

# Coronavirus COVID-19 Parish Update 6

NOVEMBER 2020

## Welcome

The latest lockdown means we are all facing further restrictions to our lives and livelihoods, but this time we're not starting from scratch and much of the support network SKDC provides for residents and businesses is already in place, including access to our virtual meetings via [www.southkesteven.gov.uk](http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk)

When we first went into lockdown in March our communities rallied round to create a network of support for those most in need through our hugely successful Community Hub. Since then the Council has contacted nearly 18,000 vulnerable residents to offer help and made more than 1,500 calls as part of our befriending programme. Importantly, we have also worked with local partners to support them as they have helped others.

That community spirit will once again be called upon and the Hub will again be at the forefront of our response, with our staff volunteering to co-ordinate help for those most in need and provide a friendly voice on the end of the telephone for people feeling isolated or vulnerable. **Contact: SKCommunityHub@southkesteven.gov.uk or 01476 406177.**

**Cllr Kelham Cooke, Leader of South Kesteven District Council**



### Support for Business

Throughout this lockdown period InvestSK and our Finance team will be administering Government grants available to businesses. Information received to date shows there will be support for businesses forced to close as a result of national lockdown, and also those adversely affected by it.

The business support team is already receiving a high volume

of calls and emails asking for information about the schemes and, as further guidance is received, the InvestSK and SKDC websites are being updated:

**[www.investsk.co.uk](http://www.investsk.co.uk)**

**[www.southkesteven.gov.uk](http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk)**

Businesses across South Kesteven are invited to join InvestSK's next online information and advice Tea Break session.

The free event is an opportunity to put questions to a panel of expert speakers and to find out more about support available to help businesses during the pandemic.

InvestSK Teabreak: Tuesday 8 December, 9.30am-10.30am.

**Book here: <https://investsk.co.uk/events>**

### Support for Residents

SKDC has already administered over £8,500 in Government Test and Trace payments. You may be entitled to the £500 payment if you are on a low income and cannot work because you've been asked to self-isolate.

If you are contacted by NHS Test and Trace, it is not only a legal requirement that you self-isolate, but

it can also help prevent the spread of Covid-19 by breaking the chain of infection. However, the financial implications of not being able to work due to self-isolation can be severe.

Payments can be backdated for people who have been notified that they needed to self-isolate on or after 28 September but applications must

be made within 14 days of an isolation period ending. The scheme will run until 31 January 2021 and will be continually reviewed.

To ensure you don't miss out go to **[southkesteven.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://southkesteven.gov.uk/coronavirus)** where you will first be able to check if you meet the eligibility criteria before submitting an application.

### Support for Communities

LotterySK has celebrated its second anniversary with a £25,000 jackpot win for one lucky player - the second jackpot win since South Kesteven District Council launched its community lottery in 2018.

The total won by ticket holders now stands at more than £94,000, while LotterySK is also proving a lifeline for

good causes as the Coronavirus has halted other fundraising opportunities.

Ticket sales have increased in recent weeks, promising to deliver in excess of £70,000 to 110 charities and good causes across the district this year and taking the amount raised to more than £133,000 in two years.

Nominated good causes receive

50p for every £1 ticket sold - more than twice the amount raised by the National Lottery - with the chance of a £25,000 top prize in every weekly draw. **To find out more go to [www.lotterysk.co.uk](http://www.lotterysk.co.uk)**



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