

HICovid19 digest (26 Jul 21)

Those who track the stats will know that last week any smugness about Histon & Impington continuing with a pretty low infection rate is of the past. In the 7 days up to 20 Jul 21 43 new infections were recorded for a rate of 356 per hundred thousand. That compares with 532 for England as a whole and 341 for South Cambs which are both for the period up to 25 Jul 21 (ie they are more up to date). The South Cambs numbers are said to be 'stabilising'.

Addenbrookes' admission are also up but with proportionately fewer in intensive care when compared to earlier in the year.

Our community appears to be behaving with remarkable responsibility with a high level of mask wearing and attention to social distancing. Our businesses are doing likewise and the statements from Tesco (<https://bit.ly/3kVklYf>) and the Co-Op (<https://coop.uk/2UPltkq>) have both been supportive with employees continuing to wear masks and customers being encouraged to do likewise.

Our hospitality businesses are all doing their best to navigate a middle road between unbridled freedom and slavish adherence to old rules. The guidance on the Red Lion Facebook page is fairly typical:

'Further to the government announcements, we here at the Red Lion will still put the health & safety of our customers and staff above all else. We will still wear masks to serve you. It's your choice if you want wear them when moving around and you can come to the bar to order and pay.

We'd like you to sit back down as soon you can. Ordering on the app is still the best inside or out and we can do table service inside if none of these options suit you.'

Many people have rather enjoyed table service and it's good to see that this will still be supported. The Guardian thinks that will indeed continue <https://bit.ly/36YEDrE>

And to repeat what we said last week, this means that we should:

- Continue to observe 'hands, face and space' especially in crowded indoor spaces;
- Be tolerant of those who choose not to relax their behaviour. And of those who do;
- Recognize that vulnerable people may now feel less safe in our community; and
- Support our businesses and whatever rules they put in place

Our community has looked after itself in exemplary fashion. However the changes will probably bring more stress. If that happens and you or anyone you know does need any help for any reason please contact the street co-ordinator or call the HICOVID19 helpline on 01223 320420.