

P&C COVID-19 EMERGENCY PLANNING HIGHLIGHT REPORT

SERVICE AREA:	Communities and Partnerships Service Directorate
REPORT AUTHOR:	Adrian Chapman
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KEY ACTIVITY HEADLINES

Cambridgeshire Skills

- **Cambridgeshire Skills have received in excess of 450 enrolments through the Open New Doors project**, providing unique opportunities for shielded people to learn, participate and engage
- The service has also launched its fifth online course and has already received 19 enrolments

City College Peterborough

- Our Day Opportunities service for people with learning disabilities have increased their online presence and are now offering activities for supported people that can be completed at home with parents / carers, primarily to support their wellbeing during the Covid-19 crisis
- The Health and Care Sector Work Academy have completed the offer for a rapid 2-week course and are sharing this with employers to support upskilling of current staff and those moving into the Health and Care sector to support the growing need

Prevention and Enforcement Services (PES) – Peterborough-only:

- Civil Enforcement Officers and Environmental Enforcement Officers are patrolling the city centre and responding to parking offences such as obstruction, blocking loading bays etc. They have also been undertaking reassurance patrols at the hotels housing homeless individuals
- Work has continued on the city centre recovery plan, which includes the planning for the shops reopening on 15 June 2020
- The risk assessment of the city market has been undertaken, and at the current time in line with the government retail guidance the market is unable to reopen to non-essential traders as social distancing measures including a one way system are unable to be implemented
- The team worked closely with partners to prevent a large party / gathering on the Embankment in Peterborough that had been advertised on social media

Regulatory Services

- Officers continue to respond to enquiries relating to which businesses are permitted to open. There has been uncertainty from some businesses in relation to legislation, for example, door to door sales. Officers have assisted businesses with the interpretation of the legislation and advised on the appropriate action, in the case of door to door sales the advice being that at this time it would not be safe, or appropriate, to carry out sales in this way. Officers are regularly monitoring changes in legislation, proactively advising those businesses that have contacted them where their operations are impacted by changes
- The Food Stands Agency have indicated that they may bring forward the commencement of food hygiene inspection programmes to the beginning of July instead of the 17th as initially proposed
- Safety at Sports Grounds work is expected to resume shortly with Peterborough United Football Club considering when and how matches can take place and whether spectators will be present. Huntingdon Race Course is also looking to open in the autumn. Both grounds will require new safety certificates

Coroners Service

- With plans now in place for inquests to re-commence at Peterborough Town Hall, a risk assessment will shortly be underway for Huntingdon Town Hall. The use of two locations will allow more inquests to take place, helping reduce the backlog. The intention is for cases north and east of the county to be held in Peterborough and cases from the south held in Huntingdon, this delivering a better service for families, jurors and professionals involved in an inquest

Cambridgeshire Registration Service

- **As of 1 June, restrictions on birth registrations have been lifted.** The service has acted quickly to implement the measures necessary for Registration offices across the county to re-open safely and will be ready to begin registering births from Monday 8 June
- Restrictions on marriage and civil partnership *notices* have also been lifted, however in order to clear the backlog of birth registrations these will not recommence as yet

RISKS / CHALLENGES (AND MITIGATION)

Prevention and Enforcement Services (PES) – Peterborough-only:

- City Centre Market unable to open; work is underway to find a suitable interim solution if possible
- City Centre Recovery Planning; working closely with relevant colleagues partners and business to ensure a safe reopening

WORKFORCE UPDATE

- No change

FINANCIAL IMPACT (increase in costs / reduction in income)

- The Coroner Service will incur additional costs when it can begin to hold inquests once again, and we will need to invest in additional assistant coroner capacity to help remove the increasing backlog of cases as quickly as possible
- Similarly, there will be a significant backlog of registrations and ceremonies to deal with in the Registration Service when the lockdown measures are lifted, and this will result in the need for additional staff capacity. The service is also experiencing a significant reduction in income
- Both Cambridgeshire Skills and Cambridgeshire Libraries rely on income generated through room hire and other services; in the current climate, this income is not being received
- We had planned to implement a restructure of our Domestic Abuse service as a result of a Government grant ending. However, to ensure we maintain sufficient capacity to support people affected by domestic abuse, the restructure is being delayed, leading to a possible service overspend

RECOVERY ACTIVITY (plans being considered / future steps)

Cambridgeshire Libraries and Archives

- 5 Hub libraries have been visited to plan for their re-opening as soon as permitted
- Library staff that have been redeployed into other roles are being returned to the service in a planned way to facilitate the re-opening of libraries
- The Ely archives building has been risk-assessed by FM for public access post-lockdown

Cambridgeshire Skills

- A draft recovery plan has been sent to the skills board for approval
- Detailed plans for how to safely re-open March Community Centre have been drawn up in anticipation

City College Peterborough

- The first stage of a recovery plan to prioritise 16-19 yr learners return has been sent to the Governing Board for approval
- The Health and Care Sector Work Academy have contacted previous delivery venues within Peterborough and Cambridgeshire to determine when phased returns for face to face delivery can begin across the community

Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence

- A risk assessment is being developed for future socially distanced face to face visits with clients

Prevention and Enforcement Services (PES) – Peterborough-only:

- Work is underway to investigate alternative locations for traders at the city market

COMMUNICATIONS**Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence**

- Work is underway to investigate a campaign through hairdressers to coincide with the potential reopening of these services in July

Cambridgeshire Registration Service

- The Registration pages of Cambridgeshire County Council's web site have been updated to reflect the changes in legislation relating to birth registrations. The service has also produced frequently asked questions to assist Councillors with enquiries from the public