**From:** Communities Duty

**Sent:** Monday, October 12, 2020 5:40 PM

**Subject:** Covid-19 pandemic response: an update for parish councils and community groups – 12 October 2020

Dear members, volunteer coordinators and parish councillors

Following the recent community briefing, and as cases of Covid-19 rise nationally, we wanted to send another update to share some information that may be useful to you.

**Coronavirus cases in South Cambridgeshire**

Although the [number of cases in South Cambridgeshire](https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/cases?areaType=ltla&areaName=South%20Cambridgeshire) is still below the national average, we are seeing an increase in cases in our area. In the last couple of weeks, the number of cases in South Cambridgeshire has doubled; in the last week for which we have data this was just over 100 cases across the district.

We all need to remember the longstanding guidance to regularly wash our hands, maintain social distancing of 2 metres from others, and wear face coverings.

**Stopping the spread – reminder posters**

The County Council has a library of government / Public Health England posters that can be [downloaded and printed](https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/coronavirus/coronavirus-campaign-for-communities) to use as you wish in your communities.

**£500 support for people told to isolate by NHS Test & Trace**

The Government has created a new package to support and enforce self-isolation with payments of £500 for people who have been asked to isolate by NHS Test & Trace, which residents can apply for via an online form on our website.

Residents who want to claim for a period of isolation prior to the form having been available (from 9 October) will be able to claim retrospectively, if the period of self-isolation began on or after 28 September 2020. Payments will be made within three working days of submitting a fully completed application form.

People who are not eligible for this scheme should still contact us, as other support may be available to help them during self-isolation.

Information about this payment and the application form, plus information about other support, can be [found on our website](https://www.scambs.gov.uk/coronavirus/self-isolation-payment/). Please feel free to share this information with your communities by sharing our posts on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/SouthCambridgeshireDistrictCouncil/photos/a.155464601178391/3422754814449337/?type=3&theater), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/SouthCambs/status/1314583468416917505?s=20) or [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/p/CGIJsRypERz/?utm_source=ig_web_button_share_sheet).

**Grants for every area for community support**

Councillors have agreed to make £50,000 available to support the community effort during the pandemic. If there is an increase in cases in their area, and to make sure community groups have quick access to funding if it is needed, we are inviting all community volunteer leaders in the district to indicate if they have a need.

We will write to both parish councils and community group leads this Wednesday (14 October) with more information. Please look out for this as we will be asking you to get back to us quite quickly.

I will take the opportunity to thank you all again for the incredible response in supporting your communities. I’d like to stress that we wish to continue to work closely with you and to support your efforts in any way we can. Please contact us via your Patch Officer.

Best wishes

Bill Handley

Lead Cabinet Member for Community Resilience, Health & Wellbeing

South Cambridgeshire District Council