

RAYNES PARK COMMUNITY FORUM
3 DECEMBER 2020

(7.15 pm - 9.00 pm)

PRESENT Councillors Councillor Adam Bush (in the Chair),

1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS (Agenda Item 1)

The meeting was held via Zoom, and chaired by Councillor Adam Bush with Chris Edge from the Raynes Park Association (RPA). Seven residents and five councillors attended on Zoom with 97 additional views on YouTube. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained how the meeting would work.

2 EMISSIONS BASED PARKING CHARGES CONSULTATION (Agenda Item 2)

Kris Witherington, Engagement and Consultation Manager provided a summary of the responses to the consultation. The presentation is attached to this report. The main points included:

- There was agreement that Air Quality and Climate Change need to be tackled but there was not agreement with charging lower polluting vehicles less than highly polluting vehicles
- Driving and walking were the most commonly used modes of transport and more than 90% said their household owns at least one car
- Most car owners had vehicles with combustion engines
- Most respondents were regular users of their car and nearly two-thirds use Controlled Parking Zones at home
- 72% disagreed that parking permit charges in Merton should be linked to CO2 and NOx emissions levels of the vehicle
- 67% disagreed that higher polluting vehicles which do not meet ULEZ standards, should pay a supplement in car parks and at pay and display locations
- Most respondents disagreed that the proposed charges would achieve the objectives
- Most respondents said it was unlikely the charges would change their behaviour
- Respondents agreed with the statements that better cycle lanes and routes; better pedestrian routes and facilities including footpaths, lighting and crossings; more secure cycle parking; better public transport; and more Electric Vehicle Charging points were important

Chris Edge said it was clear that that was a majority against the changes and that they were regarded as unfair. Tony Edwards raised the issue of the impact on high streets of raising the cost of parking. Cllr Bush said there is a Scrutiny Task Group looking at the future of the High Street. Cllr Dean said these proposals did not address the impact of the growth of diesel delivery vans and Cllr Fairclough said that these charges come on top of changes from 2019 that created a differential for Raynes Park and Wimbledon.

The full breakdown of the results are included in the Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 8 December 2020.

3 RAILWAY, STATION, STREET MANAGEMENT AND TOWN CENTRE IMPROVEMENTS (Agenda Item 3)

Chris Larkman from RPA gave an update on plans for a farmers market. Had been in negotiation with the company that runs the Wimbledon Village market, Simon Greig to deliver something in the cattle arch at the station entrance. This land is managed by South Western Railways. Chris has met with SW Railways and owner of Magnificent Marrow shop at south of station. The conclusion was that there is not enough space for market stalls either side of the station so the idea is not viable. The Magnificent Marrow may still look to expand its store instead. The lack of open space in Raynes Park continues to be a problem.

Tony Edward said that it seems unlikely the Crossrail 2 would happen any time soon so it should be viable to expand the pavement space and reduce the lanes given to traffic. Once space is available it opens up options for events.

Chris Larkman said the roadway to the Rainbow has been redone by Workspace and they installed six parking spaces but with no restrictions and enforcement. The land is owned by Network Rail but Merton Council identified that in the planning agreement it says that Workspace should maintain the site. Chris is going to meet with Workspace to encourage them to begin enforcement. There has also been a lot of fly tipping and SW Railways has agreed to install CCTV.

The land to be transferred from Network Rail to Merton Council on the south side has been signed off and should be completed in the New Year. We also hoping to get permission for volunteers to clear the embankment on the north side.

Bulb planting didn't take place this year as a result of COVID. Cllr Bush thanked Cllr David Dean for providing the bulbs and the positive impact they have had in Dundonald

A resident asked about plans for Skew Arch and any previous consultation on these.

Tony Edwards said the plans had previously been shared at Forum, some time ago and seemed to be popular but he was happy to share them again. They are attached to this report. The RPA has not given up on trying to get this done. Tony agreed that position of bus stops can be a challenge.

4 UPDATE ON COVID (Agenda Item 4)

Barry Causer, Head of Strategic Commissioning, gave an update on COVID in Merton. The presentation is attached to this report. Barry said that the key message is that the number of COVID cases in Merton is coming down. For the last week there were 160 cases per 100,000 population. There was a bulge in the 16-29 age group with cases at 334. There is concern about the number of cases in the over 60s but the number of new cases in this age group was also coming down.

The number of cases in the East of the borough is slightly higher than in the West. A spike of cases in the West in September appears to have been linked to students away at university testing positive but being linked to the home residence instead of their university. This has been changed by Public Health England. We are still tracking the number of cases by ethnicity and signals are that we are not seeing the same disproportionate impact on BAME communities that we saw in the first wave in the spring.

We have not seen a return to the death rates of the spring and ICU admissions for the most severe cases appear to be levelling off. The NHS still has sufficient capacity to cope so it is important that patients still attend appointments and elective procedures for other health issues.

Local contact tracing is up and running to supplement the national programme. New lateral flow tests are quick and do not involve the use of a laboratory. This makes them ideal for confined settings like health care providers and universities. In future they could be also be used in schools, care homes and local areas to manage outbreaks.

The vaccination programme will be led by the NHS with support from local authorities. The government has already identified priority groups based on risk levels. We are still waiting the final approval on the three vaccines, which is expected this month.

London is in Tier 2 from tomorrow with restrictions on meeting with other households. The Hands, Face, Space message remains relevant and is still key to stopping the spread of the virus.

COVID Community Champions are volunteers who are helping to communicate key messages in their communities. Barry thanked those who are giving up their time. To

find out more you can email public.health@merton.gov.uk. There will be special 'Celebrating Safely' workshops on 14 December to offer practical tips for reducing the risk of COVID during the holiday season.

5 LONDON ASSEMBLY UPDATE (Agenda Item 5)

Leonie Cooper, Assembly Member for Merton and Wandsworth provided an update on the work of the Mayor of London and the London Assembly. The Assembly is not using City Hall unless charring meetings. Staff have been redeployed to support the COVID response including the Nightingale build. The Assembly has now moved on to recovery work. Casework changed to lots of COVID related issues. Dons Action Group and lots of other volunteers have done amazing work.

Leonie said that a reduction in business rates and council tax as well as fare income for TfL has had huge impact. Fare income has recovered slightly but not enough to finance the network. As a result TfL has negotiated two tranches of financial support from Government. Mayor of London income has dropped by £500m so needs to make significant cuts across budgets. This includes moving out of City Hall as the owner has not agreed to drop the rent. The Mayor and the Assembly will be moving to the 'Crystal' in Royal Docks near the cable car.

The Mayor was planning to spend £50m on green project which has been reduced to £22m. There is still a grant fund available for community energy projects with a 11 January deadline for [applications](#).

Leonie chairs the Economy Committee which has been investigating COVID impact on businesses, high streets and individuals. They have written to Government asking them to support particular sectors including culture, hospitality, and aviation.

Chris Edge asked about polluting diesel buses in outer London. Leonie said there is a £800m upgrade programme to make sure all buses operate at Euro 6 and a programme of replacing older buses. Leonie offered to check with TfL for monitoring data for RP to see if there has been any change. There is a map of [Air Quality Monitoring](#) across London. Leonie pointed out that different boroughs have introduced emissions based charging. ULEZ compliance levels have been quite high and the extension should help. Change is painful but has been brought in gradually, and the impact of Air Quality is serious.

A resident said that the Mayor might be short on cash but still able to find money for Low Traffic Neighbourhoods and cycle infrastructure. There has been opposition to some of these in Wandsworth and around London. Leonie explained that the funding came from Department for Transport through a fund allocated quickly which meant the use of Emergency Traffic Orders and consultation after the installation of schemes. The lack of consultation caused a lot of problems and is not the way the

Mayor or TfL would want to do things. The LTNs in Wandsworth were all in Tooting across 6 wards with insufficient signage and little warning. It is essential to consult people in advance and make sure people know of the plans. Lots of suggestions from residents have been submitted to TfL to adapt changes, and the Tooting ones could have been adapted rather than taken out. Police and Fire Brigade have also been involved in discussions. Important to take residents with any major changes.

Councillor Crowe said that the cause of much of his case work often relates to the development of London and the challenges for services. Leonie said there are very large housing targets from national planning framework, London plan and local plan. Case work also involves a lot on homelessness and people struggling to afford a home. There is an issue of over development of expensive dwellings, for example on Isle of Dogs, Tower Hamlets, but we still need more social rented accommodation to make sure those on low incomes can still live in London. We need the Secretary of State to sign off London Plan as it gives us more controls over issues like environmental impact.

6 ANY OTHER BUSINESS (Agenda Item 6)

Cllr Bush said that Wyke Road planning application for 9 dwellings is going to PAC on 10 December and relocating 18 CPZ parking spaces. Officers have recommended approval but Cllr Bush will be speaking against the application.

A resident asked if changes planned to CPZ timings, Cllr Bush confirmed there are no plans currently.

A resident asked if there was an update on the Manuplastics site. Kris will check with Planning and update a future meeting.

Cllr Bush said an application for a 5G mast on Cambridge Road has been submitted. Comments up to 20 December.

A resident said that the appeal for Tesco site begins on 8 December and that there was an application has been submitted for 89 homes Meadow View.

Boundary commission changes

Cllr Crowe said that Local Government Boundary Commission for England reported their [final recommendations](#) in November. There will be significant changes in Raynes Park. Overall there will be 57 councillors instead of 60; Dundonald ward will be abolished, with Apostles joining Raynes Park; and some of the existing Raynes Park ward will join Village ward.

7 DATE OF NEXT MEETING (Agenda Item 7)

Councillor Bush thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

The date of next meeting is 30 March 2021, all at 7.15pm in Raynes Park Library, subject to COVID-19 restrictions

Introducing Emissions based parking charges consultation results

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Raynes Park Community Forum
3 December 2020

Overview

- Consultation took place 10 September - 26 October
- 1587 responses to the online survey
- 96% said they owned a car & 67% parked in a CPZ
- 60% made additional comments / representations

Public Health & Air Quality

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Statement	Agree	Disagree
Merton has a key role to play in tackling the challenges to Air Quality and Climate Change we are facing	65%	32%
Merton Council should encourage motorists towards more sustainable and active modes of transport such as walking and cycling, which contributes to improved air quality and public health	54%	34%
Merton Council should prioritise lower polluting vehicles by offering a lower parking charge over highly polluting vehicles	35%	61%

Travelling in Merton: top 5 mode of transport

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Mode	%
As a driver of a car	42%
Walk	32%
Bicycle	8%
Bus	6%
Train	3%

Car ownership

Number of cars owned by household	%
0	6%
1	66%
2	23%
3	3%
4+	1%

Engine type

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Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Petrol	931	64%
Diesel	428	29%
Hybrid	79	5%
Full Electric	28	2%

Frequency of use

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Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Most days	497	34%
Weekly	506	35%
Occasionally	324	22%
Rarely	123	8%
Never	7	Less than 1%

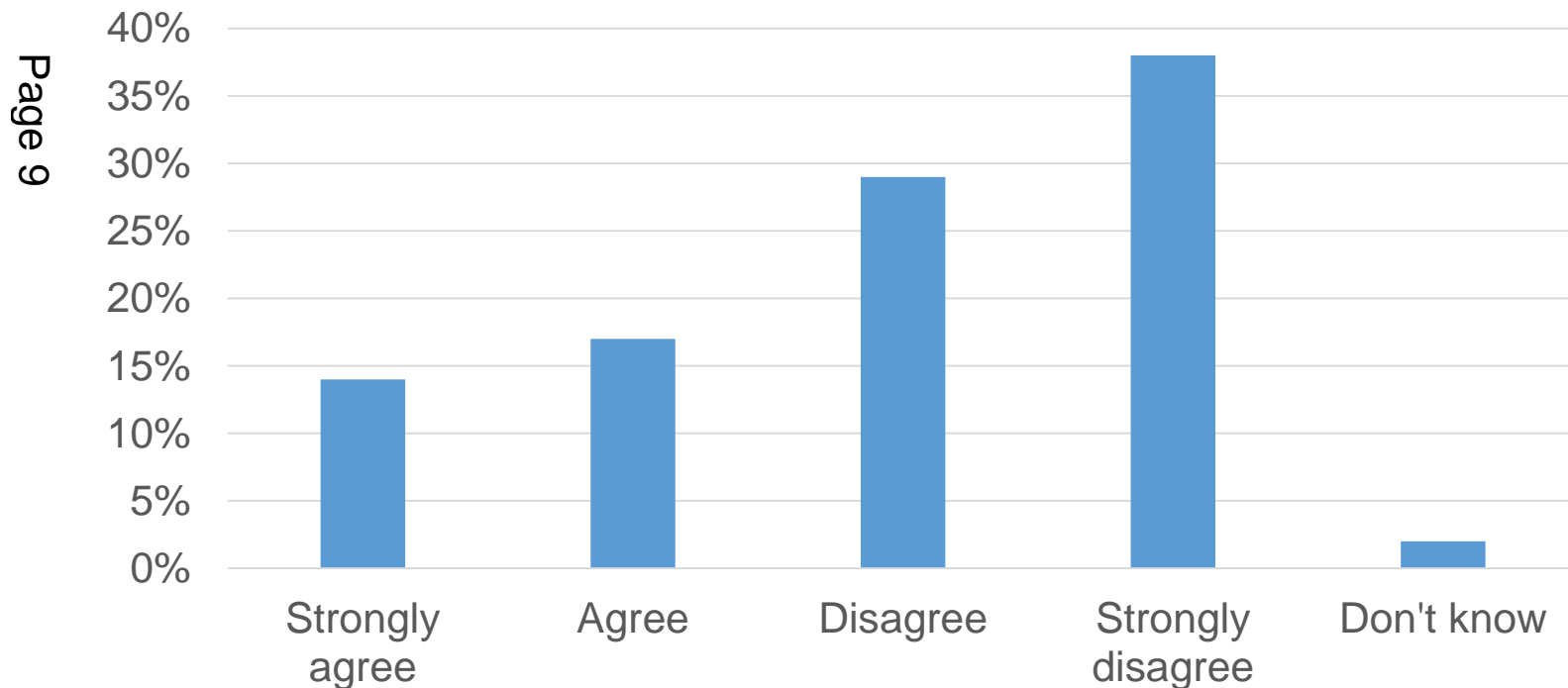
Parking at home

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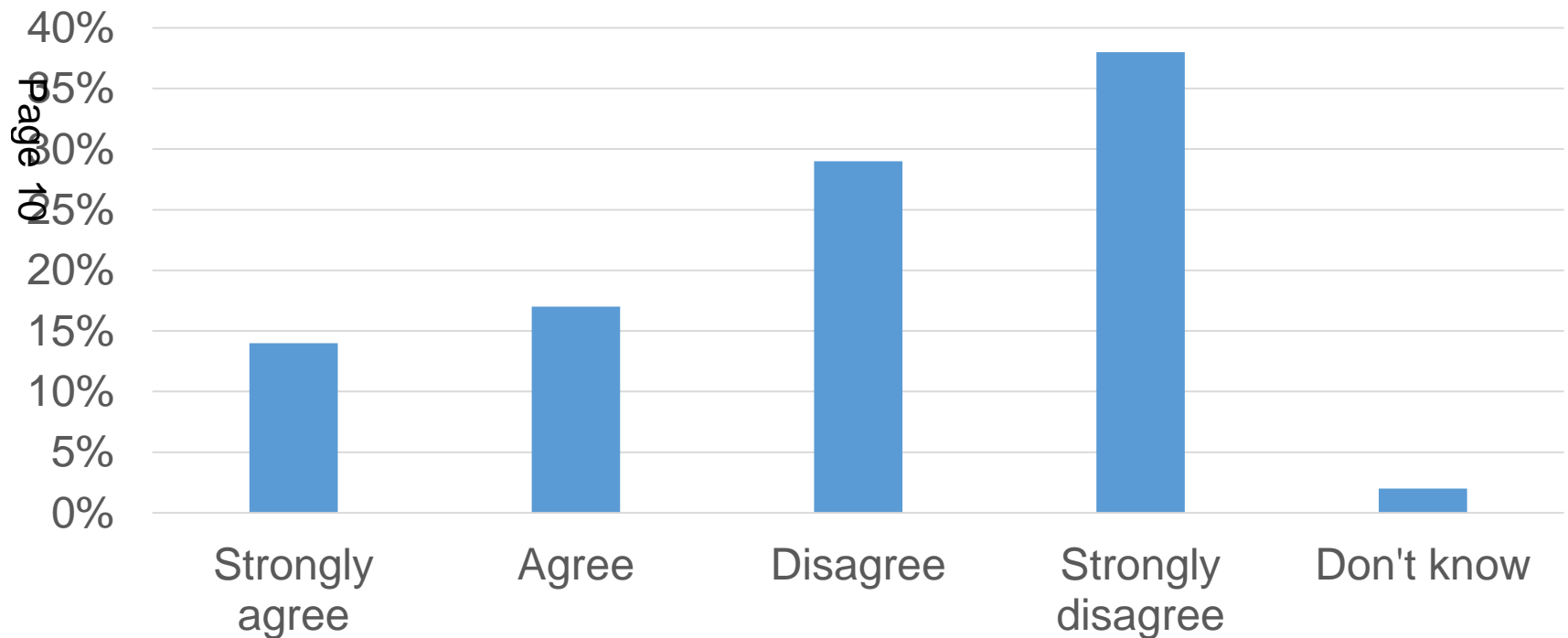
Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
In a marked on-street bay in a Controlled Parking Zone	929	64%
Privately owned off street parking	415	27%
On street (no parking restrictions)	79	5%
Other	14	1%
Not applicable	10	1%
In a public car park	2	Less than 1%

Emissions based charges

Do you agree parking permit charges in Merton should be linked to CO2 and Nox emissions levels of the vehicle?



Should higher polluting vehicles which do not meet ULEZ standards, should pay a supplement in car parks and at pay and display



Do you agree that proposed charges have been set at a level which will help achieve the objectives?

Charging area	Agree	Disagree
On-street parking	19%	72%
Car parks	22%	65%
Residents permits	16%	78%
Car park season tickets	21%	59%

How likely the proposed scheme would be to change their behaviour in the following aspects

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Behaviour	Likely	Unlikely
Reduce the journeys I make by car	11%	84%
Increase the journeys I make by active travel modes (walking and cycling)	13%	81%
Get rid of a vehicle altogether	5%	88%
Change my vehicle for one with lower emissions	14%	77%
Purchase a fully electric vehicle	10%	82%

How important are other measures to support sustainable travel choices

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Action	Important	Unimportant
Better cycle lanes and routes	62%	36%
Better pedestrian routes and facilities including footpaths, lighting and crossings	74%	26%
More secure cycle parking	62%	33%
Better public transport	84%	15%
More availability of car clubs	32%	60%
More Electric Vehicle Charging points	57%	37%

What happens next?

- Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel on Tuesday 8 December 2020 7.15 pm.
- To speak please email Rosie.McKeever@merton.gov.uk by Friday 4 December
- Cabinet Monday 18 January 2021 7.15 pm

COVID-19 update

Raynes Park Community Forum

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Barry Causer
Head of Strategic Commissioning (Public Health)

3rd December 2020

Minute Item 4



AIMS AND PURPOSE

- Brief overview of the COVID impact on Merton's communities so far
- Brief overview of outbreak control developments
- Overview of the Tier 2 guidance
- Set out some opportunities for action

Weekly key messages

Cases (19th – 25th November):

- 7 day case rate (all ages) was **160.8 cases per 100,000** (down from 185.8 last week).
- 7 day case rate (among 60+) was **113.2 cases per 100,000** (up from 102.1 last week).
- **343** new COVID cases in Merton.

Deaths:

- **1** new registered Merton COVID death (in hospital) for the week ending 6th November.

Testing (pillar 2 only):

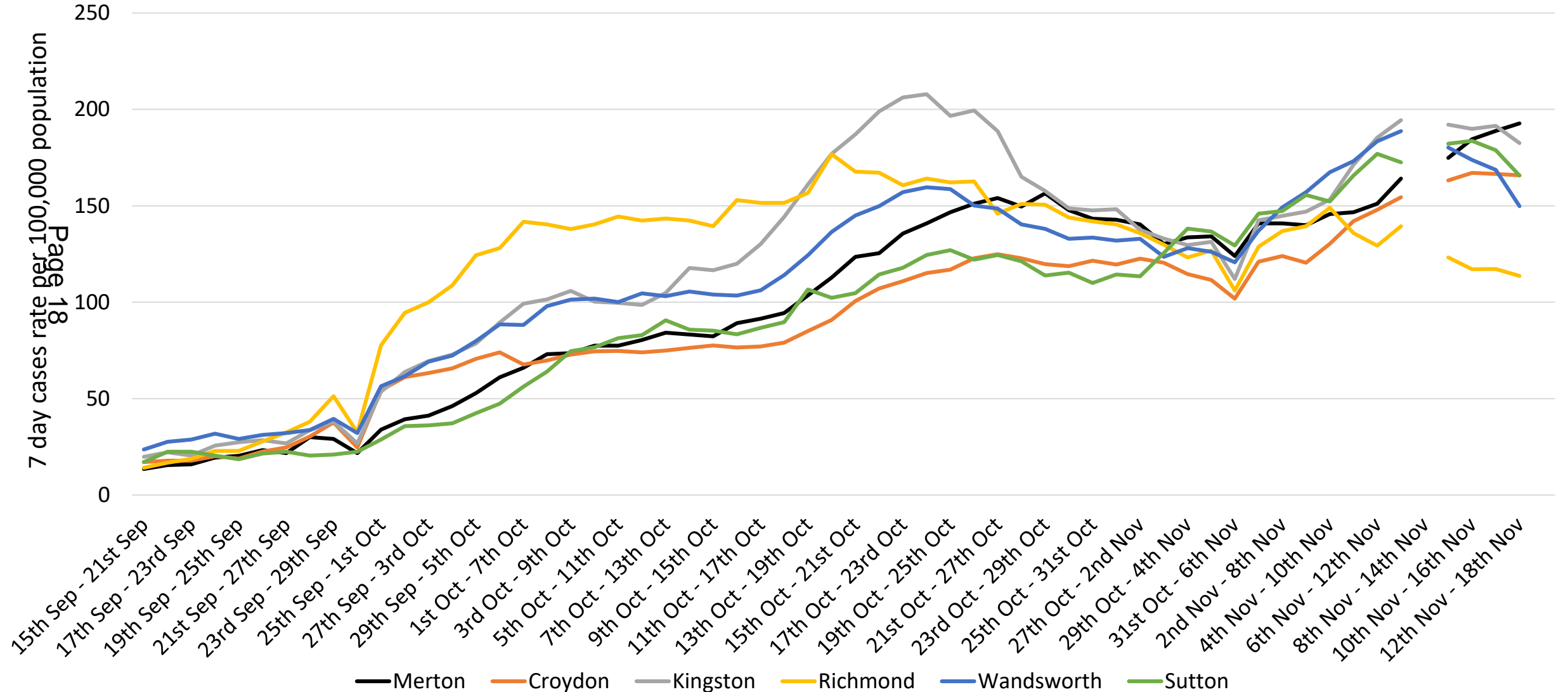
- 7 day testing rate was **218.4 daily tests per 100,000** (up from 215.6 daily tests per 100,000).
- 7 day test positivity decreased to **9.3%** (down from 11.2%).

Rolling 7-day rate of confirmed positive cases per 100,000 population in Merton compared to South West London boroughs (Pillar 1 & 2)

30th November 2020

Source: PHE/PHEC Daily Report

Reporting frequency: Daily



Due to reporting issues no data was available for 8th-14th November

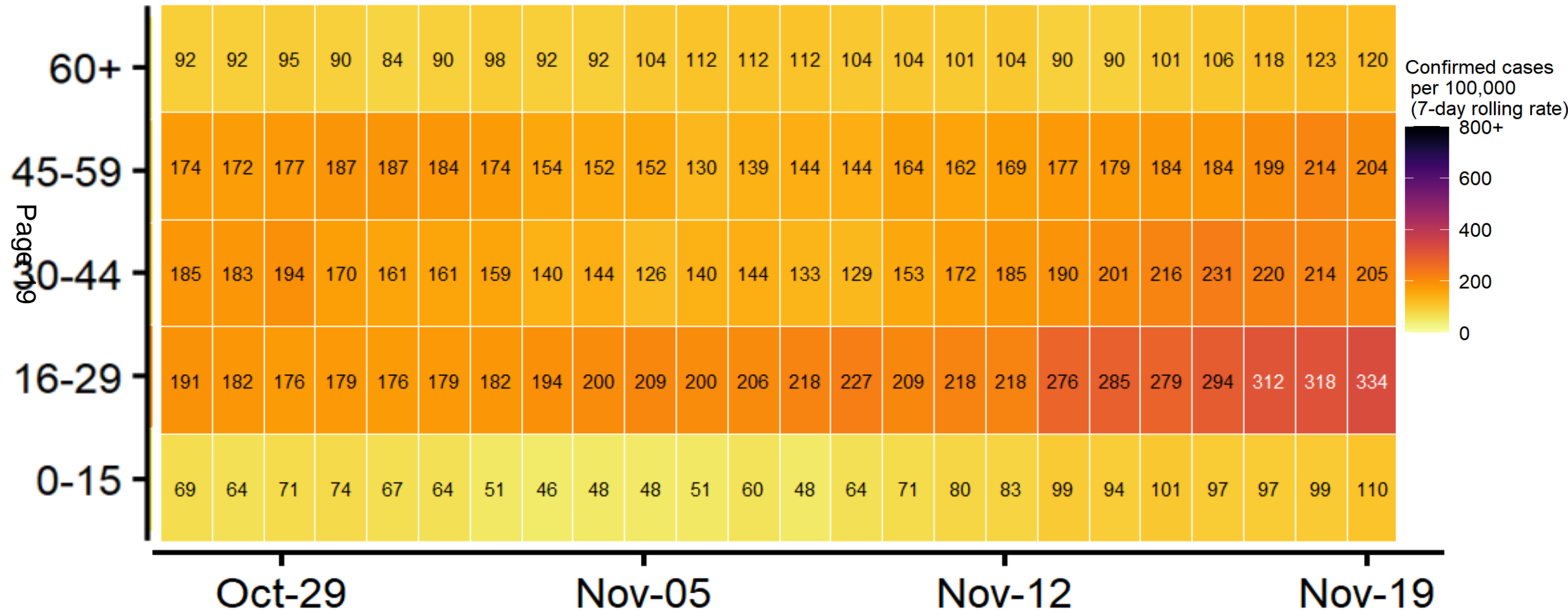
COVID-19 cases rates in Merton by age group heat map over time

30th November 2020

7-day rolling total case rates per 100,000

Source: PHE/PHEC Daily Report

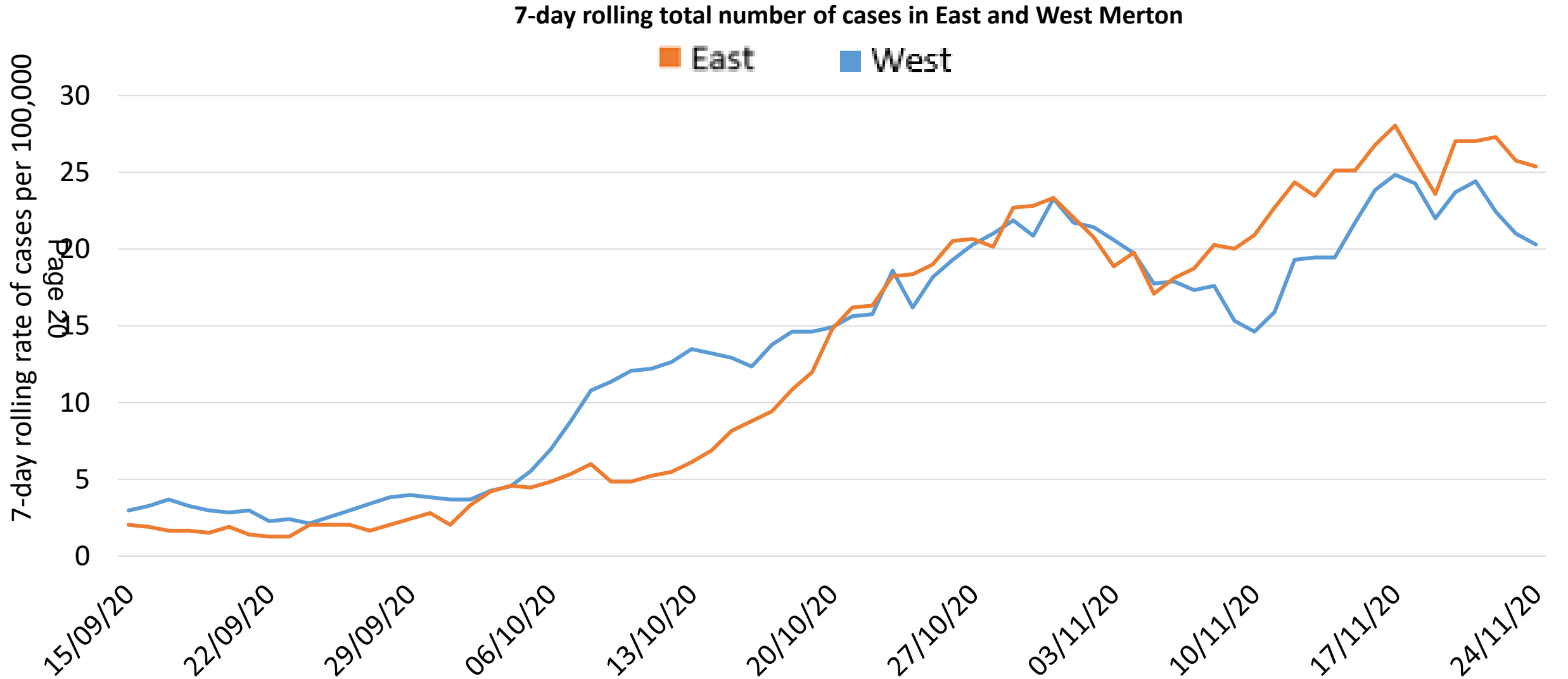
Reporting frequency: Daily



COVID-19 case rates in East and West Merton

30th November 2020

Source: LSAT daily line list
Reporting frequency: Daily

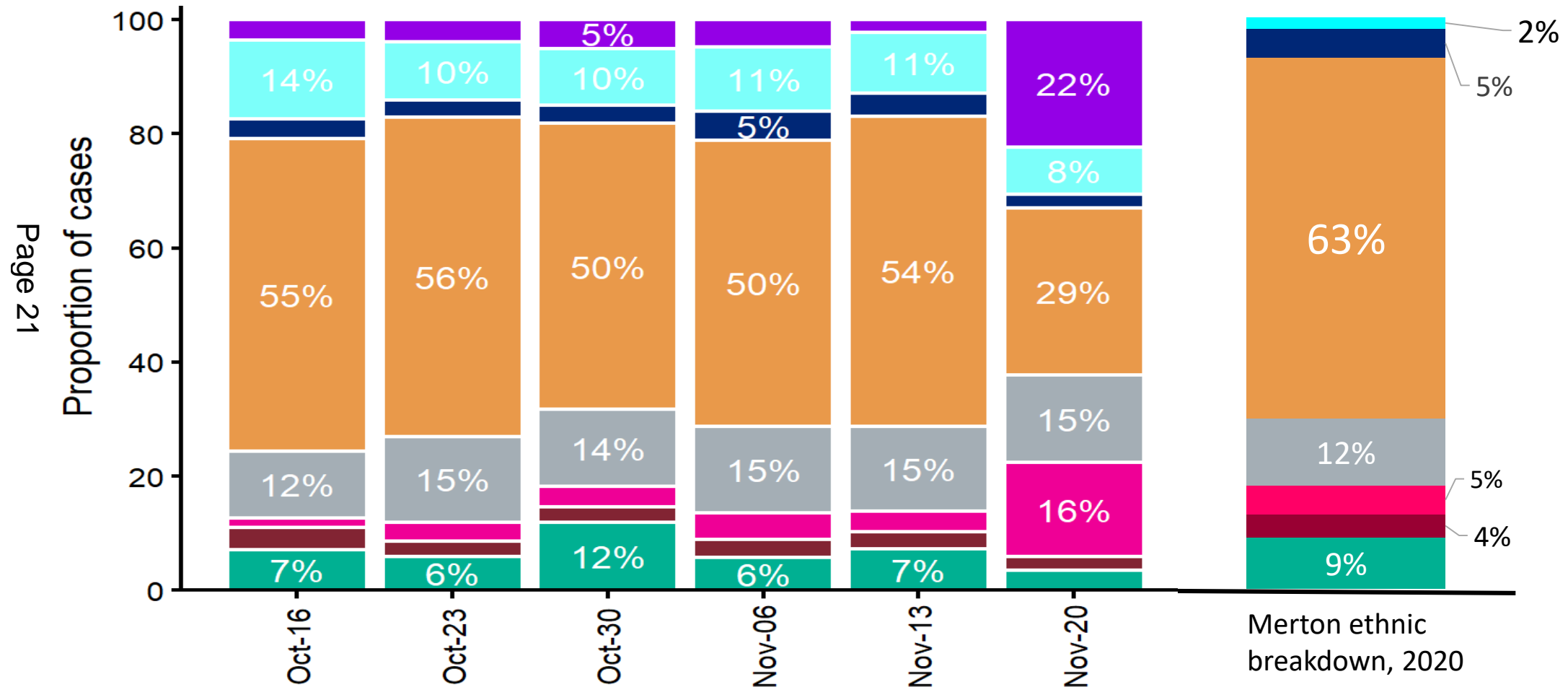


COVID-19 positive cases in Merton by ethnicity

30th November 2020

Weekly distribution of cases by ethnic group in Merton.
Data over 6 weeks and compared to ethnic breakdown Merton.

Source: PHE Merton LA Report



*Please note recent week (ending 20th November) figures are preliminary.
Majority of case data still to be reported

Source: 2016 GLA housing-led population projections

Enquiries Ben.bezuidenhout@merton.gov.uk

Number of deaths registered among Merton residents

30th November 2020

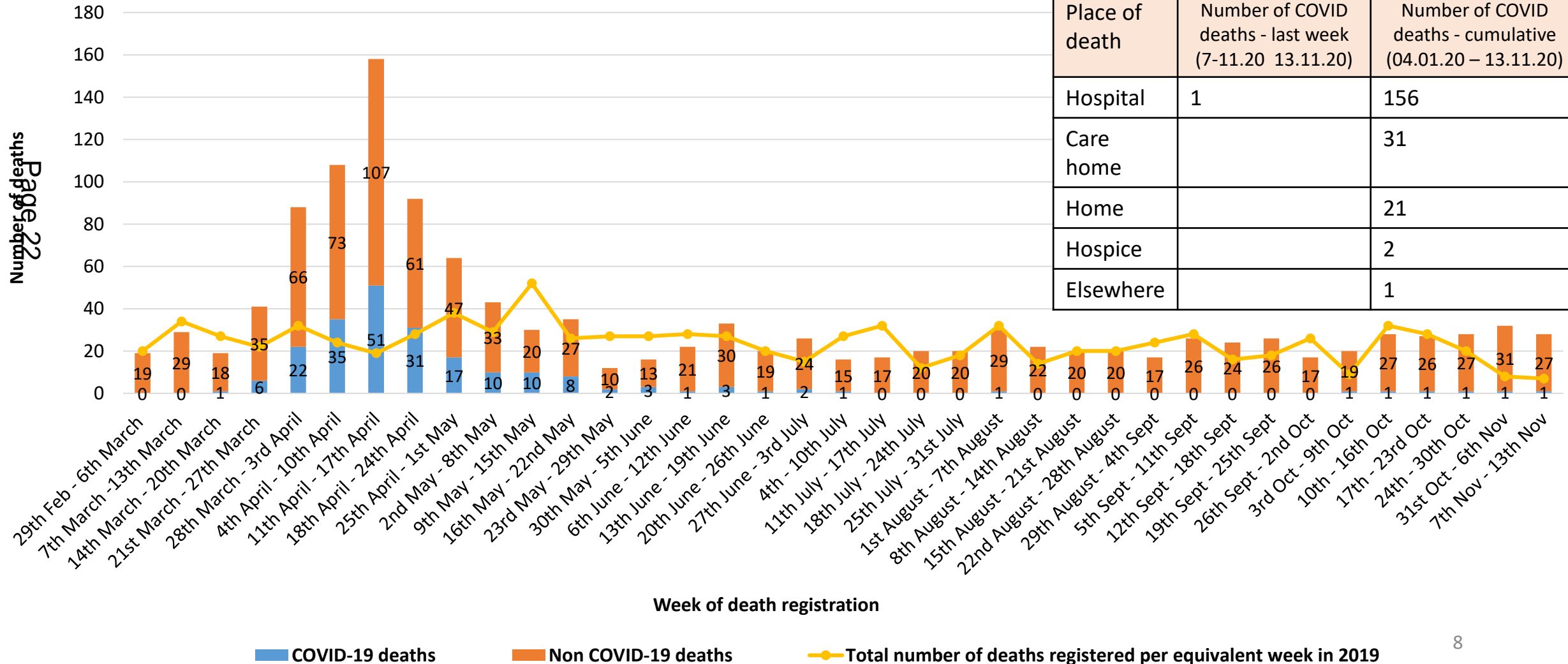
Source: ONS

Reporting frequency: Weekly (most recent 7.11.2020 – 13.11.2020)

Cumulative number of COVID related deaths registered in Merton
(04.01.2020 – 13.11.2020)

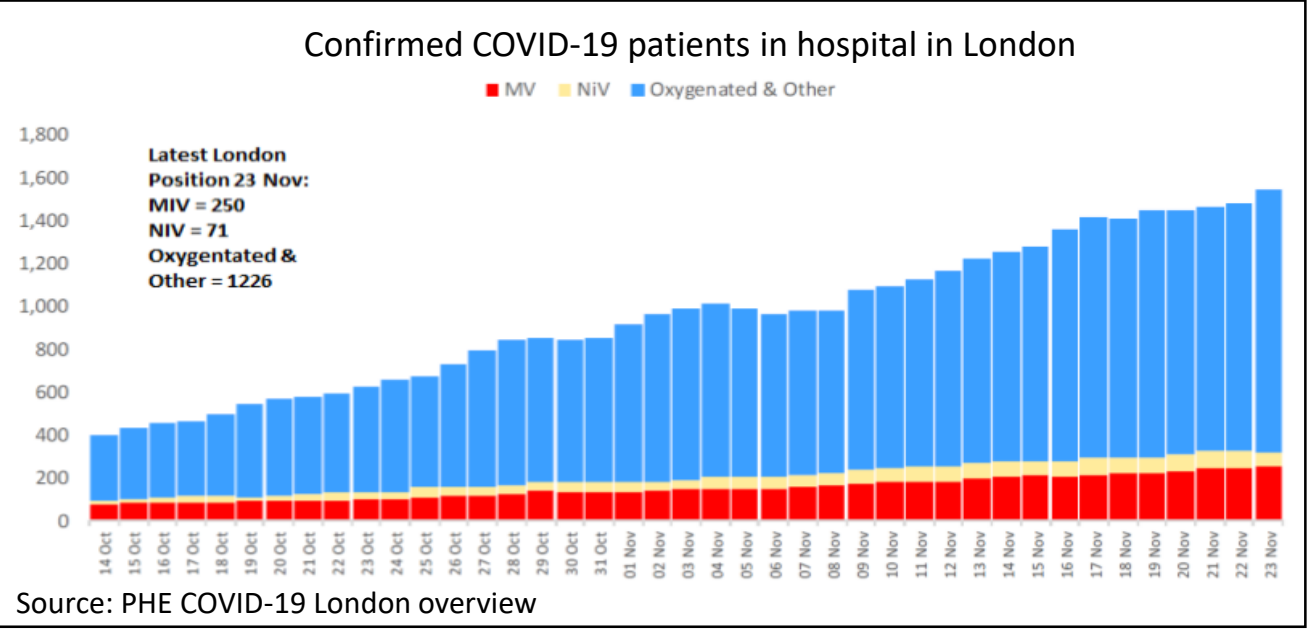
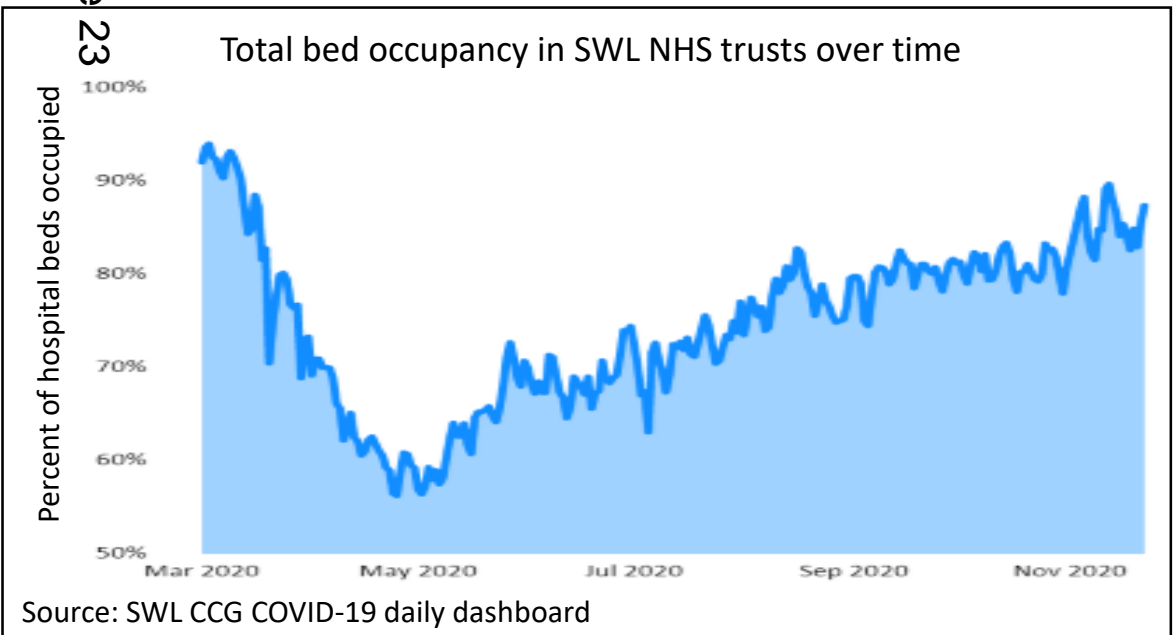
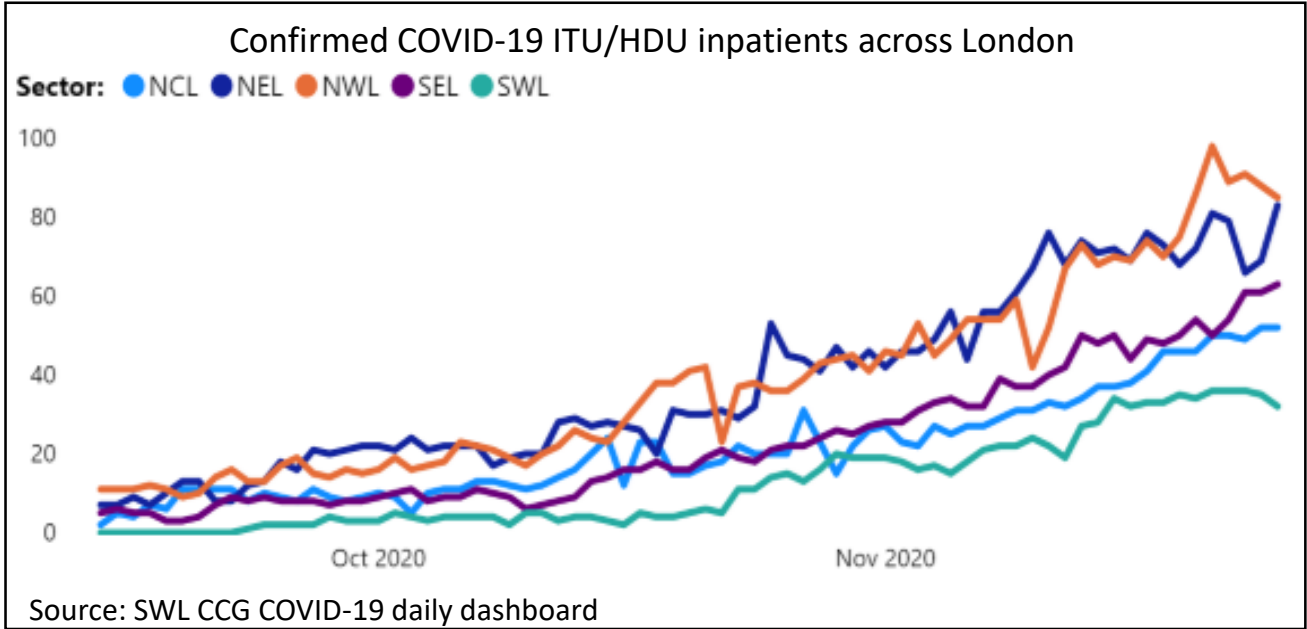
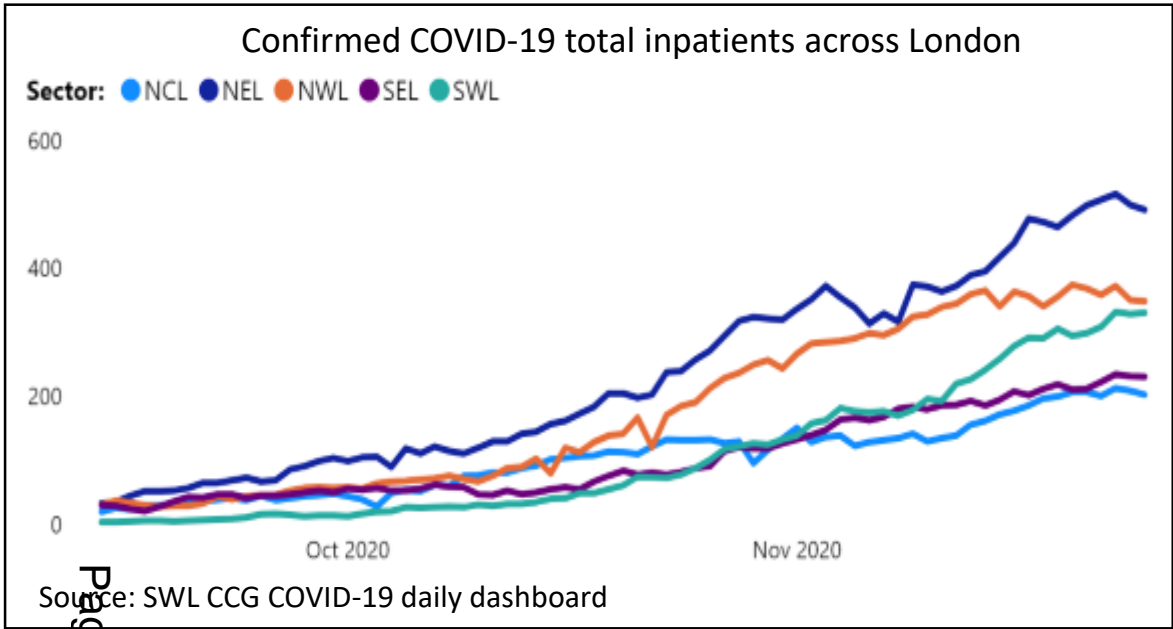
211

Number of deaths in Merton by week of registration



COVID-19 and NHS-related indicators

30th November 2020



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Local contact tracing

- Launched on 18th Nov, in first 3 days – 24 successfully contacted.
- All contacted signposted to local support services

Testing

- Symptomatic:
 - Pillar 1 testing – responsibility of NHS
 - Pillar 2 testing – responsibility of DHSC, local testing sites in collaboration with LA
- Asymptomatic:
 - PCR (polymerise chain reaction) testing for care homes, being rolled out to homecare
 - LFT (lateral flow test) – responsibility devolved to health care providers, universities, future plans for care homes, schools, and LAs
 - Positive results require confirmation with PCR
 - Currently nose/throat but saliva version expected soon

COVID-19 vaccination

- Led by NHS, supported by LA and partners
- Mass testing sites (approx. 1/LA), PCN (Primary Care Network) testing sites for primary care delivery (PCNs can share sites, but expected to be not more than 2-3 per shared site and some have their own site)
- Priority groups – identified by JCVI (national Joint Committee on vaccination and immunisation) based on risk; feasibility also needs to be considered for delivery, ie Pfizer vaccine requires storage -80C. Front line health and care workers are high priority; and then age is used as other main determinant.

TIER 2

HIGH ALERT

FROM 2 DEC

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MEETING FRIENDS AND FAMILY <p>No mixing of households indoors, apart from support bubbles. Maximum of six outdoors.</p>	BARS, PUBS AND RESTAURANTS <p>Pubs and bars must close, unless operating as restaurants. Hospitality venues can only serve alcohol with substantial meals. Venues must stop taking orders at 10pm and must close by 11pm.</p>	RETAIL <p>Open.</p>	WORK AND BUSINESS <p>Everyone who can work from home should do so.</p>
EDUCATION <p>Early years settings, schools, colleges and universities open. Childcare, other supervised activities for children, and childcare bubbles permitted.</p>	INDOOR LEISURE <p>Open.</p>	ACCOMMODATION <p>Open.</p>	PERSONAL CARE <p>Open.</p>
OVERNIGHT STAYS <p>Permitted with household or support bubble.</p>	WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS <p>15 guests for weddings, civil partnerships, wedding receptions and wakes; 30 for funerals.</p>	ENTERTAINMENT <p>Open.</p>	PLACES OF WORSHIP <p>Open, but cannot interact with anyone outside household or support bubble.</p>
TRAVELLING <p>Reduce the number of journeys you make and walk or cycle if possible. Avoid busy times and routes on public transport. Avoid car sharing with those outside of your household or support bubble. Avoid entering a Tier 3 area, other than where necessary such as for work or education. Further exemptions apply.</p>	EXERCISE <p>Classes and organised adult sport can take place outdoors, but cannot take place indoors if there is any interaction between people from different households. Organised activities for elite athletes, under-18s and disabled people can continue.</p>	RESIDENTIAL CARE <p>COVID-secure arrangements such as substantial screens, visiting pods, and window visits. Outdoor/airtight visits only (rollout of rapid testing will enable indoor visits including contact).</p>	LARGE EVENTS <p>Sport, live performances and business meetings limited to 50% capacity or 2000 people outdoors (whichever is lower) and 50% capacity or 1000 people indoors (whichever is lower)</p>

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TIER 2 RESTRICTIONS

As of 00.01 Wednesday 2nd December the local restriction tier system applies to England

What does this mean?

London and Merton has been placed in **Tier 2: High Alert**. This is for areas with a higher or rapidly rising level of infections, where some additional restrictions need to be in place.

- ✓ you must not socialise with anyone you do not live with or who is not in your support bubble in any indoor setting, whether at home or in a public place
- ✓ you must not socialise in a group of more than 6 people outside, including in a garden or a public space – this is called the ‘rule of 6’
- ✓ pubs and bars must close, unless operating as restaurants. Hospitality venues can only serve alcohol with substantial meals
- ✓ places of worship remain open but you must not socialise with people from outside of your household or support bubble while you are indoors there
- ✓ organised outdoor sport, and physical activity and exercise classes can continue
- ✓ you can continue to travel to venues or amenities which are open, but should aim to reduce the number of journeys you make where possible

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WHAT HAS NOT CHANGED?

Hands, Face, Space.

- ✓ Washing your hands with soap and water, or using hand sanitiser, regularly throughout the day will reduce the risk of catching or passing it on.
- ✓ You must [wear a face covering](#) in most indoor public settings, unless you have an exemption
- ✓ Social Distancing: Stay 2 meters apart from those who you do not live with or who are not in your support bubble.
- ✓ Where you cannot stay 2 metres apart you should stay more than 1 metre apart, and take additional steps to stay safe. For example:
 - Wear a face covering: on public transport and in many indoor spaces, you must wear a face covering by law, unless you are exempt
 - move outdoors, where it is safer and there is more space
 - if indoors, make sure rooms are well ventilated by keeping windows and doors open

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTION

- Join our network of over **115** COVID-19 Community Champions; a key part of our approach to preventing and managing outbreaks in Merton.
- Drop-in sessions take place every Wednesday (12pm-1pm and 7pm-8pm) - last weeks topic was 'winter wellness' and this week we are exploring the 'tier 2 restrictions'.

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Sign up for our 'Celebrating Safely' workshops on Monday 14th December 2020 (12 noon to 1pm and 6pm to 7pm) – to hear practical tips on reducing the risk of COVID-19 during the holiday season.

- Sign up for Merton COVID-19 newsletter – www.merton.gov.uk/newsletter
- For more information contact public.health@merton.gov.uk



ANY QUESTIONS?

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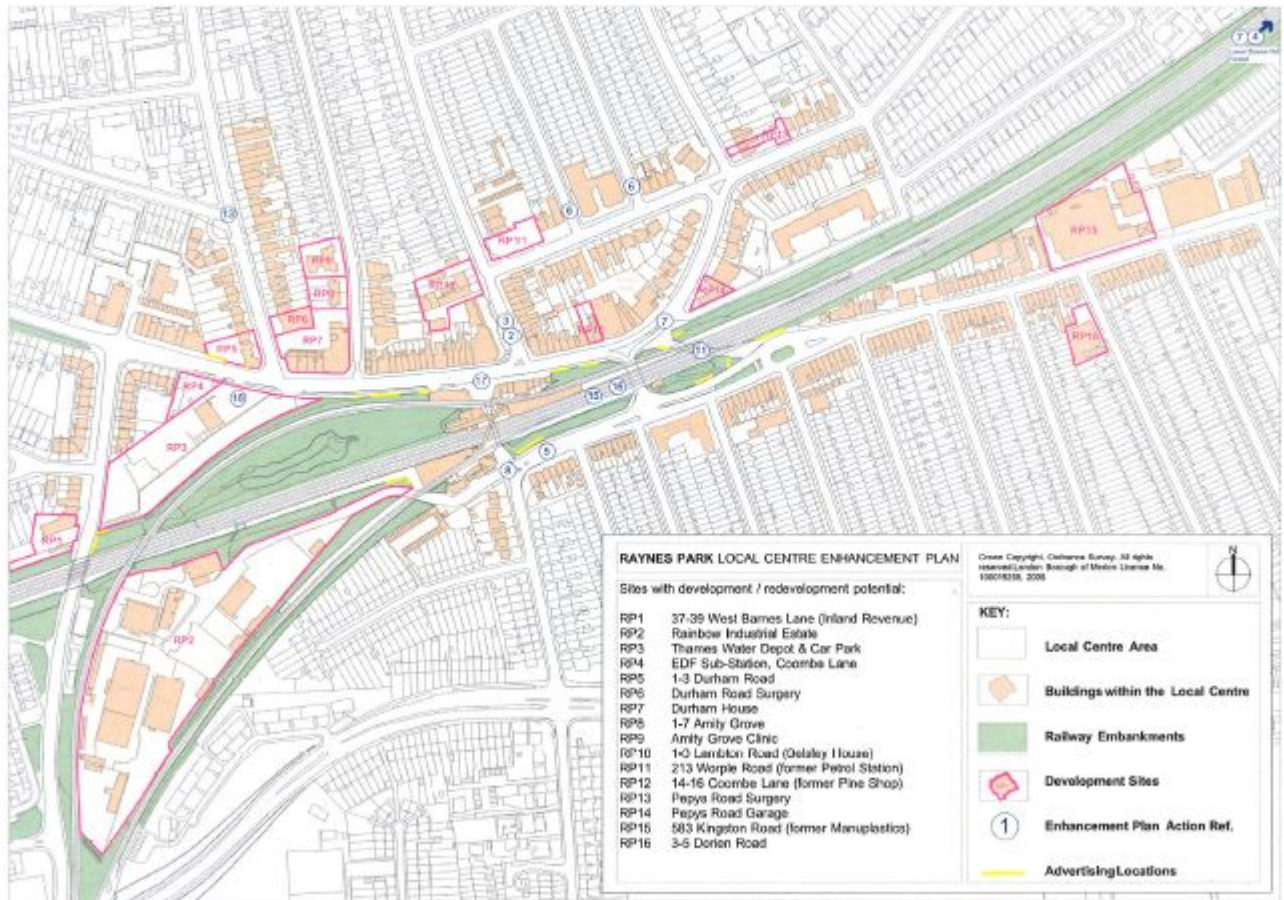


View of market area as existing with railings, concrete planters without



View as proposed with reduced carriage way width and enlarged market space. New tree planting replaces trees lost to seating and space for market and community activities.

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