

**APPENDIX 3**

Ward	Number of deaths
Beeston	3
Beeston Rylands	8
Attenborough and Chilwell	10
Chilwell West	20
Bramcote	14
Toton	10
Stapleford South	7
Beeston West	3
Stapleford North	8
Kimberley South Trowell and Awsworth	28
Eastwood Hall and Brinsley	32
Eastwood Town	18
Eastwood East	6
Kimberley North and Nuthall	5

Areas of higher deprivation have suffered a higher number of deaths as can be seen from the information in the table

**Outbreak control and strategic management of infection spread**

The Borough Council has continued to be represented at weekly outbreak management meetings, held with public health colleagues, NHS colleagues, colleagues from the CCG, Police and other local authorities. Regular (currently weekly) County-wide incident management team (IMT) meetings are also attended by representatives of Broxtowe. All local district councils are represented through the Leader of Bassetlaw on the Local Outbreak board. The Council has been represented through various officers at other local resilience forum meetings including

- Strategic co-ordinating group (SCG)
- Tactical co-ordinating group (TCG)
- Humanitarian action group (HAG)
- Local Authority Cell (LA cell)
- Housing co-ordination group
- Meetings of chief executives and section 151 officers and revenue and benefits officers to discuss strategic and financial implications of responses for local authorities and the most efficient fair and consistent ways of distributing business support grants
- Meetings of environmental health officers have discussed consistent enforcement approaches

**Vaccine rollout and local testing**

281,320 vaccinations have been administered in Nottinghamshire between 8 December -25 February. The over 60s cohort are now being called for vaccinations.

Unfortunately, there is no permanent vaccination site within Broxtowe. After lobbying, a specific vaccine station was set up for a limited time in Eastwood and received a good number of local attendances. It is intended to create another such temporary vaccination centre in Broxtowe. However, the operation of that has been limited by vaccine supply issues.

Data has shown that the group displaying the highest level of hesitancy to receive the vaccine are people with black ethnicity

An inequalities group has been set up to address inequalities in vaccine take up across Nottinghamshire, on which the Borough Council is represented.

Local mobile testing sites on land owned by the Council in the north and south of Broxtowe have operated well to enable local people to get tested. Most recently a new lateral flow testing site opened at Stapleford library. The Mayor and deputy Mayor helped to promote testing uptake at this new facility and the Borough council helped to promote the launch of the site and encourage people - especially people in employment – to attend for regular tests.

Suitable sites to be used for testing are being explored in the Borough. A site in Kimberley has been put forward and other suggestions will be passed to the County Council which is co-ordinating the testing arrangements.

## **Enforcement**

Various initiatives are worth highlighting including:

- Enforcement activity since the last report has included service of more written improvement notices and work with other Nottinghamshire districts to engage the Health and safety executive in spot checks of 130 places of employment (still ongoing) to ensure all suitable measures are in place to keep employees safe. The Council itself was subject to such a check at Kimberley depot, and the feedback was positive with all appropriate measures found to be in place.
- Inspection of new food premises registrations is taking place as well as some high risk premises inspections for food premises which are still able to operate under the current restrictions. However, because of the lockdown it is inevitable that not all food premises are contactable, so food safety inspections cannot all be completed during the current year. The Food Standards Agency has stated that food safety plans for the coming year need to be adjusted in the light of this year's exceptional experience. This council is in the same position as all other districts in this regard.
- The COVID-19 Marshalls operating within Environmental health have been useful in supporting environmental health with enforcement activity, and the Town Centre Information Officers have continued to operate effectively to support those businesses which remain open during the lockdown and support compliance with social distancing in town centre locations. Regular meetings between the town centres team and environmental health ensures activity of the officers is not duplicated and both teams are clear on their focus and priorities. Weekly meetings also take place between Police and environmental health to target enforcement activity and respond to any allegations of breaches of the regulations. Enforcement activity has focused on some retailers where complaints have been made about noncompliance in the form of failure to insist on mask-wearing.
- Systematic contact tracing to supplement what is done nationally has taken place, occasionally supported by the environmental health team and provision of advice and guidance has been provided as part of contact tracing.
- Co-ordinated enforcement activity has been undertaken with the Police in agreed locations

## **Business Support grants**

- Extensive work has been undertaken within Revenues and Benefits to administer the complex myriad of business support grants for businesses affected.
- Discretionary grants: 92 grants totalling £883,250 were awarded
- Additional restrictions grants: 689 grants totalling £1,703,184 were distributed by 18<sup>th</sup> Jan
- Local restrictions support grant: 212 grants of £168,072 were distributed
- Local restrictions support grant: 827 grants totalling £1,068,955 were distributed
- Christmas support: 60 grants totalling £60,000 were distributed
- Small business grants: 1,445 grants totalling £17,195,000 were distributed
- £74,000 remains the amount distributed to voluntary and mutual aid groups as part of the original Borough Council scheme.

- Fuller information relating to the financial impact of the virus has been reported to Finance and Resources Committee. The Council has been compensated by Government for 75% of all of the reduction in income experienced. However, the losses suffered in leisure have not been compensated for to the same extent as the council's leisure services operate through a Teckal company.

## **Employee safety**

- Risk assessments for employees have been updated in the light of continuously produced new guidance. The "Return to the office" group is working on policy and procedure for enabling post lockdown office worker return to the office following the publication of the Government's "Roadmap". It is expected that the current pattern of more flexible working will continue after the pandemic, subject to the needs of our service users. This will help to embed some of the benefits that have resulted from the recent experience including lower mileage claims, the potential for some existing office space to be let to other tenants and generate income, higher productivity, lower absence and better work/life balance for employees. This work will be informed by another survey of employees, to be completed during March.
- The Council is awaiting news of whether the government intends to enable continuation of online council meetings as permitted by current regulation. Strong representations have been made through the LGA regarding the desirability of these continuing. It has been found that many more members of the public access online public meetings than would previously have attended a live council meeting.

## **Service delivery**

- Most services have continued to be delivered as normal. However the latest lockdown has impacted on some services. COVID-19 secure face to face service delivery is not available, but services are available over the phone or by internet. as mentioned above food safety inspection schedules have been disrupted through being unable to make routine visits (sanctioned by the Food Standards Agency)
- Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG) have been disrupted due to difficulties in entering people's homes during periods of high infection. However urgent provision has continued to be delivered. Nevertheless, the budget will not be fully spent in the current year.
- Housing repairs was disrupted for a time during the first lockdown but thanks to very hard work by operatives the backlog was caught up. The second lockdown is also resulting in some backlog. When restrictions are relaxed it is planned to "catch up" the backlog as successfully as previously.
- Promotion of recycling in schools has not been possible.
- The holding of Community action teams has been disrupted.
- Council tax arrears have increased, but rent collection has performed well and tenants have been supported to claim grants and benefits they are entitled to receive.
- There has been a significant financial impact on the Council resulting from reductions in income from car parking and other fees and charges. Some

aspects of delivery of community safety action plans have been delayed- especially those which relied on face to face interactions with young people and schools and other community activities

- Leisure services have been badly affected by the COVID-19 restrictions due to closure of the centres. However, online exercise activity has been made available through LLeisure's website.
- Very few people are now coming forward through the humanitarian hub for support with provision of food and medicines. There has been extensive communications activity to warn and inform residents, tenants, and businesses of changing restrictions, availability of help and support and to influence behaviour and encourage COVID-19 safe lifestyles.
- A “shop local” campaign- “Twelve days of Christmas” was promoted in the run up to Christmas to support our local retailers

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOVERY STRATEGY: PROGRESS****ECONOMIC**

- A survey of needs has been undertaken of businesses in Broxtowe and reported to the Jobs and Economy Committee.
- Two COVID-19 Information Officers have continued to be employed and have been actively deployed in Town centres and surrounding areas.
- A new markets officer has been employed. However, it was decided not to hold markets during the lockdown to avoid the spread of community infection.
- A 21 action- point economic recovery plan was approved by Jobs and Economy Committee at its meeting on 19 November. Actions include the development of additional business units at Stapleford business hub (under way) and Mushroom Farm (funding approved from the D2N2LEP and construction also under way) and the promotion of a local shopping campaign in the run in to Christmas
- The Stapleford Towns fund bid has now been submitted. A bid for more resources has submitted for capacity to develop business cases to the next level of detail.
- The house building delivery plan continues to be implemented (progress is reported to every meeting of the Housing Committee). Two dementia friendly bungalows were completed in Beeston. The Council is working with a local developer for the development of land partly in its ownership. Outline permission was granted at Planning Committee on 4 November. The application will result in 190 units of accommodation, a significant proportion of which will be affordable housing.
- Work has commenced on a “levelling up” bid for Eastwood following the publication of the recent prospectus in the budget and potential funding avenues announced in the budget are being explored for Kimberley as well.
- The Council has now agreed to become founder members of a new interim vehicle for the East Midlands development corporation to attract government and private sector investment for the development of the Toton innovation campus and two other sites. Central to the proposals at Toton is the creation of a new national skills academy. This will help to place fresh value on the value and status of key work as well as increasing the skills of residents of our area, in accordance with our strategy. Another feature of the interim vehicle is the innovative collaboration of universities with the Councils in promoting the skills and environmental agendas within the development corporation project – something the Council also sought to achieve as part of our economic strategy approach.
- Beeston Town centre regeneration continues with the new cinema development completed and now at fit – out stage and strong interest being shown in all the available food and beverage associated units. As part of the launch of the regeneration scheme it is planned to celebrate our COVID-19 “heroes”, as anticipated in our COVID-19 recovery strategy. The sale of land for 132 units of residential development in Beeston Town centre was completed.
- A refreshed list of sites to focus on bringing forward for development continues to be monitored by the Jobs and Economy Committee

- A new task and finish group to progress the Council's approach to renewal of its leisure facilities was set up and is continuing to meet.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL**

- A new Carbon reduction strategy has been developed and approved by the Environment and Climate Change Committee. This is a comprehensive 15 strand programme of work designed to enable the council to make substantial progress towards achieving our goal to be an area which is net zero carbon by 2027. Included within the strategy is a new transport and fleet strategy. An update report on strand progress is produced to each Environment and Climate Change Committee. Environmental initiatives such as tree planting, the continuation of the clean and green scheme including expansion of recycling and composting; increasing of meadow planting; creation of the first "pocket park", and mapping of the blue infrastructure as a precursor to improving the biodiversity of these assets has also been taking place.
- A new head of asset management and maintenance position has been created to take forward and implement a new asset management plan. The new Asset Management plan for housing has a number of themes one of which is energy efficiency. This means in the next year spending will focus on
  - Replacement of electrical heating with more energy efficient models and remove all solid fuel heating from our properties
  - Analysis of benefits of Air-Source Heat Pumps and PV solar panels that have been fitted to new build schemes
  - Consideration of retro-fitting of energy efficient measures including Air-Source Heat Pumps
  - Considering fitting PV solar panels when completing roofing work
  - Reviewing the need for increasing insulation, including loft insulation and the approach needed to address properties that are difficult to insulate
  - Identifying all funding opportunities, and make bids for funding where suitable
  - Providing information for tenants to support them to use their homes in the most efficient way
- A community engagement programme is happening, with nearly 500 households participating in a new "Go Green" challenge initiative, and MSc students at Nottingham University have been engaged in a project to increase community engagement in sustainable living.
- Part of the Stapleford Towns fund bid is a proposal to create a cycle "super highway" to encourage environmentally friendly ways of moving around the town, good connectivity to the Toton strategic growth site and the

development of the concept of the “20 minute neighbourhood”. This is to capitalise on the environmental gains which resulted from changing work and leisure patterns during the COVID-19 pandemic and is one of our strategic goals.

**SOCIAL**

- A voluntary sector mapping exercise has been commissioned, to be presented to the next meeting of the Broxtowe partnership and then the Leisure and health committee. A mental health action plan for employees was approved by the Personnel Committee
- A new mental health action plan for the Borough was approved at Leisure and Health Committee. The Broxtowe partnership on 21 October had a special focus on mental health issues and a task and finish group was set up to take forward work to add value to existing efforts and identify gaps in provision.
- Work is being done to explore creating a new mental health hub in Eastwood based at Durban House.
- A survey has been completed relating to people living with dementia and their Carers and a proposal to support people living in Broxtowe who have dementia and the carers was approved at a recent Leisure and Health Committee. The implementation of this has been unfortunately compromised by the lockdown
- Coronavirus Grants were provided to voluntary organisations which are supporting the community to cope with the impact of COVID-19.
- A report on fuel poverty was produced to a recent Housing Committee outlining measures being taken to support people with their heating bills. This work is continuing and being broadened out to lead to a corporate fuel poverty strategy.
- A food strategy is being worked on and will be brought to the Leisure and Health Committee in due course.
- The child poverty strategy has been updated and was approved by the Policy and Performance Committee.