

COVID-19 EMERGENCY PLANNING HIGHLIGHT REPORT

SERVICE AREAS:	Place and Economy
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REPORTING PERIOD:	3 rd July 2020 to 17th July 2020

NEW GUIDANCE AND IMPACT

- Guidance on Active Travel Tranche 2 schemes proposals was received from DfT on 10th July. The deadline for submission is 7th August - work has started across CCC and PCC to pull the bid together.
- In CCC, event organisers need to submit covid risk assessments before any road closure orders for planned events are processed.
- Government guidance is to continue working with rough sleepers who are eligible and non-eligible up until March 2021. This has meant the team need to look at a new setting where we can accommodate and work with this cohort of clients.

NEW CHALLENGES AND ACTIVITY

- Recovery in the housing market is increasing the demands upon the Searches Teams in CCC and PCC.
- A14, A428 and Network Rail are seeking to progress a number of projects, including: Cambridge South Station, Ely Capacity Enhancement and Soham station. These will all require input from the CCC highways service, which is already stretched with delivering existing and new programmes of work.
- The Active Travel deadline is 20th August – resources will be tight to deliver this across the two councils on time, but plans are in place to achieve this.
- All CCC and PCC highway work has returned to near Business as usual with well developed social distancing working practices imbedded.
- In terms of the housing team at PCC, colleagues have been:
 - Identifying a new setting for those clients still at the Park Inn and any new flow of clients. The new setting needs to cater for between 25 – 40 individuals.
 - The team has considered & explored various options for the new setting and the Queensgate Hotel has been identified as being the preferred short to medium term site, due to a number of factors –
 - Cost has been negotiated to an amount nearly equivalent to what PCC pays for a Cross keys Hostel room per night (approx. £35pn)
 - Queensgate know our clients and have been more than accommodating with PCC and our clients
 - The speed in which we can move settings
 - Cross keys Homes Temporary Accommodation – The relationship with Cross keys Homes has improved vastly. An area of the hostel accommodation has now been designated as a form of ‘assessment’ centre where we can place clients who may be deemed high risk or we have little information on, to assess their needs and where best to place them long term. Cross keys Homes have also agreed to place ten clients direct from hotels into their hostels to help with our move from the Park Inn.

RECOVERY ACTIVITY

- Risk assessments for School Streets schemes have been completed.
- In Cambridge, the Mill Road bus gate cameras have been installed.
- Traffic flows continue to increase but is not yet at pre covid levels, footfall in Cambridge around 50% of same time last year
- In Cambridge, 40 extra cycle racks have been installed at Park and Ride sites
- In PCC, the Active Travel measures are being delivered as follows:

Crescent bridge	The removal of an east bound lane to install a pop-up cycle lane has taken place and is operating well.
School Street Closures	Ten schools have now expressed an interest in taking part and risk assessments are underway. The closures themselves will take place once schools return in September.

Broadway	Letters have been delivered to businesses along Broadway advising them of the Council's plans to install pop-up cycle lanes. Officers hand delivered letters and spoke to a number of businesses in person.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Cambridgeshire to support the Green Recovery, planning applications have been submitted for energy schemes at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Swaffham Prior Community Heating Project ○ North Angle Solar Farm ○ Babraham P&R Solar Canopies • In terms of the PCC housing team, resettlement has slowed down due to the clients who remain in the hotels being ineligible and have no means of moving on to permanent accommodation. Staff are working with clients to secure ID and progress them into meaningful work, when we will then be able to assist with a PRS offer. Also, supported housing settings are becoming full, meaning clients who require these settings are going to have to wait longer to secure an offer. 	
DECISIONS MADE SINCE LAST REPORTING PERIOD	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Cambridgeshire and in conjunction with Amey, capacity per hour at HRCs that require booking has been increased with effect from 20th July. 	
NEW FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS SINCE LAST REPORTING PERIOD	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Searches income is increasing as CON29 search responses are increasing. 	
WORKFORCE CHANGES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	
COMMUNICATIONS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CCC web site was amended to reflect that changes to highways asset management policies due to Covid 19 and will be reviewed by 31st July. • A letter has been drafted for schools to send to parents and for local residents in relation to school streets schemes. • FAQs have been developed for the Active Travel schemes – these are now on website and under constant review. 	