
| Criminal damage | 109 | 107 | 123 |
| Other Crimes Against Society | 83 | 99 | 126 |
| Total Offences | 957 | 944 | 915 |

| Huntingdonshire Offences | March 2020 | April 2020 | May 2020 |
|------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Violence Against the Person | 302 | 261 | 325 |
| Sexual Offences | 21 | 25 | 31 |
| Robbery | 5 | 7 | 1 |
| Theft offences | 327 | 187 | 202 |
| Criminal damage | 90 | 70 | 100 |
| Other Crimes Against Society | 143 | 123 | 153 |
| Total Offences | 888 | 673 | 812 |

| Percentage change in Huntingdonshire offences | March 2019 – March 2020 | April 2019 – April 2020 | May 2019 – May 2020 |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Violence Against the Person | 10% | -3% | 28% |
| Sexual Offences | -36% | -17% | 35% |
| Robbery | -17% | 17% | -89% |
| Theft offences | -28% | -57% | -47% |
| Criminal damage | -17% | -35% | -19% |
| Other Crimes Against Society | 72% | 24% | 21% |
| Total Offences | -7% | -29% | -11% |

- Domestic abuse

With the requirement for people to stay at home, domestic abuse organisations have observed increased household tension and domestic violence due to forced coexistence, economic stress, and fears about the virus. Increased isolation had the potential to create an escalation in abuse, where those who are living with an abusive partner or family member, may be less likely to ask for help. Fewer visitors to the household may mean that evidence of physical abuse has gone unnoticed.

Across Huntingdonshire, there have been 92 more incidents reported to the Police during March, April and May compared to the same period last year. But it is likely that in reality, the number of incidents is far

higher because many victims will either not report an incident or choose to speak to a charity or support service but remain anonymous.

- Scams

Throughout the pandemic, various reports have emerged about fraudsters seizing the opportunity to defraud. Many of the scams have involved criminals contacting victims by email, phone or text message posing as genuine organisations. The fraudsters have offered to provide medical guidance, investment opportunities or a safe place to transfer and keep money, using Coronavirus as a cover story. Alternatively, victims have been tricked into disclosing personal or financial information or clicking on links which could contain malware. In Cambridgeshire, doorstep scammers are reported to have been visiting residents purporting to be from Red Cross or other legitimate organisations and offering to provide Coronavirus testing kits for a large fee. Some other examples of the Coronavirus scams that have been circulating are flight cancellation scams, fake email or website scams, online offers for vaccinations, bogus charity callers, tax refund scams and the good neighbour scam.

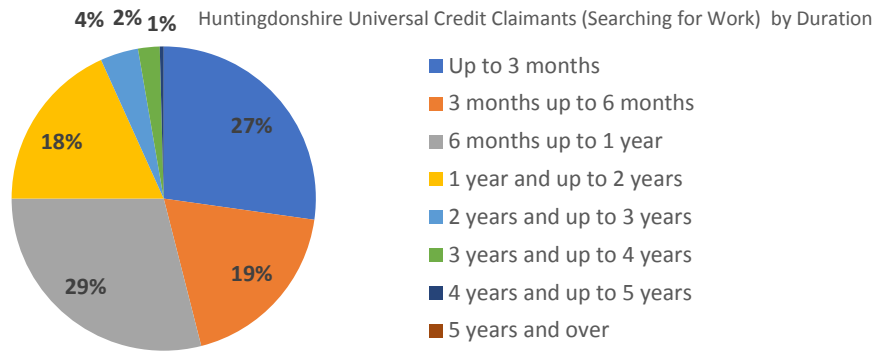
Through the outbound welfare calls made over the last 3 months, residents have raised their concerns about scams and been suspicious about whether the call handler is actually who they say they are. Those concerned were invited to check the validity of the callers by contacting our call centre. We have also heard stories of individuals presenting at properties and asking for payment for food and toiletries claiming that it will then be delivered later by HDC. In response, we issued advice explaining that we would never request payment for food and other support we were offering to residents.

- Anti-Social Behaviour

Understandably when restrictions were in place, lower levels of reported anti-social behaviour were experienced. As time has gone on and more children and young people are spending more time at home and out of school, reports were received about gatherings or teenagers and a failure to adhere to social distancing. More recently, with the warmer weather and the lockdown easing, both HDC and the Police have received an increasing number of complaints about young people congregating in parks and open space. This has been particularly noticeable in areas of St Neots, Huntingdon and Houghton. The complaints and concerns have resulted in the approval of two Dispersal Orders, the first covering the area of Houghton Mill from 24th – 26th June and the second covering the Barford Road area of St Neots from 26th – 28th June.

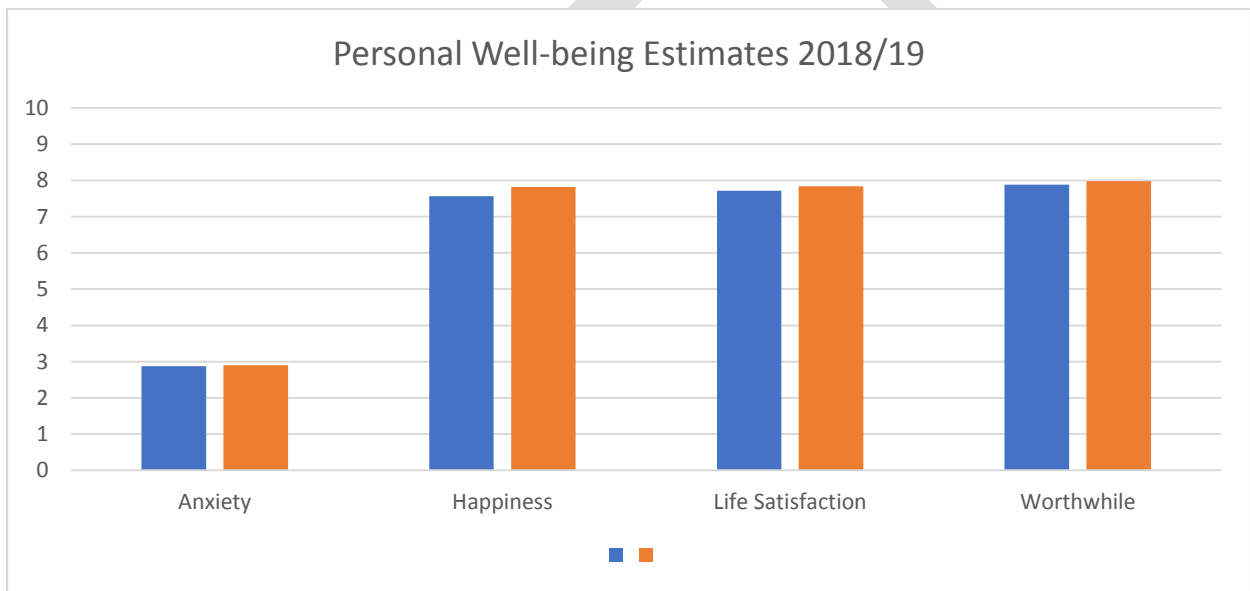
Reliance on benefits

The following graph shows the proportion of Universal Credit claimants with a 'searching for work' conditionality regime by duration of claim at March 2020 (prior to the impact of Covid-19). More than half of all claimants at that time had been claiming for more than 6 months (775 people). While the recent increase in claimants means there is a significantly higher proportion of people claiming for less than 3 months, data for May shows 984 claimants had been claiming for more than 6 months, with over 500 claiming for more than a year.



Quality of life indicators and happiness

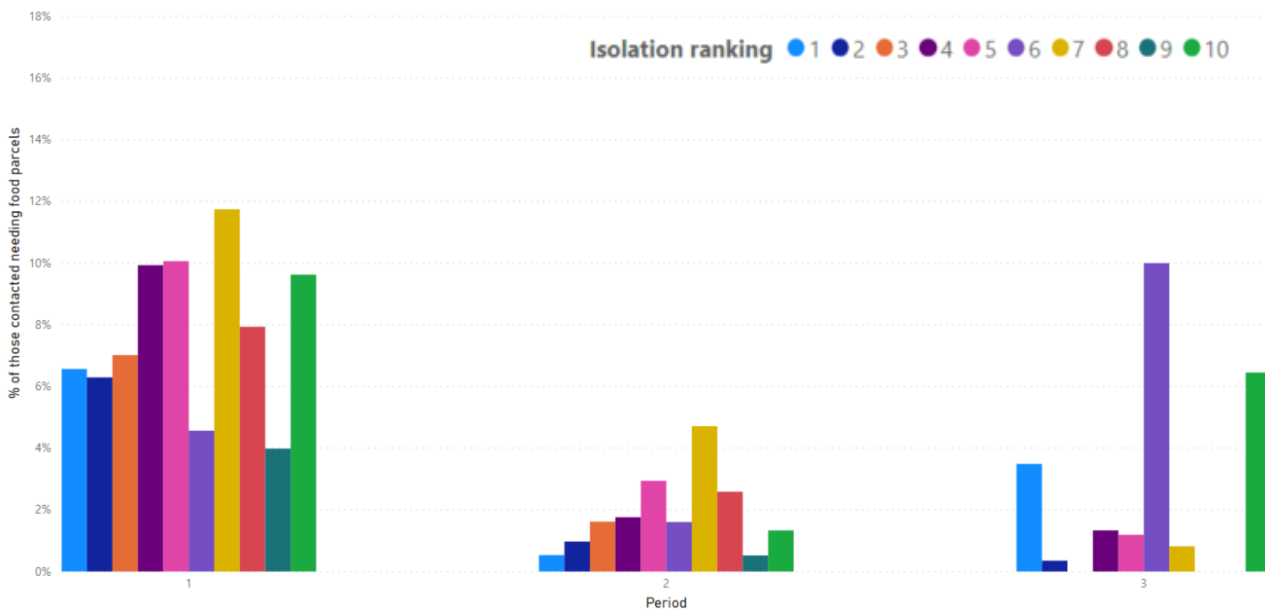
According to [Office for National Statistics' estimates of life satisfaction](#), feeling that the things done in life are worthwhile, happiness and anxiety, Huntingdonshire's residents have personal well-being levels which were slightly higher than the national average in the year ending March 2019.



While local data on recent trends is not available, the ONS have continued to measure personal well-being nationally and [recent data](#) shows the impacts of Covid-19 and lockdown measures. At the beginning of lockdown, all results were poorer than at February 2020. Latest results show that, while “day-to-day emotions like happiness and anxiety have improved since the beginning of lockdown”, assessments of life overall, such as our life satisfaction and feeling that the things we do are worthwhile, “have remained subdued since 20 March 2020”. 64% of adults remained worried about the effects of Covid-19 on their life in the latest Opinions and Lifestyles Survey to 14 June.

Rural isolation

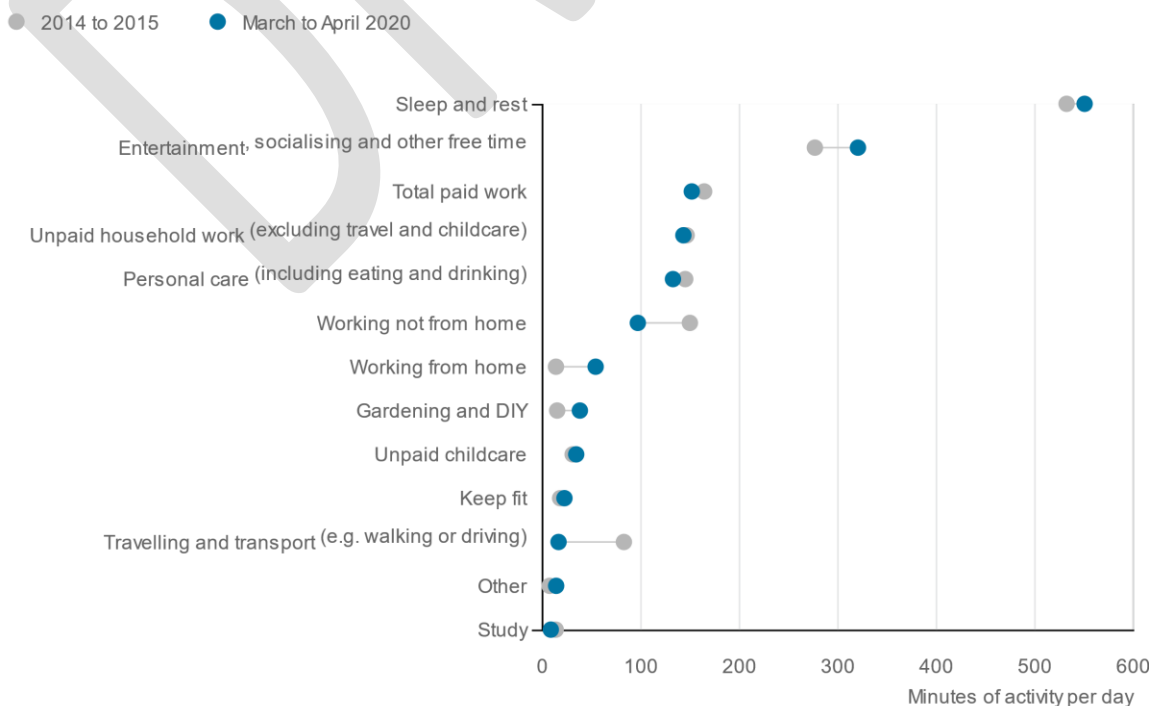
The Indices of Deprivation 2019's Geographical Barriers sub-domain measures the average distance by road to key shops and services such as GPs for areas around 1,250 households in size. We have used this data to target some calls to older residents in more isolated areas and have done some analysis of the support required by isolation ranking on a national scale (1 is among the 10% most isolated nationally, 10 is among the 10% least isolated nationally). This showed no clear link between need for food parcels among those successfully contacted and the relative isolation of where they live, even during the early period when



access to food was a greater concern.

Leisure activities

A [pilot ONS time-use study](#) has looked at how time under lockdown (28 March to 26 April) was spent compared to a 2014/5 time-use study.



Findings show there was a substantial reduction in time spent travelling, with more time spent on gardening and DIY, working from home, sleeping and resting, and on entertainment, socialising and other free time.

People with children in the household spent 35% more time on average providing childcare during lockdown than five years ago, although this varied depending on the age of children. By contrast, those aged 60+ reduced the time they spent providing childcare by 90% following the restrictions introduced.

Looking ahead at what might change following lockdown, a [Covid-19 Impact Report on the Fitness and Leisure Sectors Path to Recovery](#) includes figures from consumer confidence surveys showing that:

- 84% are likely to continue with their membership once their gym or leisure centre reopens (Sport England and Savanta ComRes)
- 35% of non-members are likely to join a facility after lockdown (TA6 Alliance Leisures)

DRAFT

Legislation

Due to the volume of changes implemented as a result of the Coronavirus Act 2020, it has not been possible to list them all within this document. A list of legislation changes made in the UK due to the Coronavirus Act 2020 is available [here](#) which is from the legislation.gov.uk website.

Guidance has also been issued to support businesses and self-employed people during coronavirus and a gov.uk webpage advising of the rules that have been relaxed to help businesses during the pandemic can be found [here](#).

Some commentary on legislation and its impact on the economic, environmental, social and community recovery has been described below as at 17 June 2020.

New regulations have been introduced that have banned some activity, including retail and on-sale in licensed premises and the relaxations currently underway are steadily returning things to normal. With regards to enforcement there has been compliance in terms of closing or shutting down as and when requested to by local businesses. Normal regulations will continue to apply with regards to food safety. In some instances (for example health and safety) regulations could be strengthened or raised as businesses will be required to add Covid-19 factors to any risk assessments completed.

There are legislative/regulatory barriers to operations with an agreed policy of “tailored regulation” on a case by case basis between HDC and other partners or agencies (e.g. Cambridgeshire County Council)

Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) website stated (as at 24 June 2020) that the government has not amended the legislation for setting up Pavement Cafés on the public highway, however, given the unprecedented changes on our streets due to the Covid-19 pandemic, they are amending their approach to support businesses wanting to operate outside seating during the recovery period. More details can be found by clicking on the links in the table below.

| Legislation | Impact |
|---|---|
| Coronavirus Regulations | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The government has published guidance on staying safe outside your home and guidance on social distancing rules. This provides guidance to the public on what is and is not permitted under the guidance and is updated to reflect any changes. |
| Coronavirus Act 2020 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">An Act to make provision in connection with coronavirus, and for connected purposes. |
| Tables and Chairs License | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Amending the approach to support businesses wanting to operate outside seating during the recovery period. |

Risks and Impacts on the Economy, Environment and Communities

In order to gain a realistic view of our starting position or baseline, there is a need to establish where we are now. HDC has identified the following potential risks to the economy, environment, and/or organisational reputation as part of this process. There may be other potential risks identified as we continue to develop this impact assessment. We will assess the risks for their likelihood of community impact and the level of impact although scores may change as new information becomes available or new political, physical, legal, environmental or moral aspects are considered.

Likelihood and impact gradings are both on a scale of 1 – 5. (1 = Negligible, 2 = low, 3 = moderate, 4 = high, 5 = almost certain/critical)

Economy

| Community Impact/Risk | Measure | Baseline Performance (Huntingdonshire) | | | Data Source & Date | Likelihood Grade | Impact Grade |
|---|---|--|---------|--------------|---|------------------|--------------|
| Reduced Retail and Services Offer in The High Street Likely knock on effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction of consumers spending locally • Reduction in the number of local/low skilled jobs available • Reduction in Car Park revenue • Disrepair of shop frontages/vandalism • Reduction in NNDR collected • Lack of variety in goods and services available • Fewer local and family run businesses | % of retail and food/drink premises open in St Neots, Huntingdon and St Ives High Streets* | | | | To Be Confirmed | 4 | 3 |
| | No of market stalls trading | | | | To Be Confirmed | | |
| | No of vacant retail and food/drink premises | | | | To Be Confirmed | | |
| | Footfall Levels in Huntingdon, St Ives and St Neots High Streets* | Huntingdon | St Ives | St Neots | To Be Confirmed | | |
| | Huntingdon High Street data is collected by BID, the baseline is the number of visits during May 2020 (↓63% compared to May 2019) | | | | | | |
| | No of High Streets with temporary Covid-19 adaptations * | | | | To Be Confirmed | | |
| | No of Neighbourhood Shopping Areas with temporary Covid-19 adaptations * | | | | To Be Confirmed | | |
| | % Change in movement in terms of Retail and recreation | | -68% | | Coronavirus Mobility Report | | |
| % Change in movement in terms of Supermarket and pharmacy | | -20% | | (22/06/2020) | | | |

*Data focussed on town centres will be collected as part of the action plans being developed relating to Urban Spaces/High Streets.

| Community Impact/Risk | Measure | Baseline Performance (Huntingdonshire) | Data Source & Date | Likelihood Grade | Impact Grade |
|--|--|--|--------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Reduced Business Activity in locations away from the High Street Likely knock on effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in local jobs for local people • Disrepair of buildings/vandalism/fly tipping • Reduction in the availability of products/services for local trade • Lower rental income (Estates) • Reduction of consumers spending locally • Reduction in NNDR collected • Lack of variety in goods and services available | % of Industrial Units Vacant (HDC Owned) | | To Be Confirmed | 5 | 4 |
| | % of Industrial Units Vacant (Not HDC Owned) | | To Be Confirmed | | |
| | % of Units Vacant in Retail and Business Parks | | To Be Confirmed | | |

| Community Impact/Risk | Measure | Baseline Performance (Huntingdonshire) | Data Source & Date | Likelihood Grade | Impact Grade |
|-----------------------|---------|--|--------------------|------------------|--------------|
|-----------------------|---------|--|--------------------|------------------|--------------|

| | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|
| <p>Local Business Growth and Survival Affected</p> <p>Likely knock on effects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decline in the density of companies producing similar products (manufacturing) Less entrepreneurial activity (ability to adapt) Reduction in the long-term survival of local businesses Some businesses no longer trading Fewer jobs available Less opportunities for employees to develop skills Decline of overall economic activity in the district | No of Businesses | 7,930 | IDBR (via Nomis ONS) (12/2019) | 5 | 4 |
| | Business Demography – No of births | 1,095 | Business Demography UK (ONS) (11/2019) | | |
| | Business Demography – No of deaths | 840 | | | |
| | Business Demography – Survival rates (Businesses formed in year that survived one year, formed in year that survived two years etc) | One Year 90% | Inter Departmental Bus Register (ONS, via Cambridgeshire Insight) (2017) | | |
| | | Two Years 73% | | | |
| | | Three Years 57% | | | |
| | | Four Years 48% | | | |
| | | Five Years 48% | | | |
| | No of Businesses by turnover £<0.2million | 2,593 | Cambridge Ahead (2018-2019) | | |
| | No of Businesses by turnover £0.2 - 1 million | 2,331 | | | |
| | No of Businesses by turnover £1 – 35 million | 807 | | | |
| | No of Businesses by turnover more than £35 million | 24 | | | |
| | % of respondents to Business Restart Survey who said it would take over 6 months for their business to get back to pre Covid-19 levels of trading | 56.4% | Business Restart Survey, HDC (At 19/06/20) | | |
| Gross Value Added Per Head (£) | £22,986 | ONS via Cambridgeshire Insight (2017) | | | |
| Net growth in number of commercial properties liable for Business Rates | 5,471 | HDC Council Tax, Valuation Office Agency Data (25/3/20) | | | |

| Community Impact/Risk | Measure | Baseline Performance (Huntingdonshire) | Data Source & Date | Likelihood Grade | Impact Grade |
|--|--|---|---|------------------|--------------|
| Business needs are not understood and supported Likely knock on effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Businesses stop trading without receiving support or guidance • Lack of local data about our economy • Unaware of support available from partners or other agencies | Number of Covid-19 Webpage visits to Business Recovery and Reopening Tile (30-day range) | 85 | We are Huntingdonshire (16/5 -16/6/20) | 2 | 3 |
| | Number of Webpage visits to Invest Huntingdonshire (30-day range) | 413 | Invest Huntingdonshire (16/5 -16/6/20) | | |
| | Number of Covid-19 Webpage visits to advice and information tile (excluding grants, funding and loans) (30-day range) | 290 | We are Huntingdonshire (16/5 -16/6/20) | | |
| | Number of Covid-19 Webpage visits to grants, funding and loans tile (30-day range) | 2,728 | We are Huntingdonshire (16/5 -16/6/20) | | |
| | Number of respondents to HDC Restart Business Survey | 180 | Business Restart Survey, HDC (At 19/06/20) | | |
| | Number of businesses (all major employers?) proactively contacted by HDC (last 30 days) | 24 (All contacted 3 times in the last month) | Economic Development, HDC (At 19/06/20) | | |

| Community Impact/Risk | Measure | Baseline Performance (Huntingdonshire) | Data Source & Date | Likelihood Grade | Impact Grade |
|--|---|--|--|------------------|--------------|
| Financial Pressures on Local Businesses Likely knock on effects: | % of eligible claimants that have claimed through the Self-employment Income Support Scheme | 69% | HM Revenue & Customs SEISS Claims (June 2020) | 5 | 5 |

| | | | | | |
|--|---|--------------|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to pay NNDR/Rent Increase in paying others / local suppliers late Reliance on funding/grants to continue to trade Increase in use of furlough scheme / redundancy for employees (see increased unemployment or lower level of income impact) Reduction in the number of viable businesses/increased closures | % of eligible claimants that have claimed through the Discretionary Business Grant Scheme | | To Be Confirmed | | |
| | % of eligible claimants that claimed through the Small Business Grant Fund | | To Be Confirmed | | |
| | % of eligible claimants that claimed through the Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant | | To Be Confirmed | | |
| | % of businesses that have paused trading | 42% | Restart Business Survey, HDC (At 05/06/20) | | |
| <p>Diversity of local businesses is reduced</p> <p>Likely knock on effects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over reliance on individual sectors Ability of businesses to react quickly and adapt Fewer opportunities for school leavers / apprenticeships Impacts on local supply chains Localised clusters reliant on one industry | No of Employment by industry | Appendix 4 | Business Register and Employment Survey (2018) | 2 | 2 |
| | No of businesses by industry | Appendix 4.1 | IDBR,ONS, Via Cambridgeshire Insight (2019) | | |
| | % of respondents who stated that their export supply chain been disrupted | 44.2% | Business Restart Survey, HDC (At 19/06/20) | | |

| Community Impact/Risk | Measure | Baseline Performance (Huntingdonshire) | Data Source & Date | Likelihood Grade | Impact Grade |
|--|-----------------------|--|--|------------------|--------------|
| Fewer people gaining new skills and qualifications | Apprenticeship Starts | | Department for Education (2018/19) | 4 | 3 |

| | | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|---|---|
| Likely knock on effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fewer opportunities for employees to develop skills to higher level Impact on in work training Impact on learning and results for those currently in education Impact of life events further in lifetime (e.g. health) | Range of educational qualifications per household (to be confirmed) | | To Be Confirmed | | |
| | Future GCSE and A Level results Secondary School leavers 2021 | | Department for Education (not available until 08/2021) | | |
| Increased Unemployment or Lower Level of Income Likely knock on effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in inequality between poorest and wealthiest Increase in poverty Reliance on benefits for longer periods Less opportunities for school leavers/apprenticeships/graduates Increase pressure on HDC services (e.g. housing, benefits) Loss of any disposable income Impact on health based upon reduced income Impact of life events further in lifetime (e.g. health) Local businesses do not have the skilled staff needed. Inward investment affected | % of people aged over 16 who are claiming Universal Credit and/or Job Seekers Allowance. | 4.2% May 2020 ↑183% from March 2020 | DWP, ONS via NOMIS (05/2020) | 5 | 5 |
| | The ratio of total jobs to population aged 16-64 | 0.78 | Jobs Density ONS, via NOMIS (2018) | | |
| | No of current Council Tax Support claimants | 7,764 | Revenues and Benefits, HDC (22 June 2020) | | |
| | Average weekly gross full-time earnings for district residents in employment | £594.80 | Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (03/2019) | | |
| | Employment Rate (number of people in employment expressed as a percentage of all people aged 16-64) | 79.3% | Annual Population Survey, ONS, Via Nomis (Dec 2019) | | |
| | Number of Council Tax deferments made/requested – to be confirmed (April, May, June 2020) | | To Be Confirmed | | |
| | Rate of furlough in Huntingdonshire The rate of furlough is calculated by dividing the number of employments furloughed (any age) by the number of people aged 16-64 in employment. | 24.09% | HM Revenue & Customs (Claims to 31 May 2020) | | |

| Community Impact/Risk | Measure | Baseline Performance (Huntingdonshire) | Data Source & Date | Likelihood Grade | Impact Grade |
|--|---|--|------------------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Slower Housing Growth Likely knock on effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact of housing market on economic growth Increasing the number of families/people in temporary accommodation Increased pressure on HDC services (e.g. housing) Homelessness Impact of life events further in lifetime (e.g. health) Lost investment of infrastructure | No of new properties listed for Council Tax | | To Be Confirmed | 3 | 2 |
| | No of households in temporary accommodation | | To Be Confirmed | | |
| | No of Affordable Homes Delivered | 440 | Development, HDC (Full Year 19/20) | | |
| | No of current active housing register caseloads (Bands A&B) | | To Be Confirmed | | |
| | Number of homelessness presentations | | To Be Confirmed | | |

Environment

| Community Impact/Risk | Measure | Baseline Performance (Huntingdonshire) | Data Source & Date | Likelihood Grade | Impact Grade |
|--|---|--|----------------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Reduced Quality of Surroundings Likely knock on effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Less attractive as a place to live, work or visit Impact on health Impact of life events further in lifetime (e.g. health) Inequality Lack of community ownership | Percentage of sampled areas which are clean or predominantly clean of litter, detritus, graffiti, flyposting, or weed accumulations | 80% | Operations (Full Year 2019/2020) | 2 | 3 |
| | Air quality rating | | To Be Confirmed | | |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|----|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased pressure on HDC services (e.g. Operations, Community Team) | Number of fly tip investigations | 84 | HDC Community Team (April and May combined 2020) | | |
| Reduced Access to Green Open Space Likely knock on effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact on health (physical, mental) Reduced social contact Reduced environmental benefits Increase in crime as less access to recreational facilities Impact of life events further in lifetime (e.g. health) | No of web page visits to Parks, Nature Reserves, Play Areas and Green Spaces on HDC Website | | To Be Confirmed | 2 | 4 |
| | Number of green spaces open for public use (Owned By HDC) | | To Be Confirmed | | |
| | Number of play areas open for public use (Owned by HDC) | | To Be Confirmed | | |
| | Number of Hectares per person | | To Be Confirmed | | |

| Community Impact/Risk | Measure | Baseline Performance (Huntingdonshire) | Data Source & Date | Likelihood Grade | Impact Grade |
|---|---|--|---|------------------|--------------|
| Reduced perception of safety Likely knock on effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in visits to High Street Increase in levels of Covid-19 cases Increase in pressure on HDC services (Community, Environmental Health, Vulnerable Group) Potential for second wave from outdoor gatherings. Impact of life events further in lifetime (e.g. health) | No of total enforcement enquiries / complaints dealt with relating to social distancing guidelines for businesses | 145 | Community, HDC (17/06/2020) | 3 | 5 |
| | Number of actions taken due to incidents of non-compliance with social distancing in our open spaces | | To Be Confirmed | | |
| | Cumulative number of Covid-19 deaths | 119 | Public Health England, Up to 12/06/20 | | |
| | Cumulative number of Lab – Confirmed Covid-19 | 478 | Public Health England Up to 10/06/20 | | |

Transport and Infrastructure

| Community Impact/Risk | Measure | Baseline Performance (Huntingdonshire) | Data Source & Date | Likelihood Grade | Impact Grade |
|---|--|--|--|------------------|--------------|
| Reduction in use of public transport Likely knock on effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased loneliness Decline in footfall of town centres Environmental impact due to more private vehicles Fewer options for commuters Decline in commuters working outside of district (e.g. London) Unable to seek medical advice Decline in use of outdoor areas | Number of journeys made via private vehicle | | To Be Confirmed | 4 | 3 |
| | Number of journeys made via public transport - bus | | To Be Confirmed | | |
| | % change in journeys made via public transport in Great Britain compared to the same period in 2018/19 | -11.4% | Office of Rail and Road (Q4 2019/2020) | | |
| | % Change in movement in terms of workplace | -18% | Coronavirus Mobility Report | | |
| | % Change in movement in terms of Parks | +84% | ©Google LLC COVID-19 Community Mobility Reports (snapshot on 22/06/2020) | | |
| | % Change in movement in terms of Public Transport | -48% | | | |
| | % Change in movement in terms of Residential | +8% | | | |

| Community Impact/Risk | Measure | Baseline Performance (Huntingdonshire) | Data Source & Date | Likelihood Grade | Impact Grade |
|---|---|--|--|------------------|--------------|
| Lack of a safe environment for cycling and walking Likely knock on effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unsafe/unhealthy environment Loss of infrastructure investment Inequality Increased pressure on public health in later years Increase on demand for private vehicle use Air quality deteriorates | Number of cycleways within the district | | To Be Confirmed | 4 | 2 |
| | Length of segregated cycleways | | To Be Confirmed | | |
| | Proportion of adults that walk for travel (1,3,5 times per week or once a month – 3 to 5 or 1-5 to be confirmed) | | Walking and Cycling Statistics Department for Transport (2017/18) | | |
| | Proportion of adults that cycle for travel (1,3,5 times per week or once a month - 3 to 5 or 1-5 to be confirmed) | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|--|---|----|---|---|---|
| Necessary digital infrastructure in place to enable people to work effectively Likely knock on effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased unemployment • Increased furlough rate • Increase in the number of business deaths • Pressure on public transport • Reduction in high street footfall/spend • Fewer commuters will choose the area to live in | % of the district that has access to Full fibre (residential) | 4% | Ofcom, Connected Nations (2019) | 4 | 3 |
| | % of the district that has access to Full fibre broadband coverage (businesses) | 7% | | | |
| | Average broadband speed (residential) | | To Be Confirmed | | |
| | Average broadband speed (businesses) | | To Be Confirmed | | |

Social and Communities

| Community Impact/Risk | Measure | Baseline Performance (Huntingdonshire) | Data Source & Date | Likelihood Grade | Impact Grade |
|---|--|--|---|------------------|--------------|
| Reduced Retail and Services Offer Likely knock on effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of variety in goods and services available • Increased costs of goods and services (from reduced competition and/or delivery costs of increased online shopping) | Number of the following comparison shop types: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clothing shops - Shoe shops - Electrical retailers (TV, white goods, ...) - DIY/hardware shops - etc... | | TBC, is shop type in NNDR data or is a walk-by survey needed? | 4 | 2 |
| | Average weekly household spend in the UK | N/a for Hunts, use national data | ONS Living Costs and Food Survey | | |
| Reduced access to school places and childcare (formal and informal) Likely knock on effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disproportionate impact on female parents and single parents | Employment rate for women aged 16-64 | 74.2% | Annual Population Survey, December 2019 | 3 | 2 |
| | Claimant count for women aged over 16 who are claiming Universal Credit and/or Job Seekers Allowance. | 1,895 | Department for Work and Pensions/ONS | | |

| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in the number of economically active parents and/or hours worked by parents Reduction in household income among parents Increase in out of work benefits Shortage of people to fill jobs | | | via NOMIS (May 2020) | | |
|---|--|--|--|------------------|--------------|
| | Median total weekly hours worked by male residents of the district in employee jobs | 37.9 hours | Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (March 2019, provisional) | | |
| | Median total weekly hours worked by female residents of the district in employee jobs | 35 hours | Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (March 2019, provisional) | | |
| | Child poverty rate before housing costs | 12.5% | End Child Poverty, based on DWP/ HMRC estimates using family income data (2018/19) | | |
| Community Impact/Risk | Measure | Baseline Performance (Huntingdonshire) | Data Source & Date | Likelihood Grade | Impact Grade |
| Households affected by increased unemployment or lower level of income Likely knock on effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in inequality Increase in poverty Reliance on benefits for longer periods Fewer opportunities for school leavers/apprenticeships/graduates Increase pressure on HDC services (e.g. housing, benefits) Reduction in disposable income Reduction in opportunity to pursue healthy life choices (diet and exercise) | Average weekly gross full-time earnings for district residents in employment | £594.80 | Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (March 2019, provisional) | 5 | 5 |
| | No of current Council Tax Support claimants | 7,764 | Revenues and Benefits, HDC (22 June 2020) | | |
| | Number of homeless presentations | TBC | HDC Housing | | |
| | Mental health service users (particularly young people) | TBC | TBC | | |
| | Food bank use – change in number receiving food parcel compared to same month in previous year | TBC (Ramsey to be added) | Local foodbanks | | |

| | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact on health based upon reduced income • Impact of life events further in lifetime (e.g. health) • Reduced social mobility (education/training, job roles...) • Reduced consumer confidence • Increased reliance on others (e.g. food parcels, community support, friends, family, informal caring) | % of people aged over 16 who are claiming Universal Credit and/or Job Seekers Allowance. | 4.2% May 2020 ↑183% from March 2020 | Department for Work and Pensions/ONS via NOMIS (May 2020) | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|

| Community Impact/Risk | Measure | Baseline Performance (Huntingdonshire) | Data Source & Date | Likelihood Grade | Impact Grade |
|--|--|--|--|------------------|--------------|
| Slower housing growth / reduced opportunities for house buying (mortgage restrictions...) Likely knock on effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased homelessness/B&B use • Increased housing costs | Total nights of temporary accommodation for homeless residents | | HDC Housing | 3 | 2 |
| | House price to income ratio | 7.1 : 1 | Hometrack/ CACI data from Housing Market Bulletin Dec 2019 | | |
| | Annualised median weekly cost of private rental for a 2-bedroom home as percentage of average household income | 20.3% | Hometrack/ CACI data from Housing Market Bulletin Dec 2019 | | |
| The recent increase in community involvement / volunteering is not sustained | Monitoring of outcomes of Community Chest fund spend on Covid-19 related initiatives | TBC | HDC Community | 2 | 3 |

| | | | | | |
|--|--|-----|---|---|---|
| Likely knock on effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater demand on public sector Fewer/poorer local support services available | Monitoring of activities across ROs and other community groups – demand for support from local residents | TBC | Hunts Forum | | |
| | Number of people provided with employment support by voluntary and community groups | TBC | TBC, HDC Community | | |
| Reduced perception of safety Likely knock on effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Less socialising and more isolation, particularly among groups most at risk (over-70s, BAME residents, the 'shielded') Less engagement within local communities Less use of public open space Reduced use of public transport Worried people choosing not to return to the workforce | Attendance at events | TBC | Burgess Hall data? | 3 | 3 |
| | Visits to open spaces | | Not monitored? | | |
| | Reduced voter turnout at elections (note: elections currently postponed to May 2021) | TBC | HDC elections | | |
| | Survey to measure confidence? | TBC | Use national data if not possible to run local survey | | |
| | Mental health measure – anxiety / agrophobia | TBC | TBC | | |

| Community Impact/Risk | Measure | Baseline Performance (Huntingdonshire) | Data Source & Date | Likelihood Grade | Impact Grade |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|---|------------------|--------------|
| Increase in crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) post-lockdown Likely knock on effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More victims of crime/ASB Negative impact on perceptions of safety in the local area | Crime rate(s) for specific offences | TBC | Police data | | |
| | ASB complaints | TBC | HDC Community | | |
| | Fear of crime | TBC | TBC, no current survey | | |
| Lockdown has had negative impacts on lifestyle choices affecting residents' health and wellbeing Likely knock on effects: | Obesity levels | 68% | Public Health England (based on Active Lives survey, Sport England) | 3 | 2 |

| | | | | | |
|---|--|-------|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obesity levels rise as a result of restrictions/choices on diet and exercise during lockdown Recent increased use of local public space and walking/cycling routes ends as old habits return Some sport/social facilities or volunteer sports/social clubs fold due to financial viability as restrictions continue | | | 2018/19 | | |
| | Physical activity | 62.7% | Public Health England (based on Active Lives survey, Sport England) 2018/19 | | |
| | Five a day fruit/veg consumption | ? | ? | | |
| Lockdown has negative impacts on access to healthcare (e.g. visits to A&E and GP and dentist appointments) Likely knock on effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delays in tests and diagnosis of recent/new health problems Delays to operations and other treatments to existing conditions (e.g. Cancer treatments) | Attendances to A&E | ? | ? | | |
| | Number of dental surgeries operating in the district | ? | ? | | |

| Community Impact/Risk | Measure | Baseline Performance (Huntingdonshire) | Data Source & Date | Likelihood Grade | Impact Grade |
|---|---|--|---|------------------|--------------|
| Further people becoming ill with Covid-19 in a 'second wave' or localised outbreak(s) Likely knock on effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disproportionate impact among groups most at risk (over-70s, BAME residents, the 'shielded') | Cumulative number of Covid-19 deaths | 119 | Public Health England, Up to 12/06/20 | | |
| | Cumulative number of Lab – Confirmed Covid-19 cases at 10 June 2020 | 478 | Public Health England Up to 10/06/20 | | |

| | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| <p>Impact on the health of those who became ill with Covid-19 or their friends and families</p> <p>Likely knock on effects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long-term issues for those surviving Covid-19 not yet fully understood but there are concerns about damage and scarring to lungs in particular Impact on friends and families mental health and life satisfaction | ? | | ? | | |
| <p>Employers take different approaches to continuing home working arrangements</p> <p>Likely knock on effects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased inequality between higher and lower income groups where ability to work from home differs depending on job roles and industry Back problems from home set up Increased pressures for some (e.g. parents/carers and/or difficult circumstances/lack of space) Increased costs and/or commuting time for those required to return to work (e.g. travel costs) Increased demand for better broadband which may not be met | Difference in average full-time weekly wage between highest paid 20% and lowest paid 20% of local residents | £479.10 (highest paid 20% receive more than twice the weekly wage of the lowest paid 20%) | Annual Survey of Hours and Surveys, 2019 provisional | 3 | 2 |
| | Percentage reporting a long term Musculoskeletal problem | 15% | PHE, calculated using data from GP Patient Survey 2018/19 | | |
| | % change in mobility trend in terms of workplace compared to baseline | -55% | Google LLC COVID-19 Community Mobility Reports, 22 June 2020 compared to baseline | | |

| Community Impact/Risk | Measure | Baseline Performance (Huntingdonshire) | Data Source & Date | Likelihood Grade | Impact Grade |
|--|---|--|-----------------------|------------------|--------------|
| High level of use of online services such as WeAreHuntingdonshire website does not continue | Volume of calls received by HDC call centre | TBC | HDC Customer Services | 2 | 3 |

| | | | | | |
|--|--|-----|---|--|--|
| Likely knock on effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher cost to public sector of non-digital transactions (phone, face to face, letter) Skills gained by residents required use online technologies for social and commercial purposes are lost | Volume of visits to HDC contact centre (subject to if/when this reopens to some/all customers) | TBC | HDC Customer Services | | |
| | Social media follower numbers/likes | TBC | HDC Customer Services | | |
| Limited access to waste and recycling facilities at Household Recycling Centres Likely knock on effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unsafe/unsanitary conditions if waste cannot be disposed of Flytipping incidents increase | Number of fly tip investigations | 84 | HDC Community (April and May 2020 combined) | | |
| | Number of requests for bulky waste collection service | TBC | HDC Operations? | | |
| Poorer education outcomes for young people Likely knock on effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children's education is affected and fewer achieve grades needed for further education Longer-term impact on employment prospects | GCSE / A Level results for summer | ? | ? | | |
| | Number of GCSE or A Level resits following issue of summer 2020 results | ? | ? | | |
| | Number of students going on to A Level study | ? | ? | | |
| | Number of students going on to university | ? | ? | | |

Response and Recovery Options

The following table will be completed to state how each risk has been addressed.

| Response and Recovery Option | Risk Addressed |
|--|---|
| <p>Plans in place to improve public safety</p> <p>Promoting towns and locations as safe to visit</p> <p>Working with third parties to put in place physical measures to help people socially distance</p> <p>Provide advice and support to businesses for reopening</p> <p>Identify potential hotspots in the borough and work with agencies to reduce the public impact</p> | <p>Public concerns over safety and limiting further peaks in COVID-19 cases</p> |
| <p>Online survey of all businesses in Huntingdonshire</p> <p>Work through the Combined Authority Business Recovery Group and surveys through the CA and Greater Cambridge partnership</p> <p>Engagement of Chamber of Commerce and Federation of Small Businesses</p> | <p>Limited knowledge of business impact and tracking</p> |
| <p>Promotion of business grants and discretionary grants and maximising take up</p> <p>Engagement with the Combined Authority over capital grants</p> <p>Engagement with Cambridgeshire County Council over cycling and walking funding</p> | <p>Access to the available government funding to assist recovery</p> |
| <p>Improving broadband speed and coverage across the area, enabling greater working at home</p> | <p>Loss of business productivity</p> |
| <p>Looking out to government announcements and providing signposting businesses</p> <p>Working with the Chamber of Commerce and FSB</p> <p>Newsletter and webinar events for business sector</p> | <p>Business community not being aware or able to access government funding</p> |
| <p>Tracking of unemployment levels</p> <p>Working with the Combined Authority and other agencies to identify skills gaps in the local employment market</p> <p>Working with key employers to look at local sourcing options and business intelligence</p> | <p>Significant unemployment</p> |

Consultation

We will consult with key stakeholders, our partners and other agencies within our communities and document this within the table below.

We have *also sought/are seeking* advice from colleagues who may have specialist knowledge of affected communities or other aspects of the assessment process.

| Partner / Agency | Date | Information Provided | Advice Received |
|------------------|------|----------------------|-----------------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
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Implementation Plan



















The proposed actions to be implemented are detailed below. As previously stated St Neots, St Ives and Huntingdon urban spaces/high street action plans are being developed. This will include citizen safety in adapting to social distancing restrictions and any business PPE related impacts.

| Community Impact | Actions Implemented |
|------------------|---------------------|
| | |



















Appendix 1 – Settlement Portraits from Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036

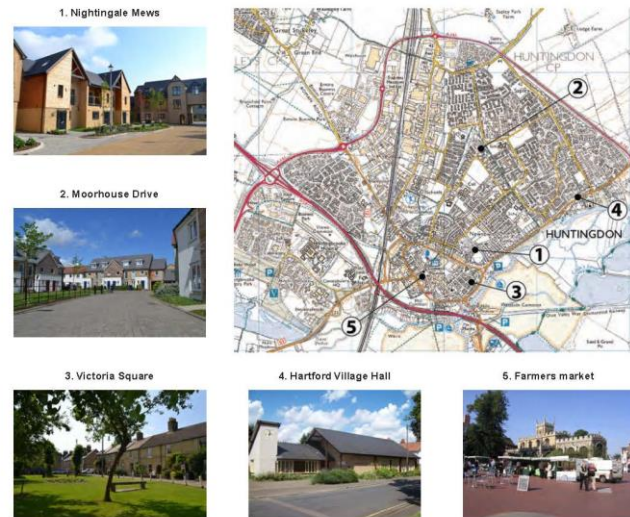
Settlement Portraits

2.9 The following pages provide summary portraits of the market towns and largest villages in Huntingdonshire. Each settlement's population is shown⁵, followed by symbols showing what services that settlement contains. The key below defines the symbols used.

| Retail & Commercial services | | Community & Leisure | |
|---|---|--------------------------------|---|
| Food shopping |  | Library |  |
| Non-food shopping |  | Leisure Centre |  |
| Service (e.g. hairdressers, |  | Public Hall |  |
| Food and drink (i.e. pub, cafe, restaurant) |  | | |
| Bank |  | | |
| | | Employment | |
| Education & Health | | Industrial estate |  |
| Day nursery |  | Business park |  |
| Primary School |  | | |
| Secondary School |  | Transport | |
| Further Education College (post-18) |  | Bus service (hourly or better) |  |
| GP Surgery |  | Train station |  |
| Hospital |  | | |

Huntingdon

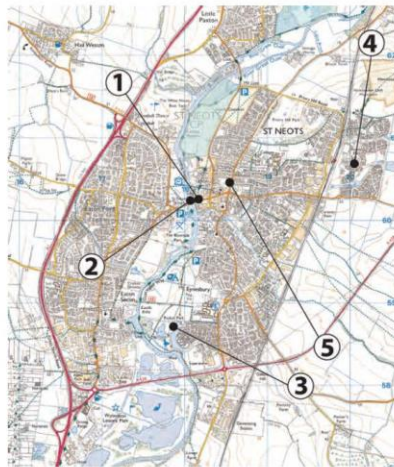
| | |
|---|---|
| Population | Community & Leisure |
| 23,732 |    |
| Retail & Commercial | Employment |
|      |   |
| Education & Health | Transport |
|       |   |



⁵ All population figures shown in this chapter are sourced from Census 2011

St Neots

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Population 30,870 | Community & Leisure |
| Retail & Commercial | Employment |
| Education & Health | Transport |



1. St Neots Market Place



2. Riverside



3. Barford Road Pocket Park



4. Play area, Loves Farm

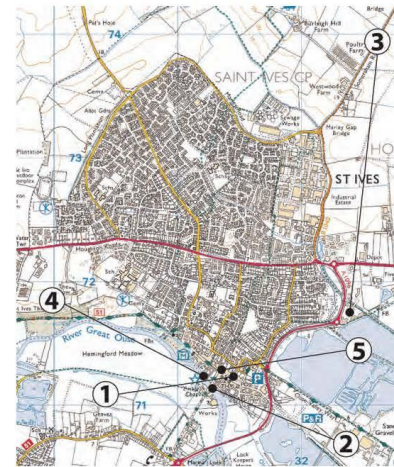


5. Town centre services



St Ives

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Population 16,384 | Community & Leisure |
| Retail & Commercial | Employment |
| Education & Health | Transport |



1. Town centre shops and services



2. St Ives bridge



3. St Ives business park



4. River frontage



5. The Broadway



Ramsey and Bury

| Population | Community & Leisure |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 8,479 | |
| Retail & Commercial | Employment |
| | |
| Education & Health | Transport |
| | |

1. Great Whyte



2. Ramsey Abbey School



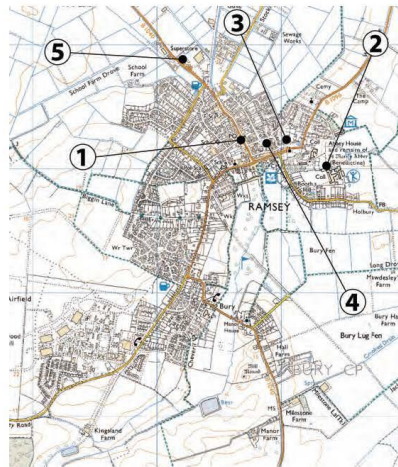
3. Church Green



4. New homes



5. Edge of town supermarket



Largest villages

Brampton

| Population | Community & Leisure | Brampton High Street |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 4,862 | | |
| Retail & Commercial | Employment | |
| | | |
| Education & Health | Transport | |
| | | |

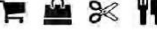


Buckden

| Population | Community & Leisure | Buckden Towers |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 2,805 | | |
| Retail & Commercial | Employment | |
| | | |
| Education & Health | Transport | |
| | | |

Fenstanton

| Population | Community & Leisure | Church Lane |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 3,242 | | |
| Retail & Commercial | Employment | |
| | | |
| Education & Health | Transport | |
| | | |

Godmanchester ⁽⁶⁾

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Population | Community & Leisure | <p>Chinese Bridge</p>  |
| 6,711 |  | |
| Retail & Commercial | Employment | |
|  |  | |
| Education & Health | Transport | |
|  |  | |

Kimbolton







| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Population | Community & Leisure | <p>Kimbolton High Street</p>  |
| 1,477 |  | |
| Retail & Commercial | Employment | |
|  |  | |
| Education & Health | Transport | |
|  | | |

Little Paxton





| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Population | Community & Leisure | <p>Samuel Jones Crescent</p>  |
| 3,244 |  | |
| Retail & Commercial | Employment | |
|  | | |
| Education & Health | Transport | |
|  |  | |

6 (Designated as a town rather than a village due to a Royal Charter of 1212)



Sawtry

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Population | Community & Leisure | <p>Sawtry Old Village School</p>  |
| 5,252 |  | |
| Retail & Commercial | Employment | |
|  |  | |
| Education & Health | Transport | |
|  |  | |

Somersham

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Population | Community & Leisure | <p>St John the Baptist Church</p>  |
| 3,810 |  | |
| Retail & Commercial | Employment | |
|  |  | |
| Education & Health | Transport | |
|  | | |

Warboys

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Population | Community & Leisure | <p>Warboys Clock Tower</p>  |
| 3,994 |  | |
| Retail & Commercial | Employment | |
|  |  | |
| Education & Health | Transport | |
|  | | |

2 Huntingdonshire District

Huntingdonshire Local Plan | Huntingdonshire's Local Plan to 2036

Yaxley

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Population | Community & Leisure |  <p>Yaxley Tea Shop</p> |
| 9,174 |  | |
| Retail & Commercial | Employment | |
|  |  | |
| Education & Health | Transport | |
|  |  | |

Appendix 2 – Godmanchester Food Bank Use over Time



Distributions March - June 2020
(compared to March – June 2019)

Distributions March - June 2020 (compared to March – June 2019)

| | | in 2020 | in 2019 | |
|---|---|------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Vouchers⁽¹⁾ fulfilled | 16/03 to 11 /04 4 weeks | 152 | | |
| | 12/04 to 09/05 4 weeks | 110 | | |
| | 10/05 to 06/06 4 weeks | 99 | | |
| | 07/ 06 to 20/06 2 weeks | 56 | | |
| | Total vouchers 16/03 to 20/06 14 wks | 417 | % increase 37% | |
| Food distributed | From Foodbank to clients (tonnes) | 11.30 | 8.39 | |
| | To other causes/groups sharing similar objectives. | 0.55 | 0.59 | included School Breakfast club support in 2019 |
| | Total food distributed (tonnes) | 11.85 | 8.98 | |
| | Total food distributed (kg) | (118%) increase | 32% | |
| Meal equivalents⁽²⁾ | * 1 meal equivalent = a meal for 2 adults and 2 children | 3200 | 2300 | |
| | | % increase | 39% | |
| Clients on roll | Individuals to whom a voucher has been issued for 1 or more persons | 257 | 41 | 2 |
| | | | | |
| | Adults helped by distributed parcels | 647 | 480 | |
| | Children helped by distributed parcels | 503 | 293 | |
| Agencies | Agencies referring clients | 50 | 35 | |

Notes

(1) A voucher provides sufficient food to provide 3 nutritionally balance meals for 3 days. Parcel weights are amended to take account of different size family groups that a client may be representing.

Parcel contents are adjusted to take account of dietary and religious requirements where appropriate and to compensate for lack of cooking facilities etc.

(2) Meal equivalents are determined on the basis of the weight **food from the parcel** that would provide a nutritionally balanced evening meal for a family of 2 adults and 2 children. The figure represents an approximate guide only.

ACORN profile of potentially vulnerable people contacted by Huntingdonshire District Council in response to the Covid-19 pandemic

25 June 2020

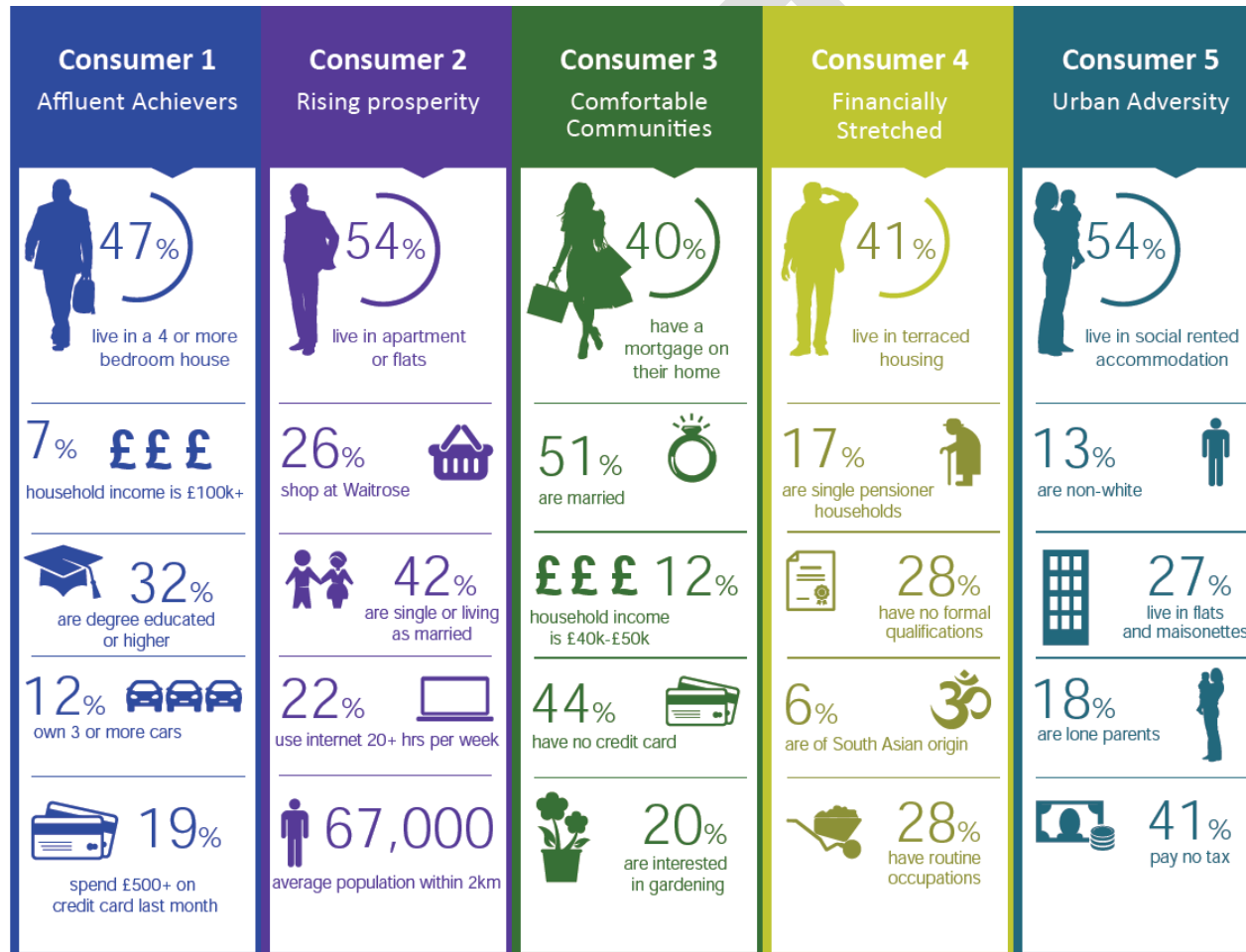
DRAFT

With thanks to CACI Limited for providing a temporary licence, free of charge, to use their ACORN products to support our COVID-19 response.

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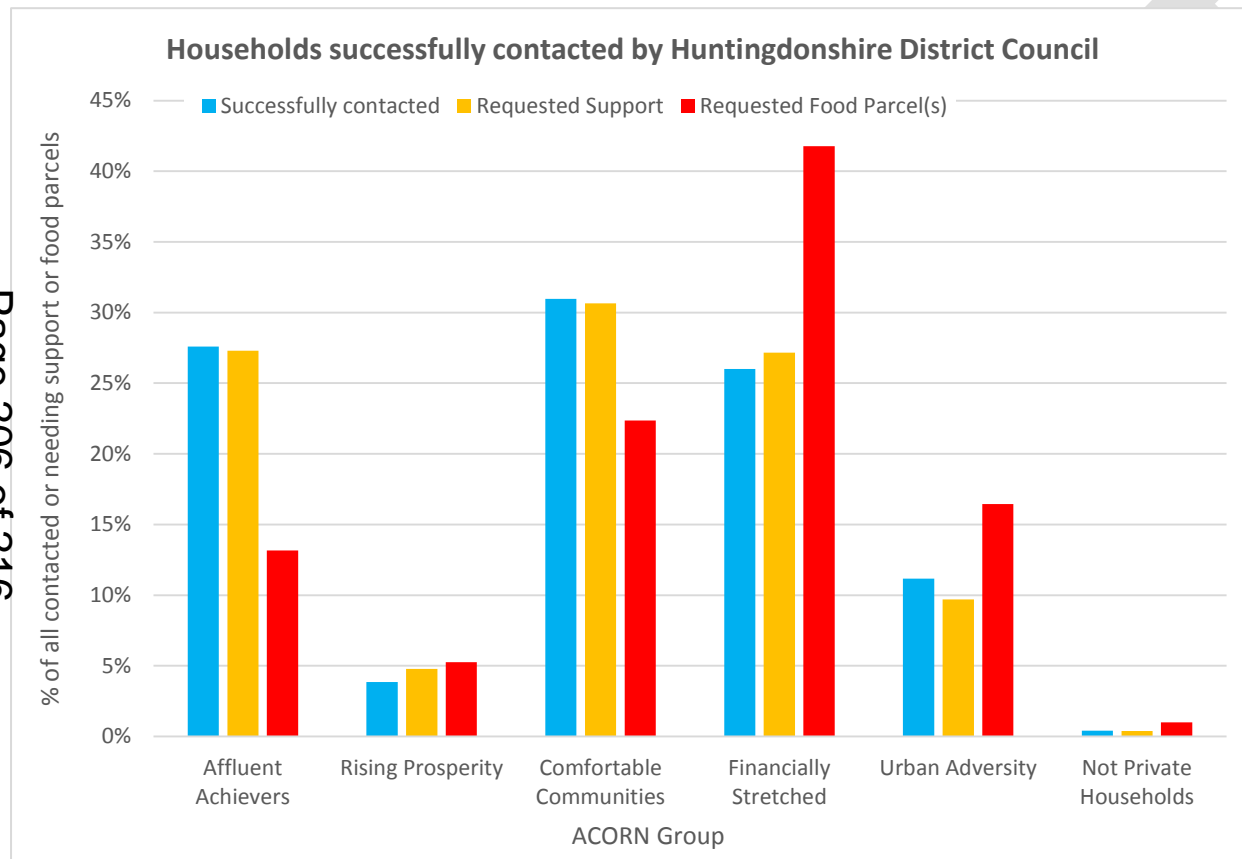
About ACORN consumer classification data

AS explained in their infographic at <https://acorn.caci.co.uk/downloads/Acorn-Infographic.pdf>, CACI's ACORN product uses public and private sector data to describe communities. They use data to classify postcodes into categories, groups and types based on which profiles they best fit. The graphic below shares some key information about categories (the broadest level). This type of information can be combined with locally collected data to identify patterns in behaviour or target key areas.



Huntingdonshire District Council's contacts with potentially vulnerable residents – by ACORN group

The graph below shows the classification by ACORN group of the 7,901 residents successfully contacted up to 15 June. It also shows the classification of those households requiring any form of support (833, or 10.5%, of those contacted) and those households who needed food parcels (329, or 4.2%, of those contacted). Only those households in postcodes with an ACORN classification are listed, with newer properties less likely to have a classification (including new social housing properties).



The proportion of residents successfully contacted from each group broadly reflects the split of households across the district by group

The need for any support was broadly in line with the proportions contacted in each group, which is likely to reflect the nature of more universal services such as those offering help with shopping, collecting prescription medicine or someone to talk to which were in demand by many households regardless of socio-economic circumstances

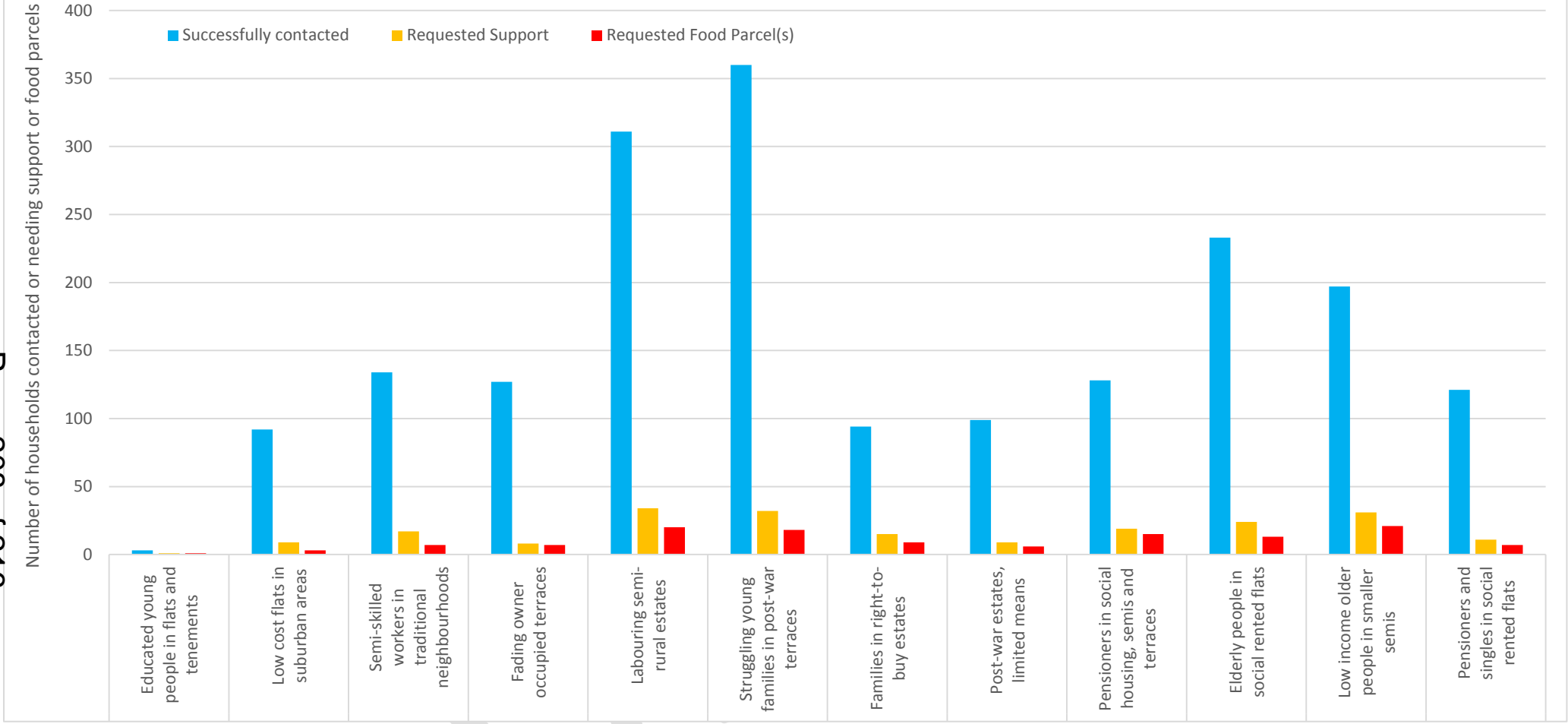
The proportion of people requesting food parcels was significantly lower among the 'affluent achievers' group and higher among the 'financially stretched' and 'urban adversity' groups compared to the people contacted from these groups. This suggests that financial difficulties were a factor in the need for help with food, which is consistent with our findings that those claiming Housing Benefit or Council Tax Support were more likely to request food parcels than other households.

It should be noted that while we undertook targeted work using a range of data to identify households likely to be most at risk, this included targeting those aged over-70 as one of the groups most vulnerable to Covid-19. Many of these residents are relatively affluent and/or live in areas where they would be unlikely to be considered at risk or vulnerable based on their ACORN classification or our other datasets. We also contacted hundreds of residents in response to them being referred/self-referred to us, which included those responding to a letter sent to all households providing details of how to request support, and not all of these residents were in need of our help.

Huntingdonshire District Council's contacts with 'Financially Stretched' residents – by ACORN type

The graph below breaks down our contacts with the Financially Stretched group up to 15 June by individual type. The type with the highest number of households requiring a food parcel was 'Low income older people in smaller semis', with 21 households in this type needing food parcels (11% of all the 197 households contacted of this type). Other types with high proportions requesting food parcels were 'Pensioners in social housing, semis and terraces' (12% of those contacted requested needed food parcels) and 'Families in right-to-buy estates' (10%). We used this information to target some of our outbound calls to other households classified as the same types as an additional source of data about potentially vulnerable households.

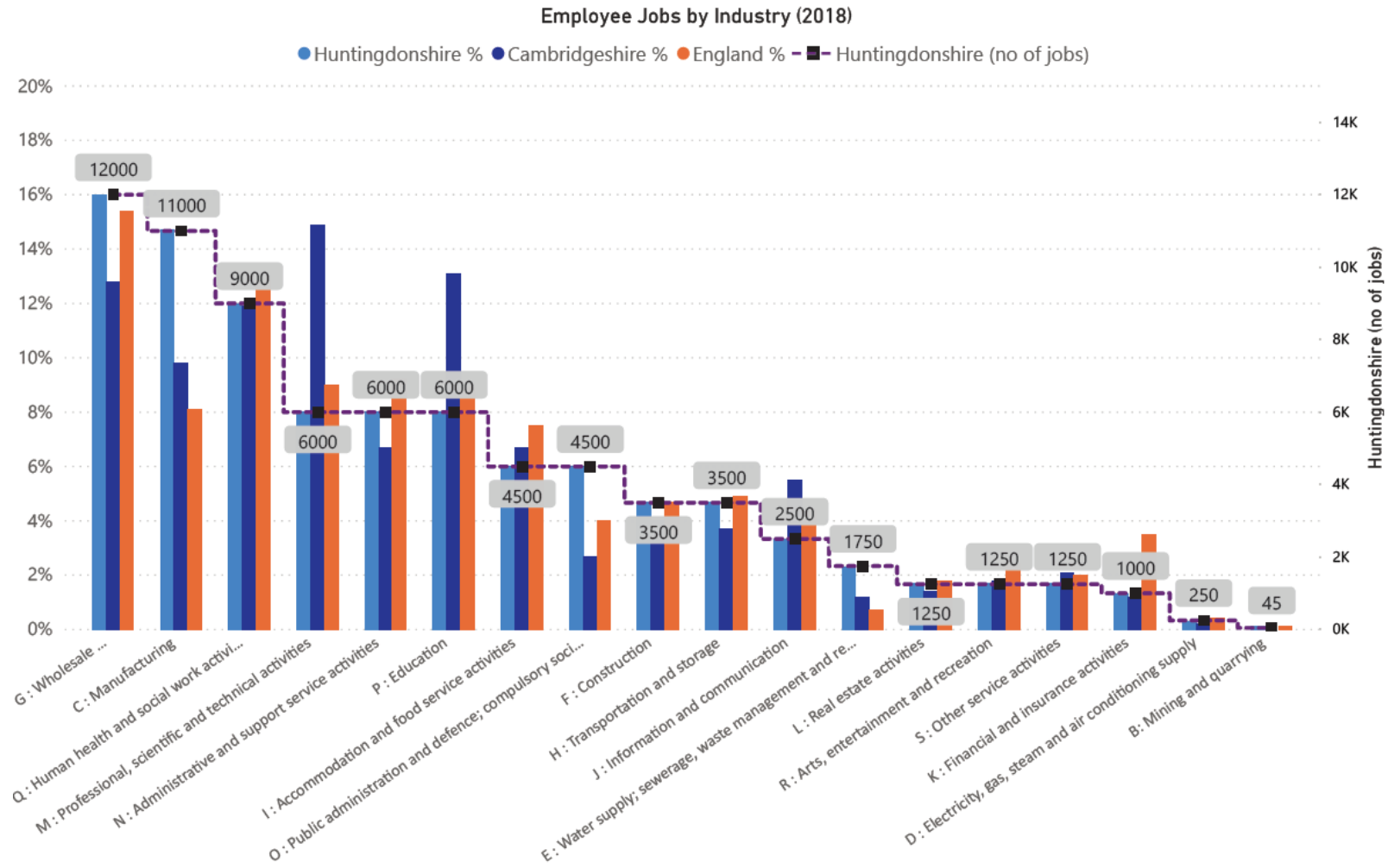
Financially Stretched - contacts and support needs by ACORN type



Appendix 4 - Employee Jobs by Industry

Source: Office for National Statistics, Business Register and Employment Survey 2018 Open Access via NOMIS 2018

<https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/bres>

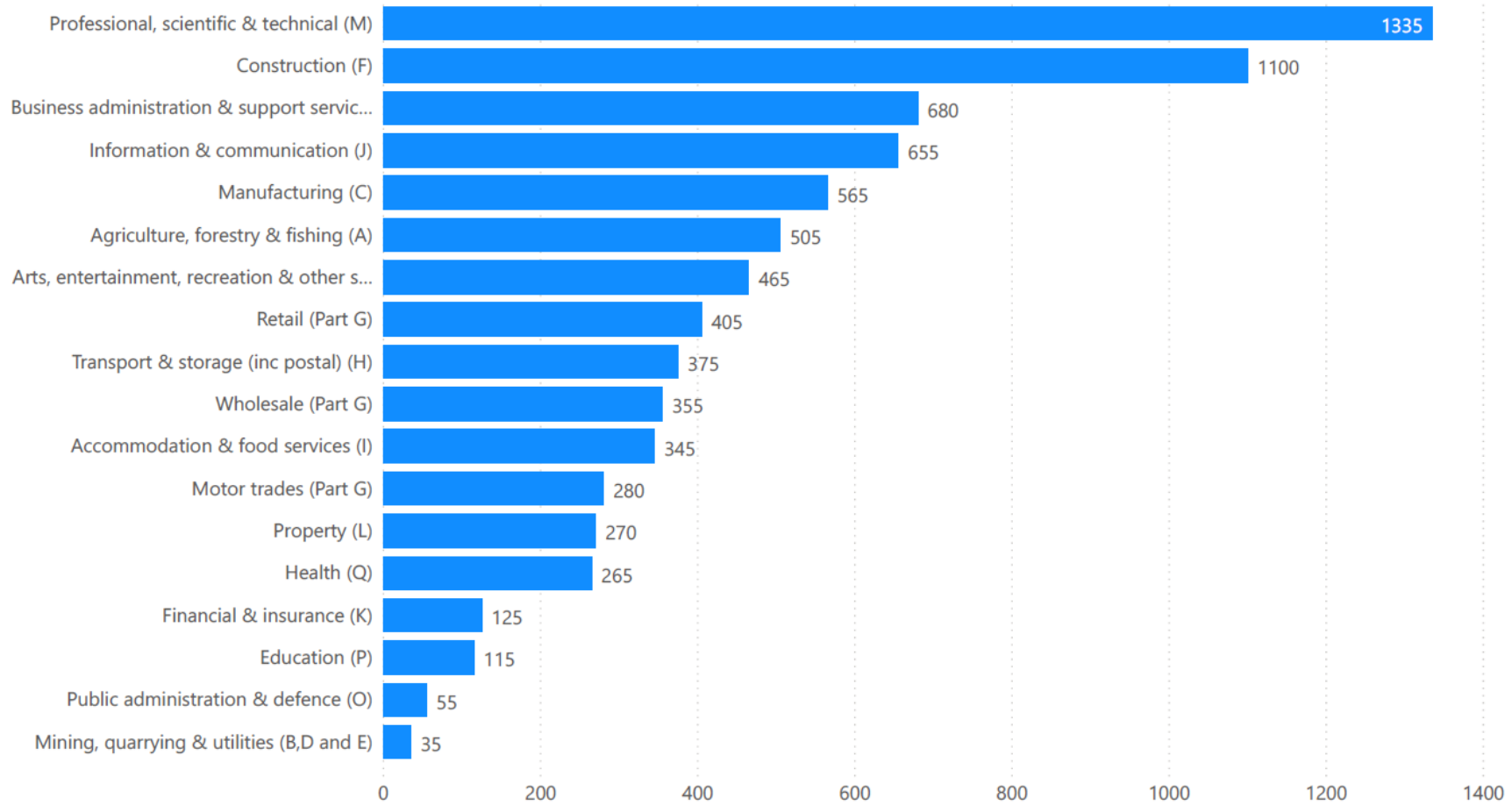


Appendix 4.1 - Businesses by Industry

Source: Office for National Statistics 2019, via Cambridgeshire Insight, Inter-Departmental Business Register 2019

<https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/economy/report/view/63a04d7b08954ee396395366ac5e2dbc/E07000011>

Number of Businesses by Industry (December 2019) in Huntingdonshire



By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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Public
Key Decision - No

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Title/Subject Matter: Decision Tracker

Meeting/Date: Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Performance and Growth) – 8th July 2020

Executive Portfolio: Executive Leader, Councillor Ryan Fuller

Report by: Managing Director, Joanne Lancaster

Wards affected: All

RECOMMENDATION

The Overview and Scrutiny Panel is invited to review and comment on the Decision Tracker attached at Appendix A.

Decision Tracker

| | Issue | Recommended Decision | Reason for Decision | Other options considered | Risks (finance, health, etc) |
|---|---|---|---|--|--|
| 1 | Car Parks | Suspend car parking charges across the District | Supporting key workers and accessing essential services | No action resulting in reputational damage | Impact on budget |
| 2 | Markets | Continue operation with life sustaining retail only and pitch fees will be suspended for the coming quarter and reviewed on a monthly basis | Government guidance on operation of open air markets and relieve hardship of market traders most of which are self employed | Continued operation of the markets will be reviewed on a daily basis with potential full closure | Impact on budget and potential to encourage less social distancing |
| 3 | Council Tax & NNDR | Facilitate a deferred Council Tax & NNDR payment plan for some residents suffering financial hardship until June | Provides a managed and controlled solution rather than switching off income stream totally | A complete switch off of Council Tax income would require a £15m cash injection up front in April and again in May | Controlled reduction in Council Tax income modelling a 30% reduction in collection |
| 4 | Grant funding of £25,000 for retail, hospitality and leisure businesses with property with a rateable value between £15,000 and £51,000 | Facilitate immediate payments for low risk businesses where confidence of data on eligibility | Supporting local businesses in accordance with Government guidance | Hold off payments until full dataset of eligibility is confirmed | Payments made to ineligible businesses if process expedited without due process |
| 5 | Provision of food aid to vulnerable groups | Purchase of 2K emergency packages | Supply chain availability | Await county wide network of supply | Delay in provision of goods for vulnerable |
| 6 | Outstanding CPO claim in | An unconditional | if an offer is not made the | Await submission to | Delay in Land Tribunal |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|---|---|
| | relation to Huntingdon link road | offer be made to Santon @£300k. Portfolio holder agreement email dated 08/04/20 | claimant is likely to proceed to the Land Tribunal, lengthy and costly process and even if it is ruled in Council's favour costs may still be payable to claimant | Land Tribunal that requires experts and barristers on both sides and advise is that middle ground is usually expected for an agreement | process that may ultimately lead to increased costs for the Council |
| 7 | Discretionary Grants Fund Scheme for Small Businesses | Implementation of scheme, checking arrangements, payment amounts and four categories of business | Local Authority Discretionary Grants fund allocated to be implemented from June and running until 31 July 2020 | One off discretionary funding and national criteria set to how funds should be allocated but local discretion allowed for cases to support and the value of payments. Comparisons made of how other local authorities administering and consideration of phased based approach to some sectors discounted as may lead to mixed messages on when businesses could apply. | Actual number of small businesses and micro businesses estimated as many have no direct relationship with the Council and many will have already accessed other forms of grant funding and are therefore excluded |