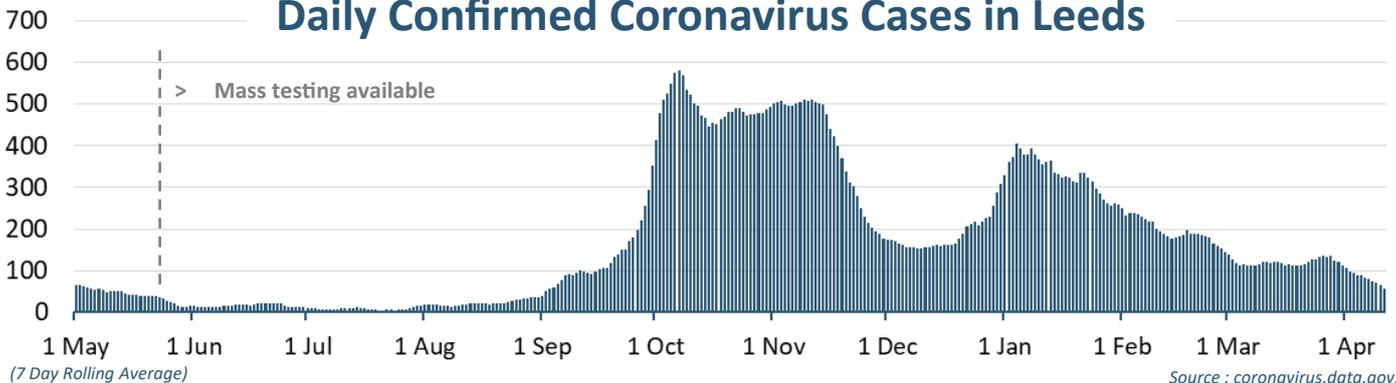


## Daily Confirmed Coronavirus Cases in Leeds



### Headlines for Leeds

Although today signals a significant stage in the easing of restrictions, for a couple of weeks now, there have been indications of increased activity, including some modest growth in employment and recruitment, no doubt as businesses have been getting ready for reopening. There also appears to be a gradual increase in people returning to their usual workplaces, the latest ONS survey finds the proportion of people working in their usual place has risen back above 50% in the fortnight to March 21st. Clearly we will need to examine the impact on the easing of restrictions on the data going forward.

The most recent footfall data has been relatively constant, though footfall in Leeds Rail Station has shown slight increases while bus use appears to have stabilised. Bus use remains at a higher level than rail compared to the pre-COVID baseline. Traffic levels appear to be increasing gradually, both locally and nationally.

Although the Covid-19 case rate seen a gradual downward trend in recent weeks, hospital admissions, inpatients and care home cases have all seen a steady decrease as the vaccine programme continues. Public health teams continue to monitor the effect of pupils returning to school, and for any

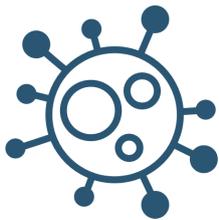
future effect of today's easing of lockdown restrictions on these rates.

Vaccination rates in Leeds record that as of the 8 April 2021 a total of 357,096 GP registered patients in Leeds have been vaccinated, this is an increase of over 26,700 since the last Gold report on 29th March.

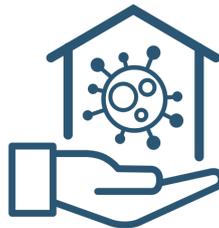
Of the 357,096 patients mentioned above, 76,427 have now received their 2<sup>nd</sup> dose.

The latest 7 day average per 100,000 reported for the overall Leeds case rate is down to 70.4 per 100,000 (88.0 a week before), with rates of persons aged 60+ standing at 23.0. The latest regional average is 62.4 (78.1 a week before).

### Leeds is currently recording the following figures



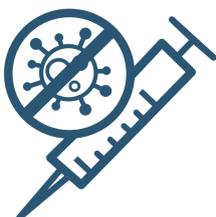
**70.4 Cases rate**  
per 100,000 people  
(7 day rolling average)



**10 Current Cases**  
Reported across 6 Care  
Homes in Leeds



**1600 Registered Deaths**  
That mention Covid-19, an  
increase of 5 over last 14 days



**357,096 vaccinated**  
Registered patients  
within Leeds



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



**35.9 µg/m<sup>3</sup>**  
Nitrogen Dioxide levels.  
Below UK target of 40µg/m<sup>3</sup>

### Health and Social Care Impact & Recovery



**70.4**

**Cases rate**  
per 100,000 people  
(7 day rolling average)<sup>1</sup>



**10**

**Current Cases**  
Reported active in  
6 Leeds care homes<sup>2</sup>



**27**

**Covid-19 Beds**  
Currently occupied at  
LTHT hospitals<sup>2</sup>



**5**

**Registered Deaths**  
mentioning Covid-19  
occurring over the  
last 14 days<sup>3</sup>

#### Health Summary

##### Infection Rates<sup>1</sup>

The latest 7 day average per 100,000 reported for the overall Leeds case rate is down to 70.4 per 100,000 (88.0 a week before), with rates of persons aged 60+ standing at 23.0.

The latest regional average is 62.4 (78.1 a week before).

The latest available 7 day positivity rate for Leeds is 3.7% (down from 4.1% on Saturday).

##### Vaccinations<sup>2</sup>

As of the 8<sup>th</sup> April 2021 a total of 357,096 GP registered patients in Leeds have been vaccinated, this is an increase of over 26,700 since the last Gold report on 29<sup>th</sup> March.

Of the 357,096 patients mentioned above, 76,427 have now received their second dose.

##### Covid-19 Cases<sup>2</sup>

As of the 12<sup>th</sup> April, The number of COVID positive patients in beds at LTHT is 27, down from 35 at this time last week. LYPFT has 0 COVID positive patients recorded in a bed on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

This week has seen 20 positive COVID tests carried out within hospitals (up slightly from 13 last week); 16 were attributed to inpatients and 4 attributed to new admissions, none of which were from LYPFT hospitals

There are currently 6 positive COVID patients in a HDU/ITU bed in LTHT

##### Care Homes<sup>2</sup>

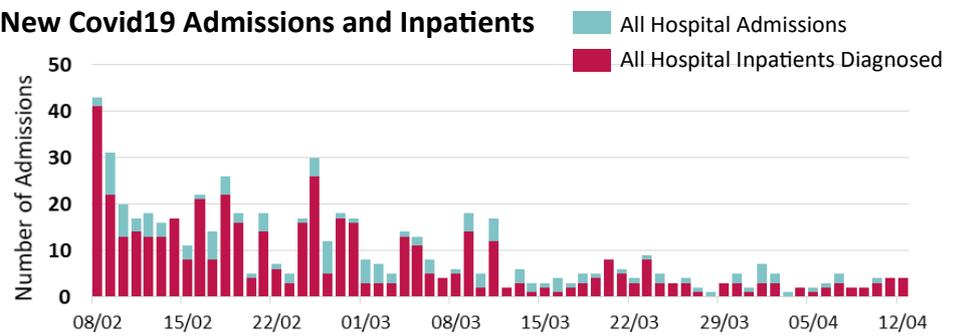
In total there are 10 active COVID-19 cases declared in 6 Care Homes in Leeds. These figures have remained steady over the last few weeks which is likely due to the successful administration of vaccinations

##### Registered Deaths in Leeds<sup>3</sup>

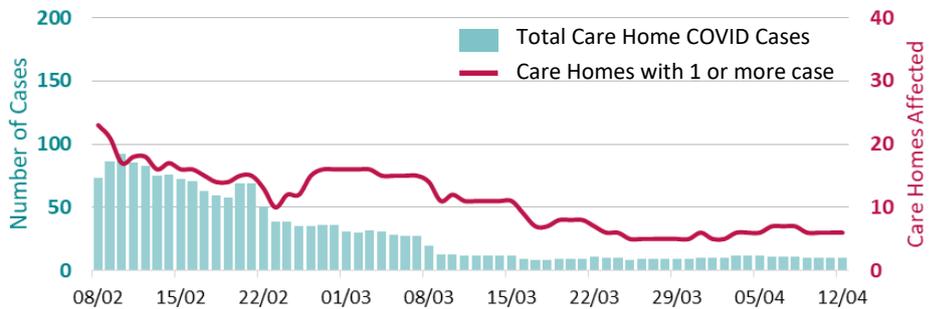
As of 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021, a total of 1,600 COVID-19 related deaths had been registered by Leeds Registrars Office.

Sources:  
 1. Public Health Intelligence - 12/04/21  
 2. NHS Clinical Commissioning Group - 12/04/21  
 3. Leeds Registrars Office - 09/04/21

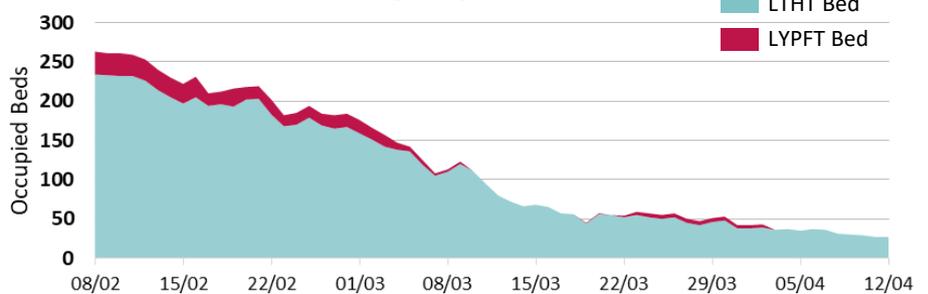
#### New Covid19 Admissions and Inpatients



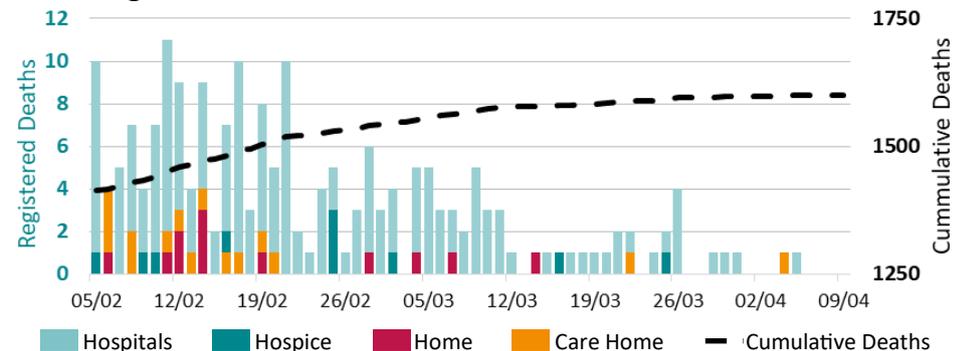
#### Covid19 Cases in Care Homes



#### Confirmed Covid19 Bed Occupancy



#### Deaths registered with LCC that mention Covid19



### Citizens & Community



**255**

**Covid-19**  
Related incidents  
recorded over last  
7 days<sup>1</sup>



**425**

**Domestic**  
Incidents recorded over  
last 7 days<sup>1</sup>



**87%**

**Pupils in schools**  
During the last week



**£1.4m**

**In Self-Isolation**  
Support payments paid  
to successful applicants<sup>3</sup>

#### Citizens & Community Summary

##### Incidents and Crimes Overview<sup>1</sup>

Total crime levels are expected to be depressed during the lockdown period due to restrictions on peoples movement, therefore these figures may see some fluctuation as measures ae relaxed in the coming weeks

##### Children & Education<sup>2</sup>

Average attendance for the week starting 29<sup>th</sup> March was marginally higher than the previous week at 86.5% and average COVID absence was lower at 5.2%.

The majority of COVID absence continues to be due to potential contact in setting with 69% of all COVID absence reported for this reason, followed by 17% potential contact in community, 8% suspected COVID and 5% confirmed COVID.

##### Welfare Support<sup>3</sup>

In the previous week ( 5 Apr to 11 Apr 2021) there were 378 calls recorded to the Local Welfare Support Service's (LWSS) Helpline, with a 98% answer rate.

##### Self Isolation Payments<sup>4</sup>

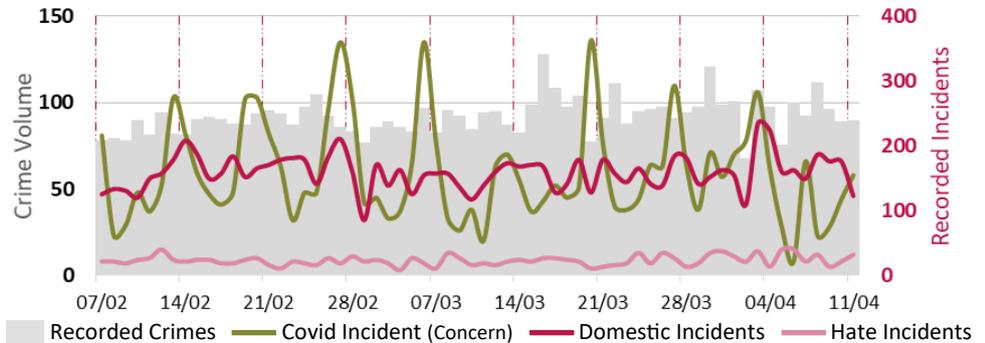
LCC received 119 applications last week which, is lower than the previous 2 weeks. The overall success rate from October to date continues to be 50%. This compares favourably with other LA's. A BBC article in March reported that among 271 council's the average success rate was around 33%.

##### Waste Management & Recycling<sup>5</sup>

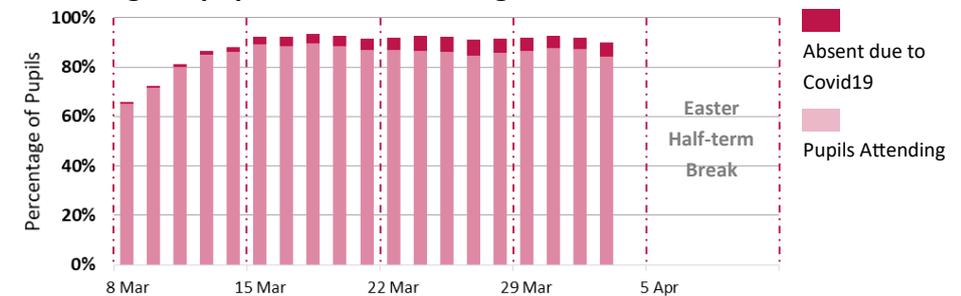
Tonnage of waste and recycling collected at the kerbside throughout this period continues to be higher than normal. Waste volumes are showing no signs of falling to historic levels. Brown bin collections have now resumed – the first 2 weeks of collections have seen volumes double normal levels. Crews continue to be stood down where a staff member becomes symptomatic.

*\*The anomaly in early Feb shown on the chart to the left are due to heavy snowfall affecting waste collections.*

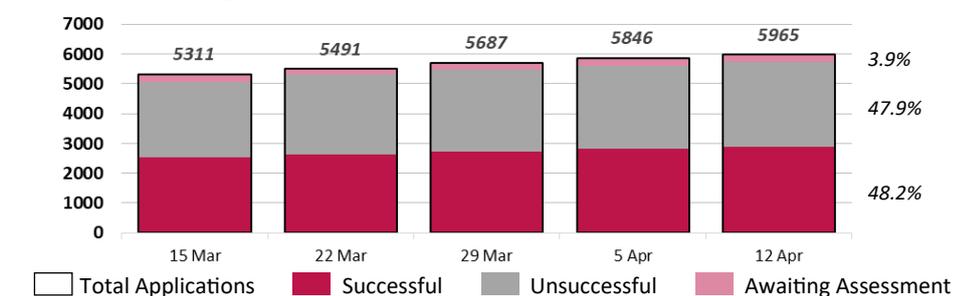
#### Crimes and Incidents



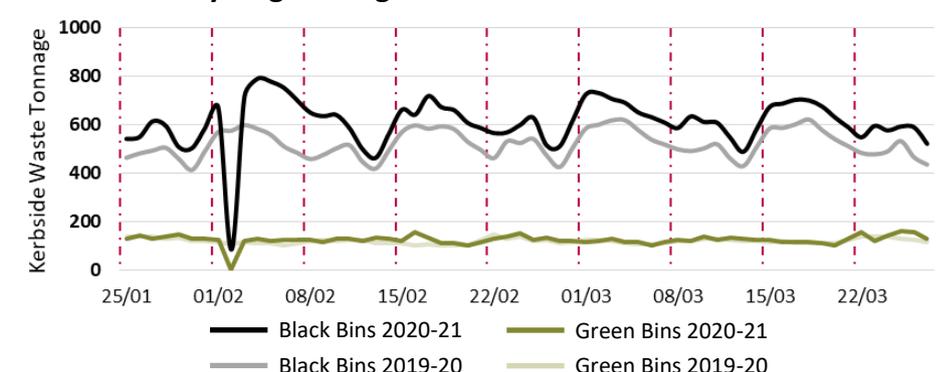
#### Percentage of pupils on roll attending lessons



#### Self Isolation Payments (accumulative)



#### Waste and Recycling Tonnage



#### Sources:

1. Safer Leeds - 12/04/21
2. Children's Services Leeds - 09/04/21
3. Leeds City Council Welfare & Benefits Service 12/04/21
4. Leeds City Council Financial inclusion Team 12/04/21
5. Leeds City Council Environment Team - 12/04/21

## Infrastructure & Supplies



**Traffic Flow**  
Compared to recorded traffic flow in 2019/20<sup>1</sup>



**Average Footfall**  
In Leeds City centre in comparison to 2020<sup>1</sup>



**Decrease**  
In MCard sales in last 2 weeks<sup>1</sup>



**Nitrogen Dioxide**  
Levels, lower than UK target of  $40\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

### Infrastructure & Supplies Summary

#### Traffic & Pedestrian Flow<sup>1</sup>

The lockdown restrictions have seen a continued reduction in footfall. With the average footfall over last week at only 28% of the same week in 2020, although today's easing of restrictions is likely to see a surge in footfall, and travel more broadly, in the coming weeks.

Traffic flow has also seen a reduction since the start of the current nationwide lockdown with numbers falling to approximately 67% of what would be expected at this time of year.

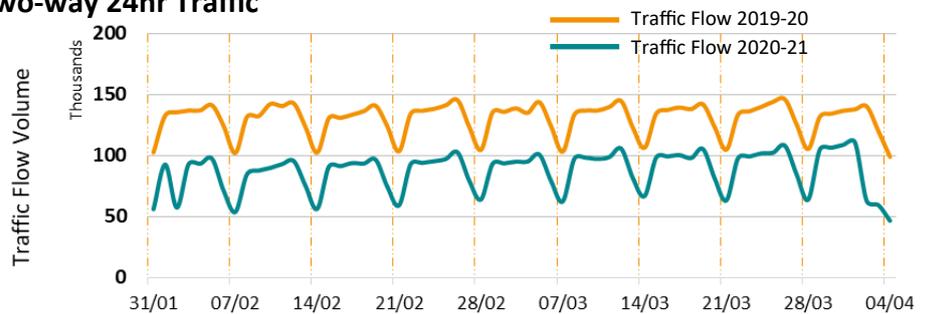
MCard usage showed signs of recovery in previous weeks, however as Easter approached there was an 18% reduction to purchases from 2 weeks ago.

#### Leeds Air Quality (December 2020)<sup>2</sup>

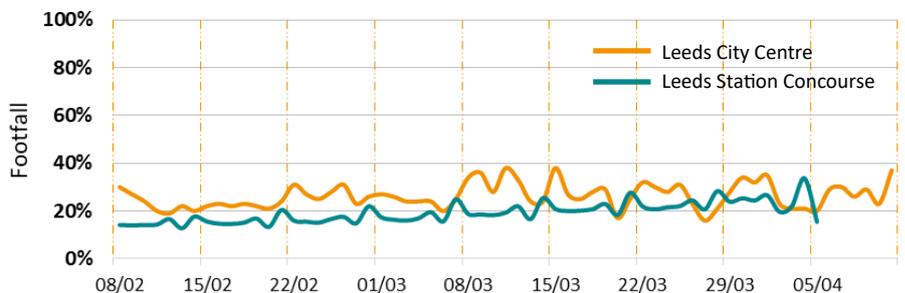
The plot to the lower right shows the monthly mean Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) for all the Leeds air quality monitoring sites.

The effect of the lockdown earlier in the year shows a dramatic reduction across all sites in Leeds and the City Centre area, since easing of measures began in May, levels of NO<sub>2</sub> have begun to rise slightly to an average of  $35.9 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  in December. Throughout April to December 2020 NO<sub>2</sub> levels in Leeds were recorded, on average, at 25% lower than the same period in 2019.

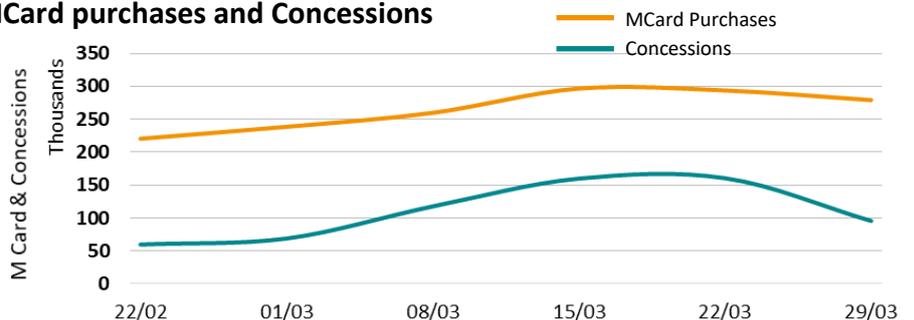
### Two-way 24hr Traffic



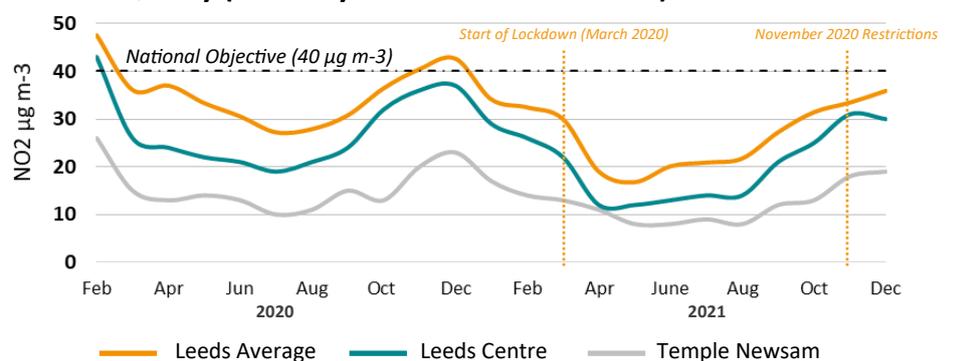
### Percentage of Expected Footfall



### MCard purchases and Concessions



### Leeds Air Quality (February 2019 - December 2020)



Sources:  
1. West Yorkshire Combined Authority - 12/04/21  
2. Leeds City Council - 12/04/21

## Economy and Business



**Out of Work  
Benefits Claimant  
Count<sup>2</sup>**



**Contain Outbreak Control  
Fund allocated to Leeds  
in 2021/22 (in addition  
to £26.5m in 2020/21).**

### Economy and Business<sup>1</sup>

Although today signals a significant stage in the easing of restrictions, for a couple of weeks now, there have been indications of increased activity in some parts of the economy, no doubt as businesses have been getting ready for reopening. The number of payrolled employees in West Yorkshire according to the HMRC increased in February, the third monthly increase in a row and is now 6,000 above November's level. It remains 20,000 below pre-pandemic level, however. More recent data on vacancies shows a 13% increase in online job postings in Leeds in the week to March 27th, the highest in West Yorkshire, further suggesting activity is increasing. HMRC data also suggests furlough use also decreased in mid-March. Finally, there appears to be a gradual increase in people returning to their usual workplaces, the latest ONS survey finds the proportion of people working in their usual place has risen back above 50% in the fortnight to March 21st. Clearly we will need to examine the impact on the easing of restrictions on the data going forward.

The most recent footfall data has been relatively constant, though footfall in Leeds Rail Station has shown slight increases while bus use appears to have stabilised. Bus use remains at a higher level than rail compared to the pre-COVID baseline. Traffic levels appear to be increasing gradually, both locally and nationally. Again, it will be interesting to see the impact of the easing of restrictions on these indicators.

### Employment<sup>2</sup>

Out of Work Benefit claimants rates crept up slightly in February, with 36,740 people claiming Out of Work Benefits (7.1%), slightly above regional (6.7%) and national rates (6.5%).

### LCC's financial position<sup>1</sup>

After taking additional Government funding of £20.6m announced in October into consideration, which reduced the estimated funding gap to £30.5m, the Council identified one off resources to manage the financial position in 2020/21 and deliver a balanced budget position. This remains the position in the latest Financial Health report (the provisional financial outturn) which will be received at Executive Board on 21st April. This position estimates that the Council will receive £26.9m of Government compensation in 2020/21 to mitigate Sales, Fees and Charges income losses, but the actual figure will not be known until after the financial year end.

The projected overspend for 2021/22 as reported to September's Executive Board in the Medium Term Financial Strategy was £118.8m, as a consequence of which Executive Board agreed that consultation should commence on a range of Budget Savings Proposals. The Government Spending Review 2020 included a range of measures relating to local government, with detailed allocations then provided at the Provisional Local Government Settlement in December. The final Budget Report, received at February's Executive Board, recognised an overall improvement of around £31.2m as a consequence of these announcements, which were confirmed in the Final Local Government Finance Settlement announcement on 4th February. Directorate savings proposals of £56.1m have been incorporated into the final Budget and the remaining £31.4m will be delivered through a range of measures to ensure that assumed increases in funding are realised and to deliver budgeted reductions in costs.

As reported to the last COVID Gold meeting, the Infection Control Fund and Rapid Testing schemes have both been extended into 2021/22, with £202.5m provided nationally to continue to support care providers to implement measures to reduce transmission of the virus and a further £138.7m to continue the rapid testing of care staff to protect residents and staff in residential homes. The Leeds allocations of these funds have now been confirmed and are £2.4m and £1.6m respectively.

Again, as reported previously, on the 26th March the Government announced an additional £12.9m per month for councils to support people being asked to self-isolate. The funding will help councils continue to support those who are isolating – with food deliveries, help with caring responsibilities and support for people's wellbeing. It also includes an extra £3.2m per month for the free medicines delivery service which supports people who are self-isolating and need help to collect their prescription. This is in addition to £20m per month of Test and Trace Support Payment funding, giving an overall £33m national fund each month. The Leeds allocation is £0.5m per month.

Leeds has been allocated £6.3m of Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) extended scheme monies for 2021/22, from a £400m national allocation (in addition to the £26.46m Leeds allocation received for 2020/21). The COMF remains ring-fenced for public health purposes to tackle COVID-19, working to break the chain of transmission and protecting the most vulnerable. While the specific public health activities that can be funded are subject to local authority judgement, a list of activities that this funding maybe used for is included in Government guidance. The Government has updated its Contain Framework, setting out the arrangements for managing local outbreaks and asking that local authorities update their local outbreak management plans, in particular to deal with the issues set out in the most recent roadmap, e.g. variants of concern. The refreshed Leeds Outbreak Management Plan is now published.

On 1st April Government launched a £5 billion Restart Grants Scheme providing funding to eligible businesses through councils. Businesses in the non-essential retail sector in England will be eligible for one-off grants of up to £6,000, while businesses in the hospitality, accommodation, leisure, personal care and gym sectors, which are reopening later, will be eligible for one-off grants of up to £18,000. The initial allocation for businesses in Leeds is £40.4m.

Local authority allocations of the Extended Winter Support Grant were announced on 29th March – of the £59.1m national fund to cover the Easter period to 16th April 2021 Leeds has been allocated £986k. This grant supports local authorities to help those who are struggling to afford food and utility bills (heating, cooking, lighting) and water for household purposes or other related essentials.

### Sources:

1. Leeds City Council - 12/04/21
2. Department for Work and Pensions - March 2021

## Policy Announcements

### 29 March 2021

The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) advised the Government to prioritise adult household members of people who are immunosuppressed for vaccination, as part of priority cohort 6. The Health Secretary has asked NHSE/I to take forward this advice.

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

The Government reintroduces confirmatory PCR tests for positive lateral flow device tests to help identify variants of concern, using 'genome assay testing' technology.

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

### 1 April 2021

The advice for clinically extremely vulnerable people to shield from Covid-19 is paused.

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

### 2 April 2021

Philippines, Pakistan, Kenya and Bangladesh added to England's red list of countries from 4am on 9 April. International visitors who have been through red list countries in the last ten days will be refused entry into England. British and Irish citizens and those with residence rights can enter but must arrive into a designated port and stay in a government-approved quarantine facility for ten days.

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

### 5 April 2021

The Government confirmed that step 2 of the national roadmap would go ahead as planned on 12 April, and announced that a Covid-status certification system will be developed which could allow higher-risk settings to be opened up more safely and with more participants.

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

Everyone in England can access free lateral flow tests twice weekly from 9 April. Tests can be ordered for home delivery, collected at local test sites, through pharmacies, or through workplace, school and community testing programmes.

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

### 6 April 2021

Further to an ongoing review of evidence, the advice for secondary school and college students to wear face coverings indoors unless exempt will remain in place after the Easter holidays, and is expected to remain in place until step 3 of the national roadmap (no sooner than 17 May).

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

Launch of a new Recovery Loan Scheme which will provide businesses with loans of £25k - £1m with an 80% government guarantee and capped interest rates.

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

Advice for local authorities published on organised events being held during the coronavirus outbreak.

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

### 7 April 2021

The JCVI advises that adults under 30 be offered an alternative Covid vaccine to the AstraZeneca vaccine, if available, due to emerging evidence of a possible link to extremely rare, unlikely to occur blood clots.

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

### 9 April 2021

Global Travel Taskforce sets out a framework to safely reopen international travel. Recommendations include the launch of a new traffic light system and 'green watchlist', and the introduction of travel certification.

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

## Communications Update

### Website Visits:

The GovDelivery Covid email bulletin, which is sent out to 112K residents, had an open rate of 30% (slightly higher than previous weeks).

Ordering and where to go for rapid lateral flow tests, statement regarding HRH death.

### Communications Update:

#### Roadmap changes

Press release issued at end of last week welcoming opportunities of restrictions easing, tempered with highlighting staying safe as social contact increases. A further press release on the Connecting Leeds roads and public transport changes was also published, to highlight the changes to those unfamiliar with them returning to the city centre.

#### Other related communications work includes:

New, friendlier welcome and safety signage and wayfinder information in the city and district centres. This is being shared at prominent retail sites such as Trinity Leeds and Victoria Leeds.

Social media compliance messaging around what you can do outdoors to discourage people from jumping ahead of the Roadmap and mixing more than allowed.

Business grants continue to be pushed, including re-start grants and those for live entertainment through Leeds Inspired, along with reminders about workplace testing availability.

Litter campaign work intensified as spring weather continues and parks continue to be popular.

#### Duke of Edinburgh death – Covid comms

Possible public expectations around laying wreaths or signing books of condolence quickly managed within press statement from council Leader/ Lord Mayor. Advice from Palace on online activities for both shared. Press release planned for Friday signposting people to pre-recording of small, low-key civic service at the Minster that will be released on our website.

#### Vaccination programme

As the over-40s cohort is brought into the programme, work continues to support the Vaccine Inequalities Plan. People observing Ramadan are being reminded that having the vaccine is fine and does not break the fasting rules. Press release planned summarising programme's achievements so far to coincide with LCC Exec Board report. Work also continuing to finalise ward demographic profiles and communication channel lists, to help us get messages out to targeted groups and areas. Signposting to CCG vaccination website and general Covid testing and advice continues.

### Social media listening:

Overall, lots of positive feeling about restrictions easing. Some conversations about the positive impact this will have on mental health. Some people still cautious about visiting shops and restaurants straight away and would prefer to wait until it is less busy. Still some concern around the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine and blood clots.

#### What is being discussed outside the general national conversation?

- Leeds case rate down to 72.2k per 100k people yesterday.
- We are welcoming people back to the city centre and reminding people to stick to the rules.
- Lots of people sharing pictures of shoppers queuing on Monday morning across Leeds as retail reopens.
- Reminders to keep our parks clean and tidy as more people socialise outdoors.

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

- Lots of positive sentiment as things begin to reopen across the UK. Businesses really excited at reopening and people happy to have some freedom back. Plenty of messages being shared about staying safe and keeping to the guidance.
- Reassurances that a vaccination does not break fast as Ramadan begins.

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

- Still an increase in discussion about AstraZeneca vaccine. NHS reassuring public that the benefits continue to outweigh any risks.

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

- Largely positive views around restrictions easing from today. Some conversations about the positive impact this will have on mental health.
- Some people cautious about visiting shops and restaurants straight away and would prefer to wait until it is less busy.
- Still some concern around the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine and blood clots.