



Somerset Covid-19 Weekly Workstream Update

Friday 26th June 2020

Improving
LIVES



Introduction

Somerset County Council is working tirelessly with community organisations, charities, volunteers and its partners to support communities during the current Coronavirus pandemic. A number of multi-agency workstreams are in place to support this vital work. The following pages advise you of these workstreams, their key actions during the last week, what's planned going forward and what you can do to help. We plan to issue this workstream update every Friday. If you need more information, please check out www.somerset.gov.uk/coronavirus

Public Health

Mindline

received 441 calls in the last week. Total of 4,625. More calls received from young people and overnight.

Visits to PH Website

216 users of the Healthy Somerset website over the last week

Social Media Stats- Reach

Infection prevention control: 14,389, Alcohol and Drug misuse: 4,239, Exercise videos: 4,502, One You: 3,196, Healthy recipes: 4,575, Domestic abuse: 2,894, Smoking Cessation: 3,381, Bereavement service: 3,538, Mental Health: 3,638, BBC Somerset wellbeing slot: 1,872, Child accident prevention: 903

Key Points

- Delivery of a range of wellbeing training sessions to staff within schools. 75 teachers attended training on developing emotional literacy for children and weekly wellbeing check-ins are attended by over 30 staff.
- All schools invited to join webinars led by Public Health England. The webinars will continue to run twice weekly and all schools encouraged to attend.
- Continued development of resources for Healthy Somerset AND Somerset CYP websites, including the BBC Somerset Wellbeing Hour which this week focused on alcohol awareness.
- Health Visitors have maintained kept up contacts with children and families through an altered service delivery model. This has included creative approaches for face to face meetings with families identified with additional needs.
- Communications to public regarding changes to the national guidance, specifically around changes for the shielded population, including a video from Cllr Clare Paul and Director of Public Health blog.
- The Draft Somerset Local Outbreak Management Plan has been written and signed off by Cabinet.
- 168 Somerset care homes have registered for whole home testing,
- Plans to implement recharging for the cost of PPE are being progressed for implementation in July.

Testing & Care Homes

- In the last week 393 have received a home covid19 test
- 851 people were tested at the Taunton racecourse regional testing unit
- 87 people were tested at mobile testing site at Yeovilton
- Antigen testing has begun for NHS staff
- Both acute trusts are engaged in Operation Siren, which is a national surveillance trial among NHS staff which will help inform our understanding of the virus and our body's response to it.

Actions going forward

- Bid for funding to develop publicity campaign for Mindline in collaboration with MIND and Somerset Foundation Trust.
- Further development of Health MOT offer. This is an amended, telephone version of NHS Health Checks and will be launched in Somerset week commencing 6 July.
- To deliver the Somerset Local Outbreak management Plan, the COVID19 Health Protection Board will be established and chaired by David Fothergill
- Comms plan developed for people shielding

How to help

- Help to promote social distancing and hand washing messages.
- Help to promote if you have symptoms to isolate and request a test through <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/ask-for-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/> or by dialling 119.
- Help to promote the message that if you are the contact of a positive case you need to isolate for 14 days, and if become symptomatic request a test as above.
- Continue to circulate information regarding Healthy Somerset Website www.healthysomerset.co.uk
- Be role models around physical distancing and showing leadership in communities around Staying Alert and Staying Safe.
- Video blogging or written blogging support key messages around Public Health topics for example Q&As on corona information.
- Follow Trudi Grant on Twitter and retweet PH messages @somersetDPH
- Share details of BBC Somerset Wellbeing Hour and dedicated web pages <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p086t6ky>
- Share details of the Bereavement Support Service. Tel : 0800 304 7412. Details/Booklet available <https://www.healthysomerset.co.uk/covid-19/happy/bereavement-and-coronavirus-support/>

For more information..

- Your Somerset - <https://online.pubhtml5.com/fuxz/wiht/>
- <https://somersetft.nhs.uk/?news=mental-health-helpline-now-available-24-7-to-support-somerset-communities>

Recovery Actions (achieved or planned)

- E-zine being developed to recognise and celebrate wellbeing work in schools (usually an annual conference in early July where schools are awarded). Schools are being supported to develop wellbeing focussed curriculum for September.

Somerset Public Health COVID-19 Dashboard

The higher case numbers seen in early June include a number of cases that have been falsely identified as positive following an issue at the laboratory.

For further information please see the following statement from Somerset NHS Foundation Trust

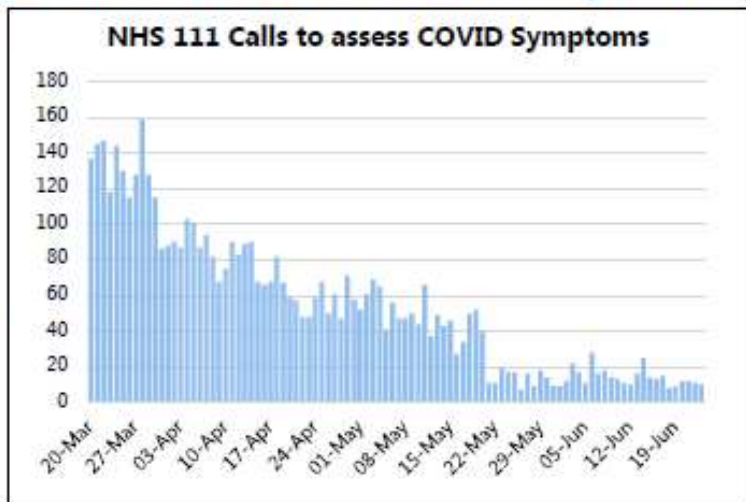
<https://somerseft.nhs.uk/?news=issue-affecting-some-covid-19-test-results-for-some-inpatients-at-musgrove-park-hospital>

NHS 111 COVID Demand



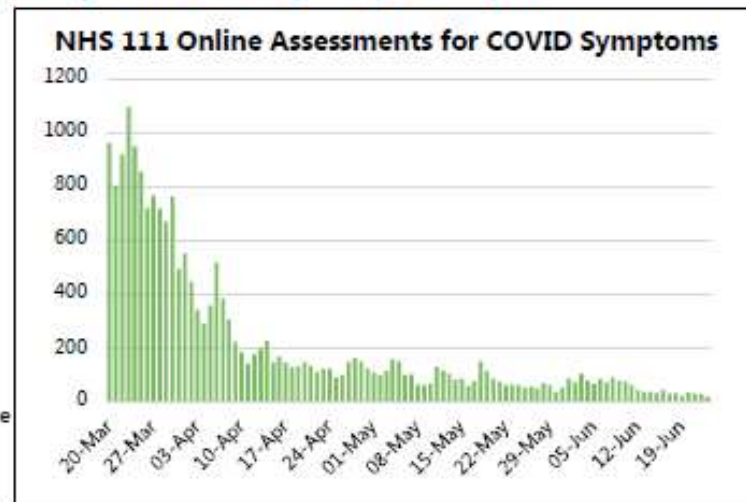
Latest daily Somerset based calls to NHS 111 to assess COVID symptoms

23/06/2020



Latest daily NHS 111 Online symptom assessments for COVID giving Somerset postcode

23/06/2020

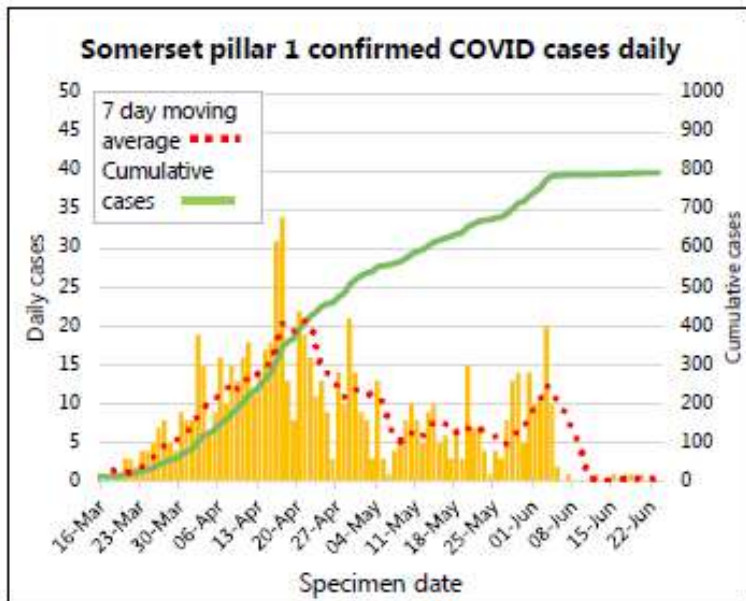


Detected cases

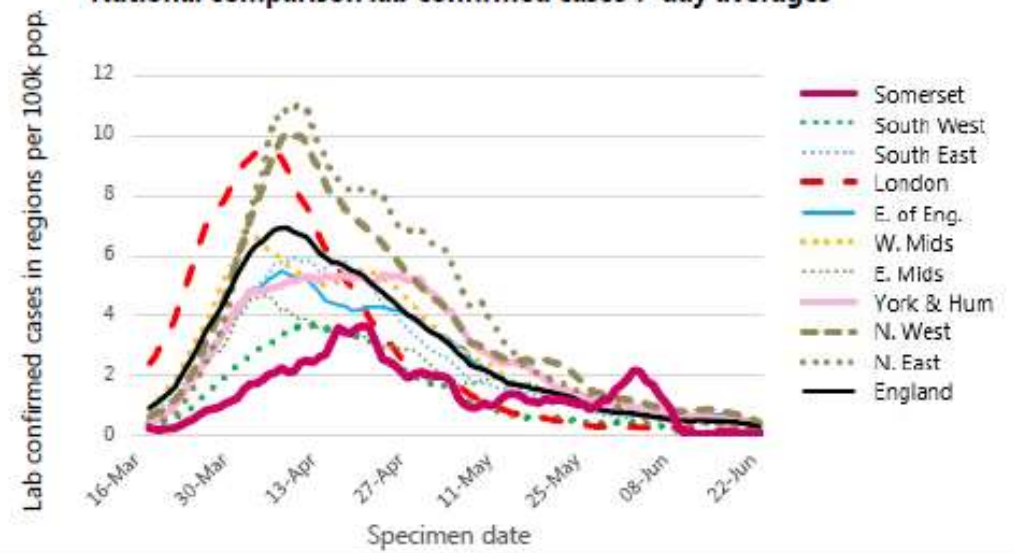


Total pillar 1 lab-confirmed COVID cases in Somerset

23/06/2020



National comparison lab confirmed cases 7-day averages



Somerset Public Health COVID-19 Dashboard

Latest R number range for the South West

0.6-0.9

Last updated on Friday 19 Jun 2020

Produced by:

UK Government Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE)

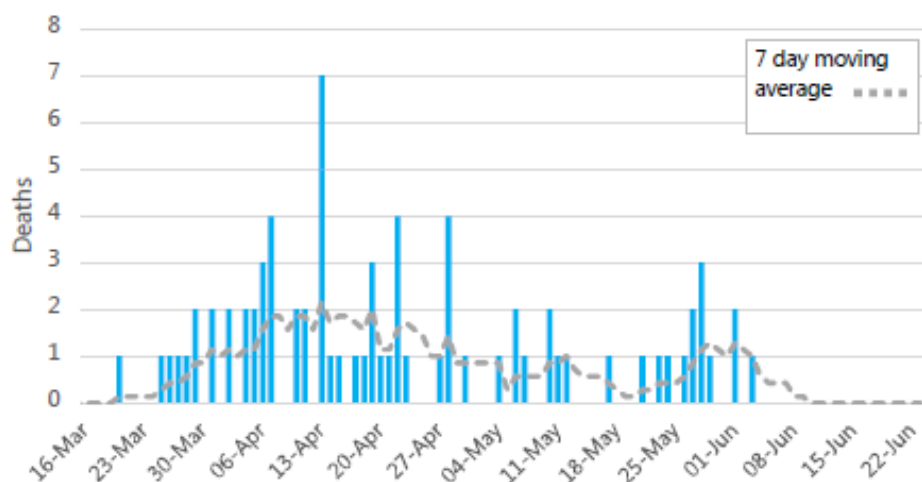
What is R?

The reproduction number (R) is the average number of secondary infections produced by 1 infected person.

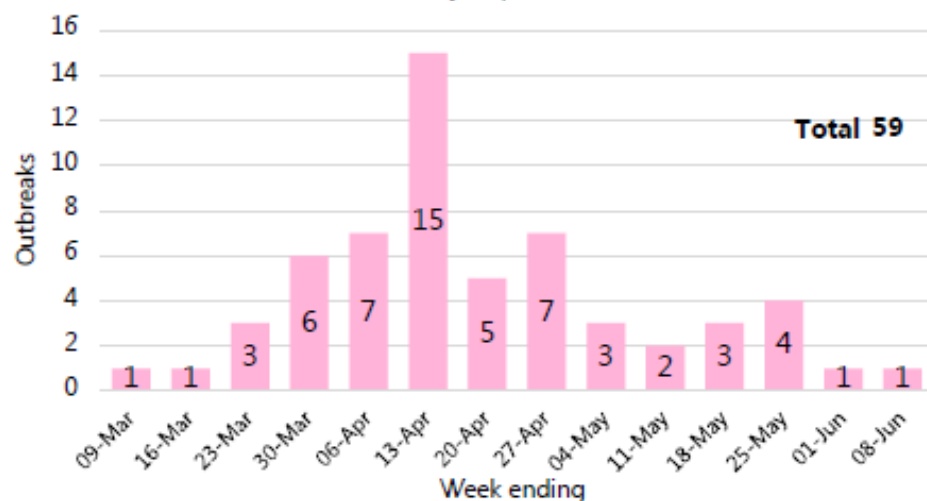
An R number of 1 means that on average every person who is infected will infect 1 other person, meaning the total number of new infections is stable.

Region	R
UK	0.7-0.9
England	0.7-0.9
East of England	0.7-0.9
London	0.7-1.0
Midlands	0.8-1.0
NE and Yorks	0.7-0.9
North West	0.7-1.0
South East	0.7-0.9
South West	0.6-0.9

Daily COVID Deaths at Somerset Hospitals



COVID Outbreaks Somerset Care Homes New Weekly Reports (PHE)



Somerset Public Health COVID-19 Dashboard



COVID deaths week ending

① 12/06/2020

All COVID

2

Hospital

0

Care Home

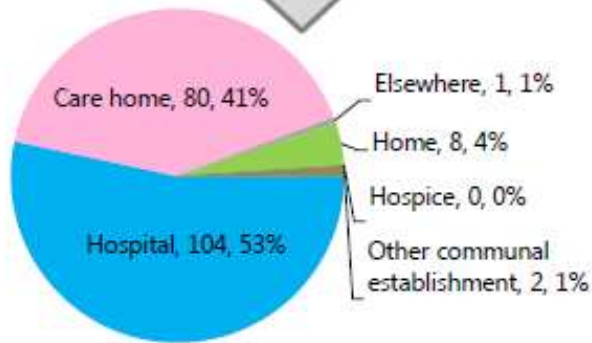
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Other

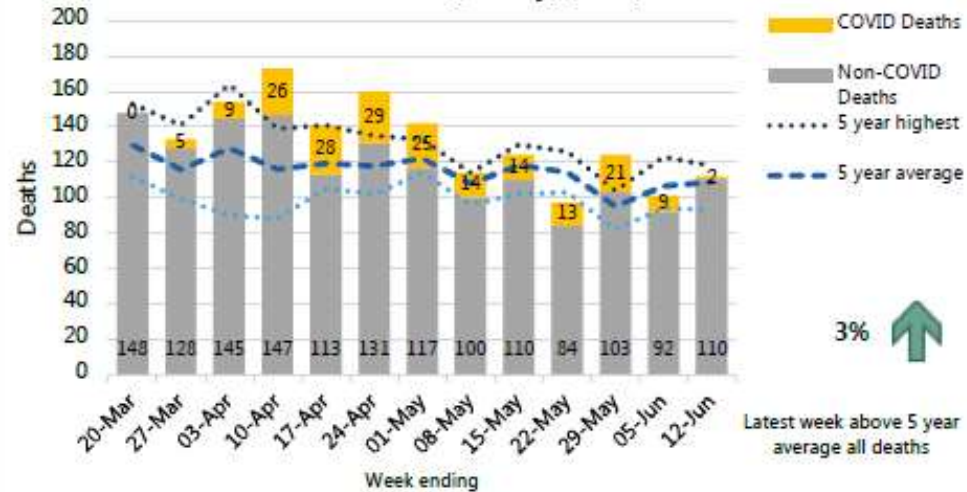
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All COVID Deaths in Somerset by Place of Death (ONS)

Total 195 12/06/2020



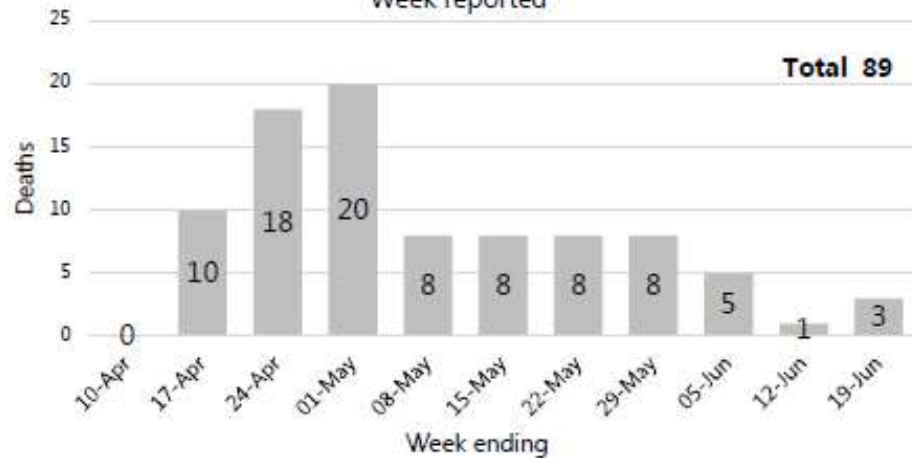
Somerset All Deaths (weekly) (ONS)



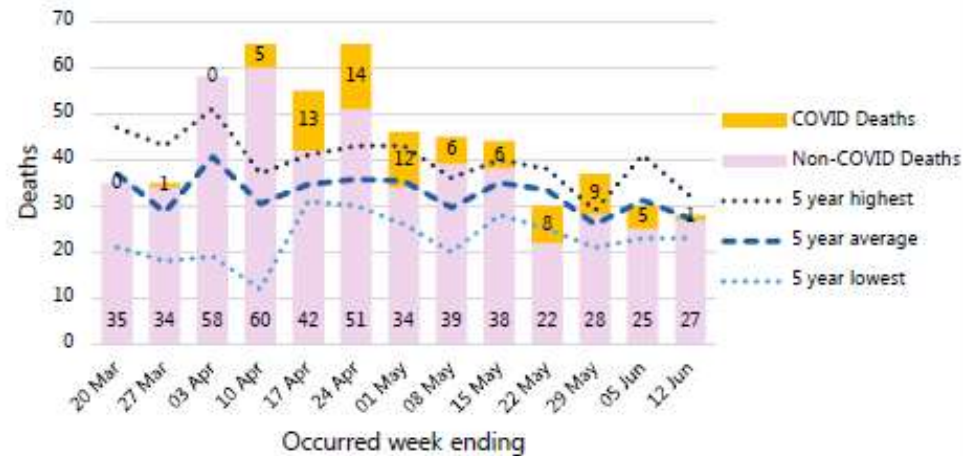
Somerset COVID Care Home Deaths (weekly) (CQC)

Week reported

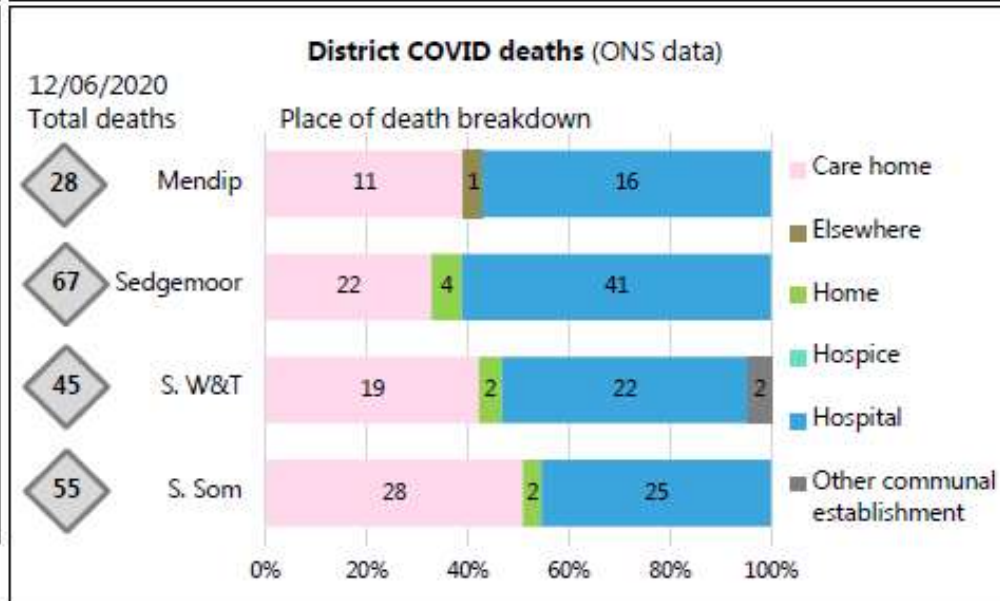
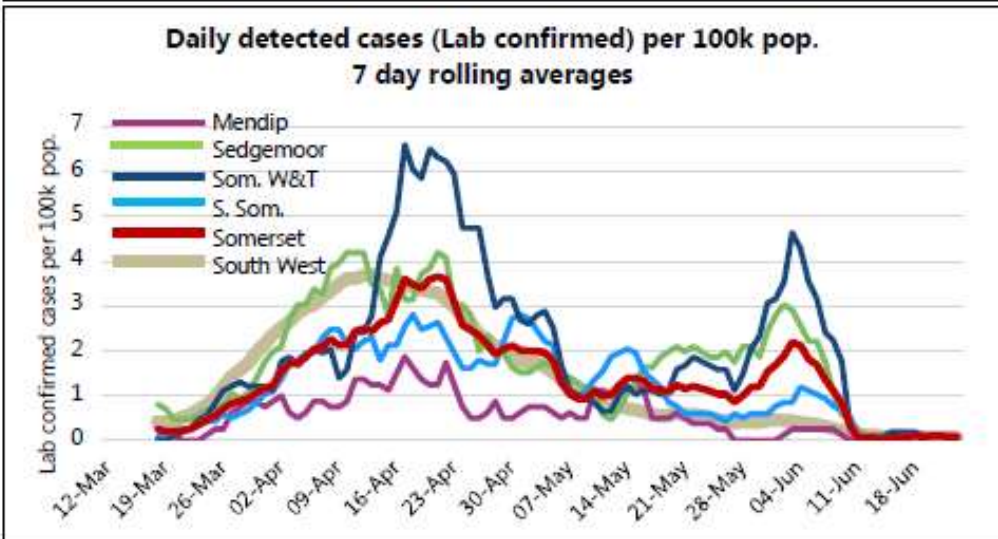
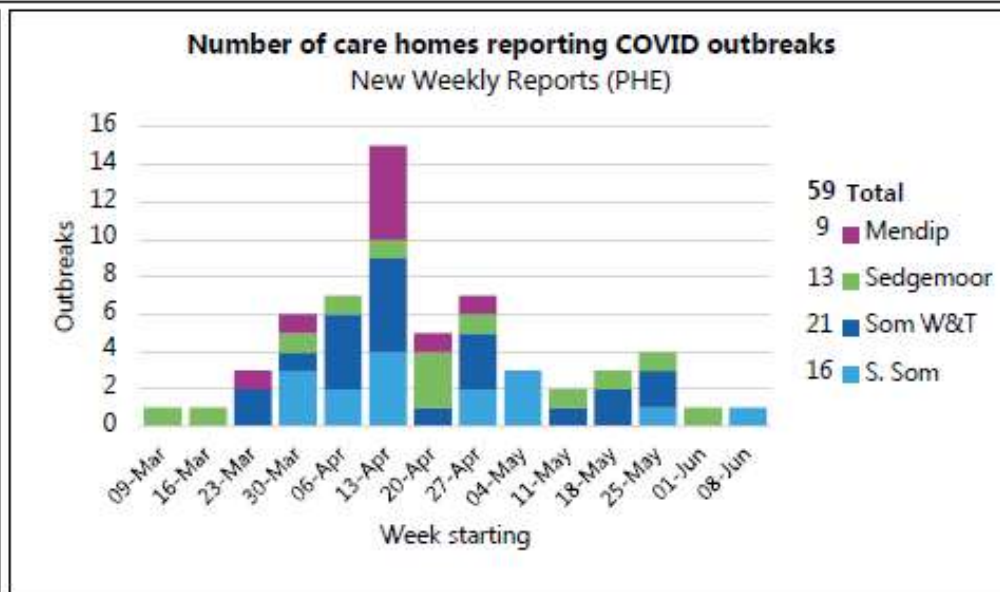
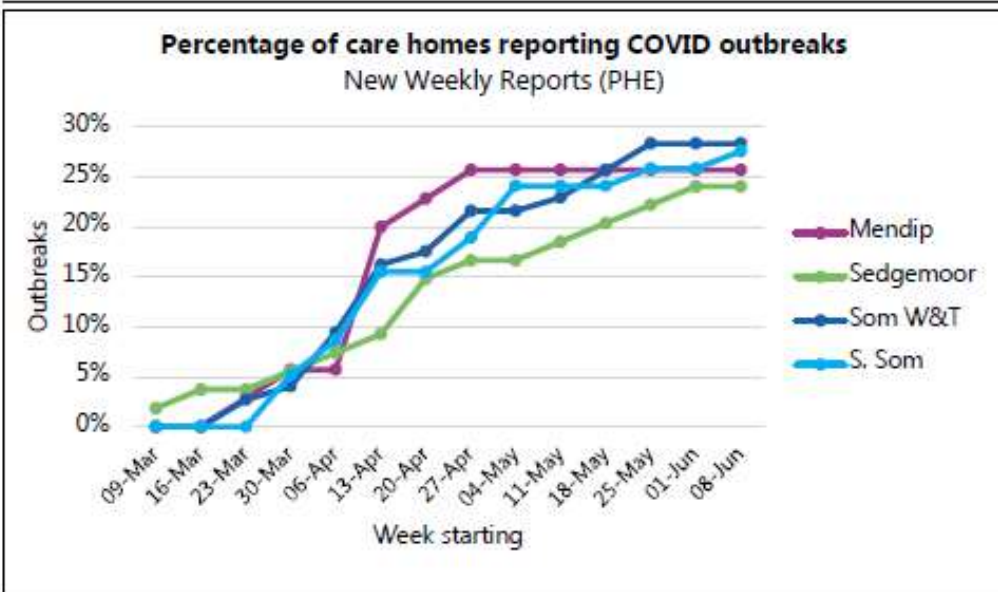
Total 89



Somerset Care Home Deaths (weekly) (ONS)



Somerset Public Health COVID-19 Dashboard



Note: Most recent case counts for early June in Somerset districts include some data from incorrect lab results. See page 1 for more details.

Produced 25/06/2020 For data sources see final page. For more information contact publichealth@somerset.gov.uk

Official

Community & Resilience Cell

Key Points

Figures correct as of 24th June

- Upcoming changes to the National Shield Programme are noted. Restrictions for extremely vulnerable people will end on 1 August. Whilst some support such as priority supermarket delivery slots will remain in place, we will need to consider impact on local response. We are expecting to receive further guidance from the MHCLG.
- Measures to be put in place to support families who are struggling, building on the emergency response that is in place to add additional resilience. This will work alongside the support provided to Foodbanks and the central government free school meal offer.
- Somerset Community Foundation is continuing to encourage individuals to donate to the Somerset coronavirus appeal. So far over £809k has been raised with £447k rewarded through 163 grants. Recovery grants will be come available early July.
- 6433 calls have now been made to the **Somerset Coronavirus Support Helpline**.
- 1,707 vulnerable people' have now all been contacted either by phone or visited to make sure they do not require any additional help.
- The Helpline and call outs have been a huge success and feedback from callers and households visited continue to be very complimentary.
- 48 former rough sleepers have now successfully been moved on to permanent accommodation.
- Mindline has seen a slight drop in calls over the last 2 weeks but an increase in calls during the night. Publicity is continuous and some additional funding is being applied for to deliver a much bigger publicity campaign led by Mind and Partnership Trust.

Actions going forward

- To consider impact on those who were shielding in light of Government stepping down this programme.
- To work alongside the support provided to Foodbanks and the free school meal offer to support families who are struggling.
- Review call volumes over the next few weeks.

How to help / for information

Continued promotion/awareness of;

- New Coronavirus Community Support Fund – opens Friday 22nd May at 10am, more information can be found at <https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/news/press-releases/2020-05-20/statement-about-the-coronavirus-community-support-fund>
- If you wish to help your local community, become a Corona helper! Register at <https://www.corona-helpers.co.uk/>
- The Somerset Coronavirus Support Helpline 0300 790 6275
- All Spark Somerset resources can be found at <https://www.sparksomerset.org.uk/covid-19>,
- Reminder that grants of up to £10,000 are available and to apply groups need to complete a short application form via: www.somersetcf.org.uk/coronavirus. For information on how to donate to the appeal visit: <https://www.somersetcf.org.uk/appeal>.
- For further information on Community Council for Somerset (CCS) please use link <https://ccslovesomerset.org/>
- **Mindline** – 24/7 emotional support helpline 01823 276 892
- Somerset has developed additional [Bereavement Support Services](#)
- contact Marie Curie 0800 3047 412 Monday – Saturday 09.00-17.00.
- Somerset CAB Adviceline 03444 889623 10am – 4pm Monday – Friday
- <https://citizensadvice Somerset.org.uk/>

Active Travel Cell

Key points & next steps

- Feedback received from schemes implemented continue to be mostly positive. Review meetings being held with each District area for each of the schemes in their areas to consider minor amendments or signage that may be required.
- Commonplace App will be launched tomorrow. A press release is being drafted and members information sheet to coincide with the launch and to give details of the progress of schemes.
- We expect to receive further information from the Department of Transport this week on the second tranche of funding which will be allocated to Somerset.

District	Town	Opportunity
Mendip	Frome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closure of Market Place, Palmer street (and therefore Catherine Hill and Stony Street) and King Street (and therefore Church Street and Eagle Lane). Implemented on 22 June to coincide with Market Place closure. • No issues to report.
Mendip	Glastonbury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedestrianise High Street, Magdalene Street and Benedict St except for access • Positive feedback received following the weekend where a lot of people visited Glastonbury for the Summer solstice.
Mendip	Shepton Mallet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scheme dropped following a survey to retailers undertaken by the Town Council. Not a busy area and substantial proportion of the business for retail is by car.
Mendip	Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedestrianise High Street from Farm Road to Vestry Road (where market normally takes place) • Implemented on Thursday 18 June. No issues to report.
Mendip	Wells	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced Scheme now: - closure of Market Place and a small section of the lower high Street • Implemented 18 June. No issues to report.
Mendip	Wells to Glastonbury lane	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close road with exception for access to facilitate safer cycling route between the towns. • Implemented 15 June. Objection received by the Parish Council. Currently under review.
Sedgemoor	Bridgwater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eastover / East Quay / Salmon Parade . One-way traffic movement to provide widened footpaths and facilitate safer cycling • Implemented Thursday 18 June – possible minor adjustments.
Sedgemoor	Bridgwater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedestrianisation of Cornhill to High Street • Implemented 15 June. Considering temporary taxi rank • Positive feedback received from traders and public.
Sedgemoor	Burnham on Sea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedestrianisation of High Street • Implemented 18 June. Positive feedback from pedestrians. Mixed feedback from traders.
Somerset West & Taunton	Minehead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of some parking bays on The Avenue and The Parade to enable widening of footways • Implemented 15 June.
Somerset West & Taunton	Taunton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedestrianisation of East Street • Implemented 15 June. Very busy on first few days but has been quieter since. • Have made provision for additional disabled parking bays
South Somerset	Chard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedestrianisation of Holyrood Street except for delivery vehicles • Implemented 16 June.
South Somerset	Yeovil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedestrianisation of High Street and Middle Street • Implemented 16 June

Economic Response & Recovery

Key points

- ***Business Intelligence** – Business intelligence group provides evidence to support response and recovery, gathered from district partners, business representative organisations, local and national surveys, national statistics and expert organisations and think tanks.
 - **The fourth Somerset Bulletin on the Economic Impact of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) is available online**
at: www.somersetrends.org.uk/covid-19-bulletins - include latest labour market data for the month of May, data on uptake of furloughing and self-employment support schemes, and new intelligence on the visitor economy.
 - Feeding headline business issues through to BEIS weekly via Plymouth City Council/LEP.
 - Oxford Economics preparing economic projections/scenarios on COVID impact and recovery for Somerset and the wider region
 - **Following a session with district partners, a Somerset business survey is being prepared on the economic impacts of COVID and sentiments/plans regarding recovery.**
 - * **Small Business Grant Fund - As of the 21 of June, 10,729 grants have now been awarded, with circa 83.65% of eligible claims processed and 84.5% of total funding now distributed.**
 - **The new discretionary grants scheme has been launched across the districts, with circa 1080 applications,**
 - * **Local Solutions to Gaps In Local Support for Business**
 - **Working with partners to identify gaps in support– a phased programme of activity will be launched under the Business Rates Retention Scheme – a scheme for clusters/peer networks has just launched offering grants to establish/grow networks.** Has been a good response so far with a mix of local and strategic applications; closing date is 31 July. A package of pre-start/start-up support has also been commissioned and will be rolled out as appropriate. Additional support will be phased over the coming months to supplement Growth Hub support and respond to local need.
 - **Somerset's Skill Up Service supplying general and bespoke advice to employers on managing their apprentices and other training needs as their businesses diversify to reflect need.**
 - * **Employment/Self Employment**
 - **Full Business Cases are being developed, under the Business Rates Retention scheme, to provide a package of employment and skills support to business and individuals. This will include, but is not limited to, development of an online "hub", support to individuals impacted, mentoring for Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs), recruitment/skills fairs, establishment of employment hubs.**
- It is anticipated that the online Hub will be developed and launched over the coming weeks followed by local employment hubs. Both will provide a one-stop-shop for businesses and individuals to find information in relation to employment and skills.
- **We have signed the grant funding award for the NEETs £1.3m ESF programme. This programme will support young people who are, or at risk of becoming, NEET back into education or into employment. Activity will**

actions going forward

- **Business Intelligence** – Prepare business survey for approval and distribution to business contacts by early July. Review and disseminate findings from SW Councils economic modelling report.
- **Business rates retention pilot** – Somerset Growth Board have endorsed funding for a package of support for the visitor economy and employment & skills. Full Business Cases are now being developed for approval.
- **Economic recovery and growth plan** – draft plan to be prepared by end June 2020.
- **Comms** – Action marketing plan, working on campaign about working at home with school aged children and with public health on messaging for reopening the visitor economy

How to help

- Please keep aware of any information regarding companies /sectors that could be at risk of redundancies and feed this back on a confidential basis to the Recovery and Economic Response cell
- Raising local awareness of the Small Business Grant Fund and the support available to businesses via the Growth Hub
- Feedback any comments to Joanna from constituents over opening of schools – what's the feeling out there? This will help inform our web content.
- Promote Skill Up if you hear of employers needing skills advice or of apprentices in need of support.

SCC Recovery & Renewal Board

The Board will ensure fitness for purpose of council projects and programmes, and make sure SCC works in partnership to deliver recovery and renewal across the county

Work under way

- Reviewing Strategic Corporate Risk Register
- Lessons Learnt paper for July Scrutiny for Policies and Place
- Local Outbreak Management Plan links
- Ensuring approach to recovery supports “improving lives”

Return
(what we need to go back to)

Retain
(what new practices will we keep)

Resist
(what will we avoid returning to)

Radical
(new things would we like to see going forward)

Multi-agency Recovery Coordination Group

The group will bring partners together to maximise **collaboration**, understand impact and deliver recovery activity whilst sustaining necessary response activity

Big stories this week

- Reopening of the High Streets including new pedestrianised roads (Active Travel).
- Some response work now moving to Business-as-Usual for example patient transport, ongoing support for vulnerable people.
- Continue to think about recovery but are aware that response will continue to be essential.
- LRF working on accessibilities issues of reopening shops and spaces.

Key issues we are working together on

- Responding to business and other organisation inquiries on reopening of businesses and facilities with infection control in place, including licensing issues. FAQs being created to assist.
- Helping schools to open-up and provide enough social distanced space
- Reviewing and collating childcare opportunities available over the summer holidays to support key workers and broader workforce.
- Ongoing support for gypsy and traveller communities.

Coming up / next steps

- How the **Local Outbreak Management Plan** will aid recovery – requires whole-system support to be successful: the group will support promotion, implementation and monitoring.
- **Public sector reopening of offices** – sharing knowledge and plans for this: new ways of working, Covid-Secure, specific HR guidance.
- Identifying and tackling common **risks and opportunities**.
- **NHS recovery plan** for phase 3 and beyond.

Somerset Waste Partnership

- All Household Waste Recycling Centres are open on their normal opening pattern (odd/even days removed). All measures continue to work well, though with additional materials added some sites have seen queues.
- All kerbside services are back up and running, including missed recycling collections. SWP are working closely with our kerbside contractor to address missed collection issues which have particularly affected garden waste and some parts of the County. A number of data issues have been addressed which lay behind issues, and additional resources applied to improve the service.
- Next week
 - There are no further changes planned for the recycling sites next week but work continues in the background, to ready the sites to revert to near business as usual by the end of June, and further updates will be provided in the coming weeks.
 - SWP are managing Suez (our new collection contractor) closely to ensure they deliver on their performance improvement plan

Updated 11 June



Transport and Logistics Cell

22/06/20

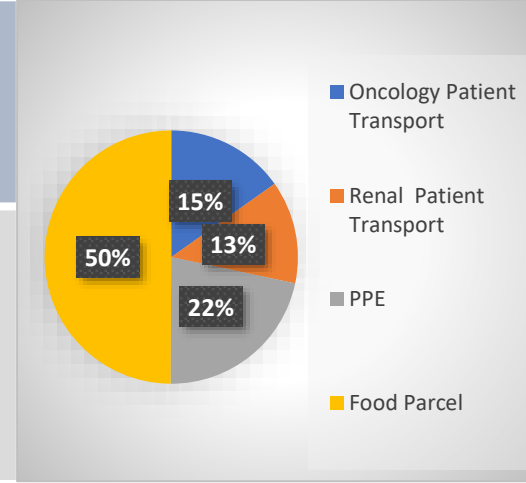
Key Points

- Work continues around Demand Management.
- Patient Transport
- Demand management is now on the national agenda; awaiting for feedback and decisions to feed into our local Somerset picture,
 - Extension of SCC Ambulance Fleet (21 vehicles) until end July 2020 confirmed by Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).
- Logistics
- Establishing a Central Warehousing Model for delivering all parcels
 - Corporate fleet vehicles beginning to move back to business as usual.

Actions Going Forward / Recovery

- Discussions around central warehousing model ongoing

Renal Patient transport	Oncology Patient transport	Food parcels-school meals	PPE deliveries
218	252	828	361



Logistic Requests:

PPE requests continuing to be received and processed.
There were three consignments issued during the week

Resources:



Health and Social Care

(SCC contribution to H&SC Tactical Cells)

Key points

- **Community** – We are still supporting shielded residents, providing food, medical requirements, the local and national helpline is in place, but both have been scaled back due to lower demand.
- **Sourcing Care** – Levels of unmet home care need remain very low
- **Day Care** – Commissioning and Operational discussions taking place to work with providers to offer day care opportunities, which may look different from what they could offer before
- **Protective Personal Equipment** – New Somerset County Council online Urgent PPE ordering system working well.
- **Weston General Hospital Re-Opened** – Hospital fully open to new patients following temporary closure due to a coronavirus outbreak.

- **Good news:**
- **Successful appointments** made to Deputy Director posts in Adult Social Care : Anna Littlewood - Operations and Tim Baverstock – Commissioning.
- **Webinar held** with home care providers, supported living and extra care housing providers – very positive feedback received on this call from the market in relation to the support received from the Local Authority.
- **Overdue reviews** The number of overdue reviews has significantly declined during the pandemic as a result of a focus on ensuring engagement with those we support, albeit that the majority of these have required telephone contact due to COVID-19

Actions going forward

Practice Quality Audit action planning As routine auditing activity picks up across adult social care, work is underway with Practice Leads to ensure that we maintain our focus on the *quality* of our engagements with individuals as well as the *quantity* of work being undertaken.

Hospital discharge/diversion model Ongoing multi-agency work exploring resource and model needed into the future to maintain hospital flow and ensure best outcomes for individuals

How to help

- Directing providers in your local area to our provider webpage for useful info and responses to FAQs etc; <https://ssab.safeguardingsomerset.org.uk/covid19/>
- Talking Cafes - Live sessions are held every day at 11am. You can also watch the video offline and ask

For more information..

Link to video of our Community/Village agents;

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=zrh0hIMbn5E...>

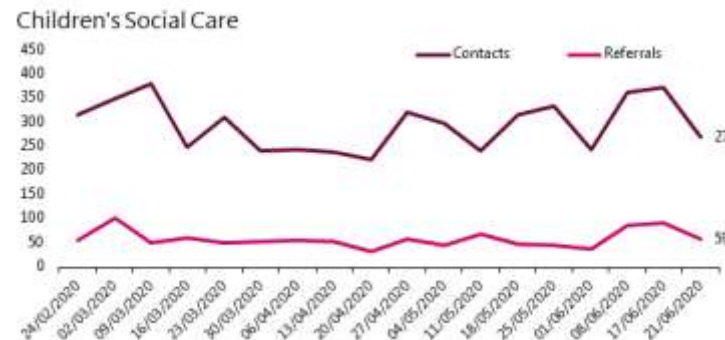
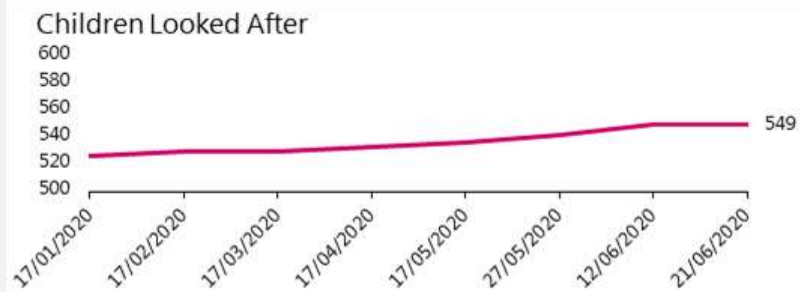
Vulnerable Children

Key Points

- Work continues with schools and social care to encourage attendance of vulnerable children, including with Independent Non Maintained schools
- Risk assessment process in place to support learners with EHC Plan to return to school
- 700 Laptops for vulnerable learners received by SCC on 19 June
- Work underway with partners to review options for supporting vulnerable families and working families over the summer holiday period
- Impact of Covid-19 on placement costs being monitored
- Initial recovery planning work undertaken

Successes

- Comms plan & accelerated process generated additional foster care enquiries/assessments
- LA link officers established for schools and Early Years settings to provide single points of contact
- Successful alternative solutions provided for supporting vulnerable families for respite (Outdoor Education Centres)
- Monitoring and reporting of attendance across all schools
- Delivery of an average of 1,000 Free School Meal boxes / week to schools
- Establishment of multi-agency universal and targeted support offer for vulnerable teenagers over the summer holiday period,



Actions Going Forward

- Service needs to be established in relation to a partial return to office bases, and how alternative delivery and may be supported, including virtual team building for new teams
- Explore opportunities and solutions to reduce the impact of digital poverty on remote learning

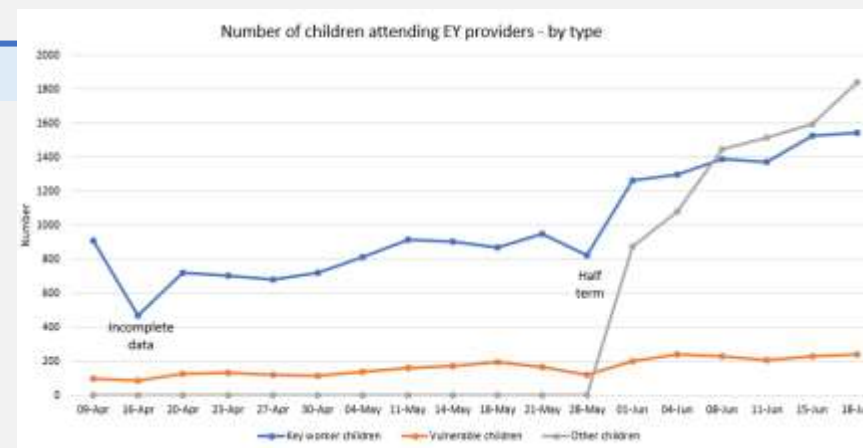
Schools – Extending Provision

Key Points

- All schools with primary aged children and all secondary schools are offering extended provision
- Government Covid catch-up plan announced for next academic year, comprising grant (for all schools) and national tutoring programme (for disadvantaged pupils)
- Schools currently working towards blended curriculum offer for September - guidance for September awaited
- Awaiting specific school guidance around reduction in social distancing measures from 2m to 1m
- Vulnerable children, key worker children, and those with an EHCP will continue to be prioritised for allocation of school places
- School capacity affected by numbers of key worker children and available teaching space
- Issues for schools in managing blended virtual and face to face curriculum offer alongside increased school attendance
- Support offered to help schools manage anxiety for learners, parents and staff in relation to phased return to school.
- Public Health providing regular updates on data and guidance

Successes

- All Somerset schools are now offering extended provision, numbers continuing to rise
- School leadership appreciative of SCC support during Covid 19 period and on implementing extended provision
- Outdoor curriculum offer developed with 250 staff trained. Collaborative working with local businesses, partners and other agencies to support outdoor curriculum & provide gazebos
- Significant increase in number of children attending schools from 01 June
- Emergency PPE provided to all schools & Early Years providers



Actions Going Forward

- Reviewing options for holiday childcare provision with partners
- Establish impact on school delegated budgets
- Planning towards extended provision for September
- Planning for continued delivery of remote education for pupils who remain at home
- Working group to explore opportunities / guidance for catch up grants / National Tutoring Programme

Date	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 6	Year 10	Year 12
1 June	20.6%	20.4%	17.0%	19.5%		
2 June	28.7%	25.7%	22.8%	22.5%		
3 June	24.2%	26.2%	23.6%	22.2%		
4 June	28.0%	28.7%	26.5%	27.7%		
5 June	16.7%	23.3%	20.8%	20.4%		
8 June	33.7%	36.2%	36.4%	34.2%		
9 June	34.8%	37.6%	37.5%	34.5%		
10 June	32.0%	32.6%	31.7%	30.5%		
11 June	36.1%	36.3%	37.4%	35.7%		
12 June	22.3%	26.7%	28.8%	26.4%		
15 June	42.0%	43.6%	39.5%	44.9%	11.8%	7.8%
16 June	44.6%	44.4%	41.5%	45.6%	15.7%	7.6%
17 June	37.4%	38.8%	37.5%	41.1%	8.6%	8.5%
18 June	44.7%	42.4%	42.6%	46.4%	12.0%	19.6%
19 June	28.7%	33.1%	33.6%	35.7%	9.4%	5.9%
22 June	50.4%	48.2%	44.1%	49.7%	16.2%	5.6%