

Good Morning

Officers are urging the people of Staffordshire to comply with the revised measures to ensure the safety and well-being of their friends and family.

The plea comes as Staffordshire continues to see high levels of Covid cases, primarily driven by household transmission. There has also been an increase of hospital admissions across the county.

The force received 483 reports of Covid breaches in the last week (4 – 11 November) with the majority of these being house parties and gatherings (mixing of households). The peak was Saturday 7 November with 139 incidents.

There has also been an increase in businesses remaining open despite lockdown guidelines.

Over the weekend, a number of Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) were issued, including one to the mother of a 17-year-old who was seen throwing a firework on a main road and was with a group of people who were not from his household. His mother was given the FPN for failing to ensure her child complied with repeated directions to comply with Covid regulations.

Figures released by Staffordshire County Council show the county's rates per 100,000 of the population are now almost 60 per cent higher than the average England rate.

Superintendent Tom Chisholm, head of neighbourhood policing for Staffordshire Police, said: "We know the majority of people in Staffordshire have done their best to follow the regulations in order to reduce the spread of Covid-19.

"However, the virus is spreading rapidly in Staffordshire and in particular hospital admission are increasing dramatically which is putting huge pressure on healthcare services.

"To the minority who sadly do not accept the rules and mistakenly believe they do not apply to them, be prepared to face higher levels of enforcement.

"We are stepping up patrols, using robust enforcement consistently and working closely with partners to ensure a high level of adherence to these new restrictions to control the virus."

Melissa Martin  
Effective Practice Development Officer  
Newcastle  
Families First Targeted Services  
07807180149