

St Albans Council Business Summit 2020



St Albans
City & District Council

Cllr Chris White, Leader of St Albans City & District Council

Welcome & Purpose of the Summit

AGENDA

- **Jim McManus, Hertfordshire's Director of Public Health**, Local impact of COVID-19.
- **Cllr Mandy McNeil, Portfolio Holder for Business, Tourism & Culture**, Work of the Council to support businesses in response to COVID-19.
- **Alison Berneye, Chair of St Albans BID & St Albans Visitor Partnership** Update on actions to showcase the District during & beyond the pandemic.
- Speakers from **St Albans District Chamber of Commerce, Federation of Small Businesses, Hertfordshire Growth Hub and Better Business for All** will provide updates.
- Representatives from **The Maltings & Christopher Place** shopping centres will give an update on local retail issues.

Jim McManus, Hertfordshire's Director of Public Health

Local Impact of COVID-19

St Albans and District Business Summit

Covid-19 Update

11th November 2020

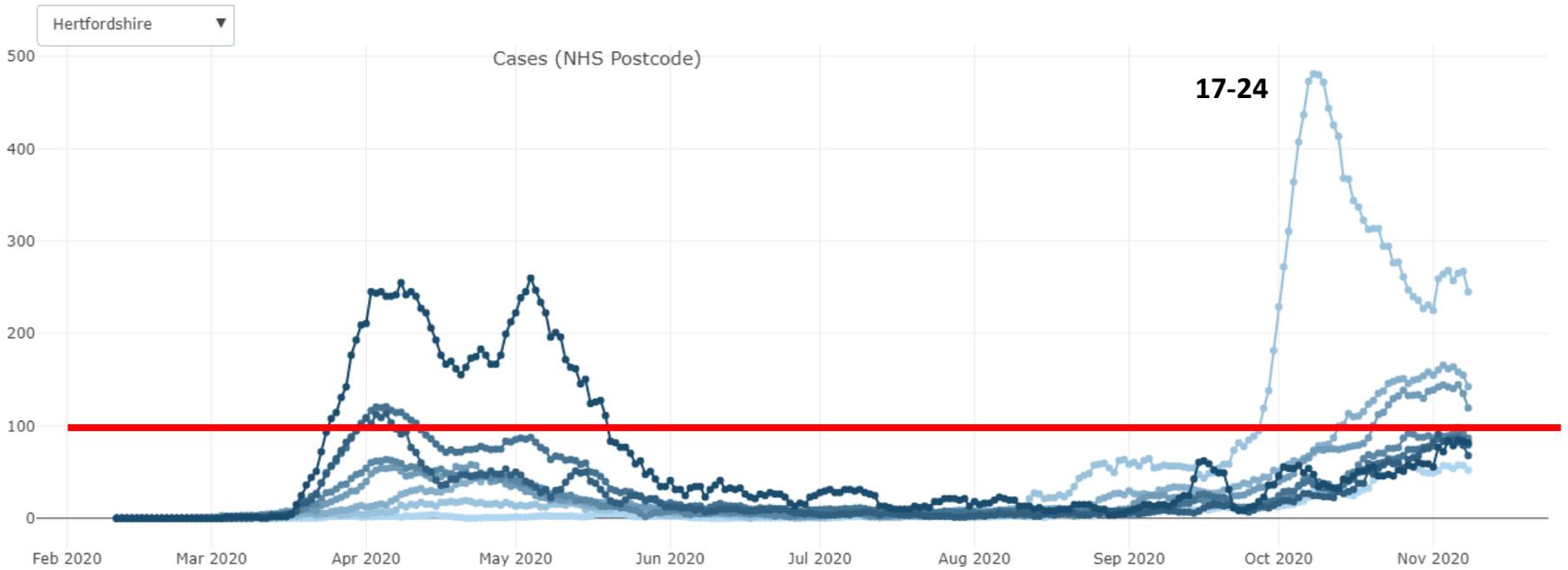
Jim McManus
Director of Public Health



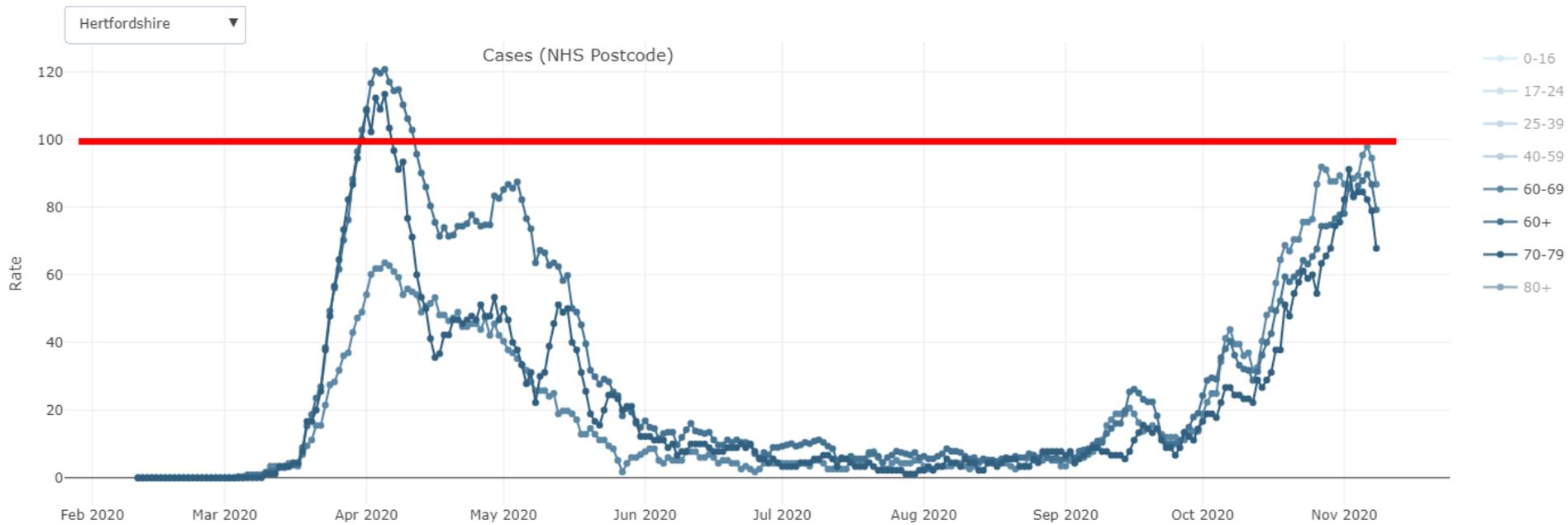
Herts Covid Public Dashboard
https://hcc-phei.shinyapps.io/covid19_public_dashboard/

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk

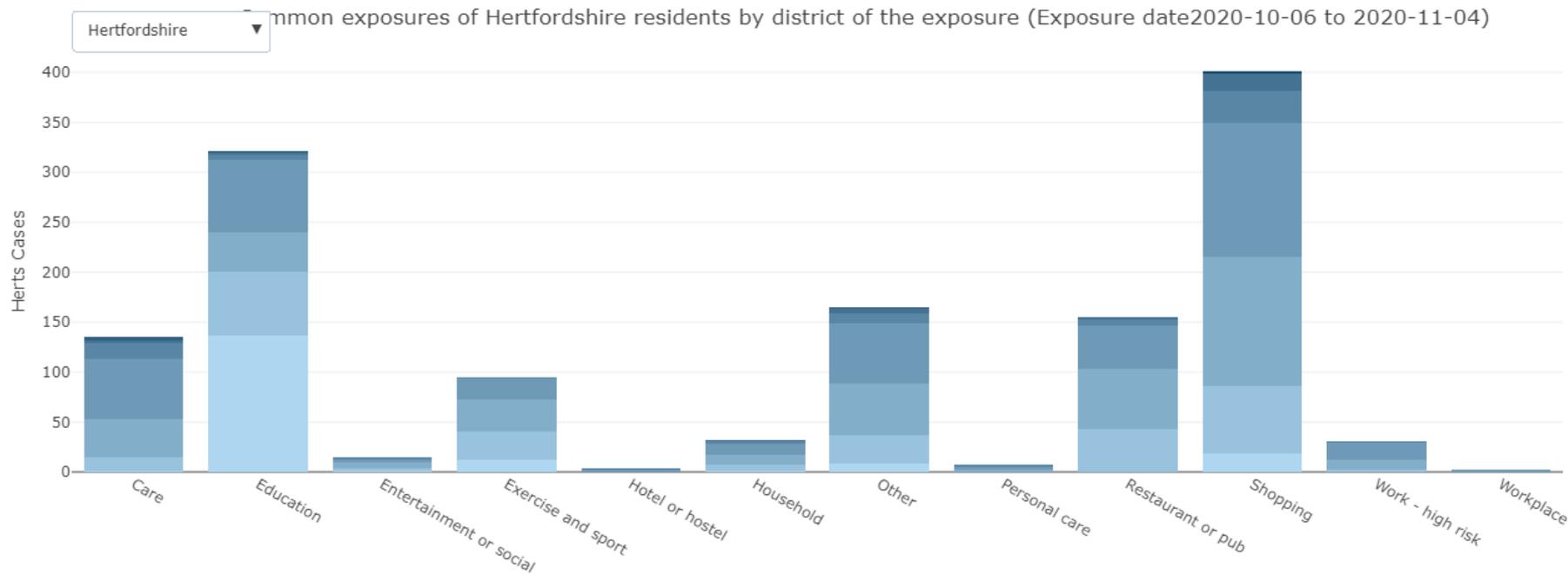




Age Rates |



Age Rates 60 and over |



Sources of Exposure

The Choice for us all....

Lockdown comes off 2 Dec.
Shopping & socialising rush.

Spike in infections January.

Tighter Restrictions February

Economic challenges

Reduce social interaction
now so you can have **some**
socialising at Christmas and
protect the economy. Exit
in January with lower
numbers

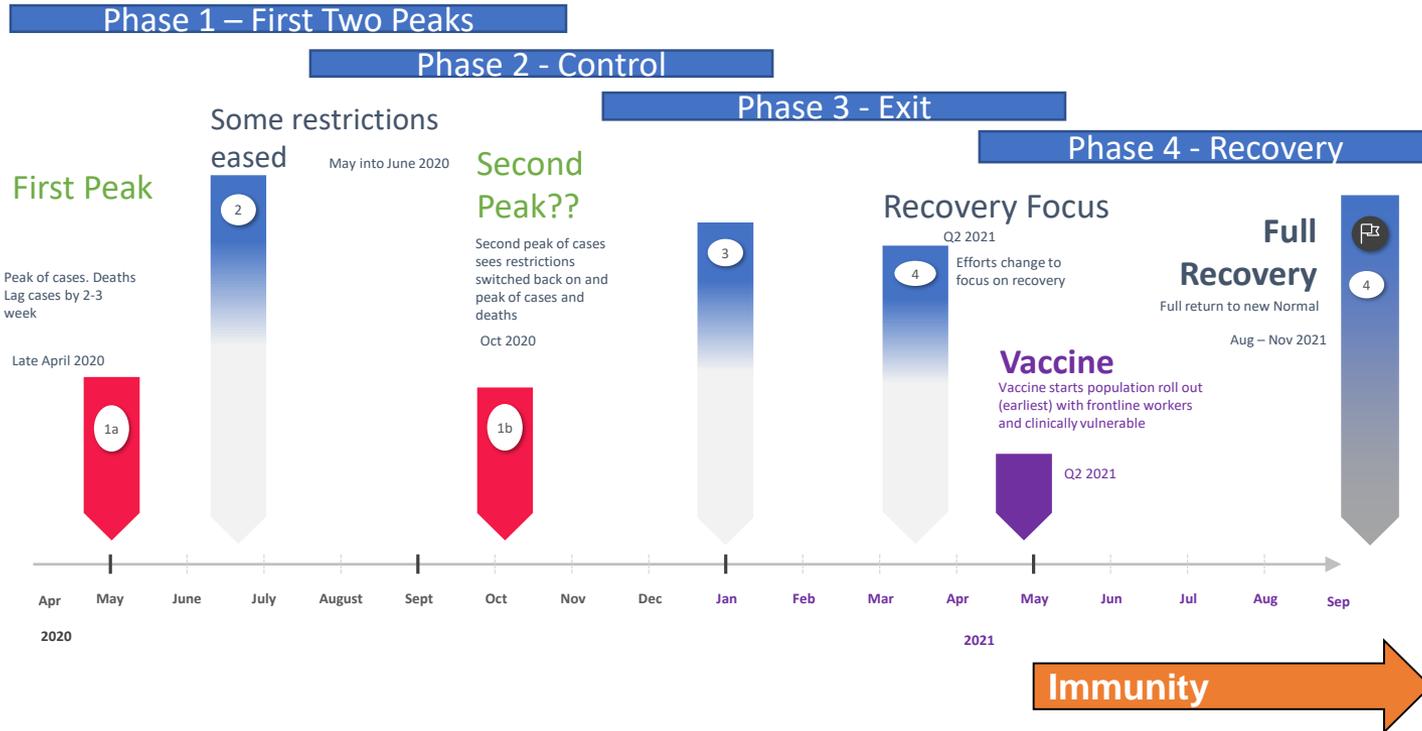
Strategic Choices 20-21

- **UNACCEPTABLE FOR SOCIETY**
- Lockdown until a vaccine (equal worst option)
- Let it run uncontrolled (equal worst option death and disease burden unmanageable)

- **WISH TO AVOID – SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC COST TOO GREAT**
- Simmering – exit lockdown, test and trace not optimal, self-isolation compliance poor, numbers eventually rise and we have third lockdown

- **PREFERRED**
- ***Exit with suppression*** – use the lockdown period to get as much as possible working optimally to keep the virus from rapid spread – preferred option
 - The Next 4 Weeks will determine if we win the next 6 months

Where are we? Pandemic Milestones



This is all provisional. The key drivers of these phases will be levels of infection, recovery and immunity

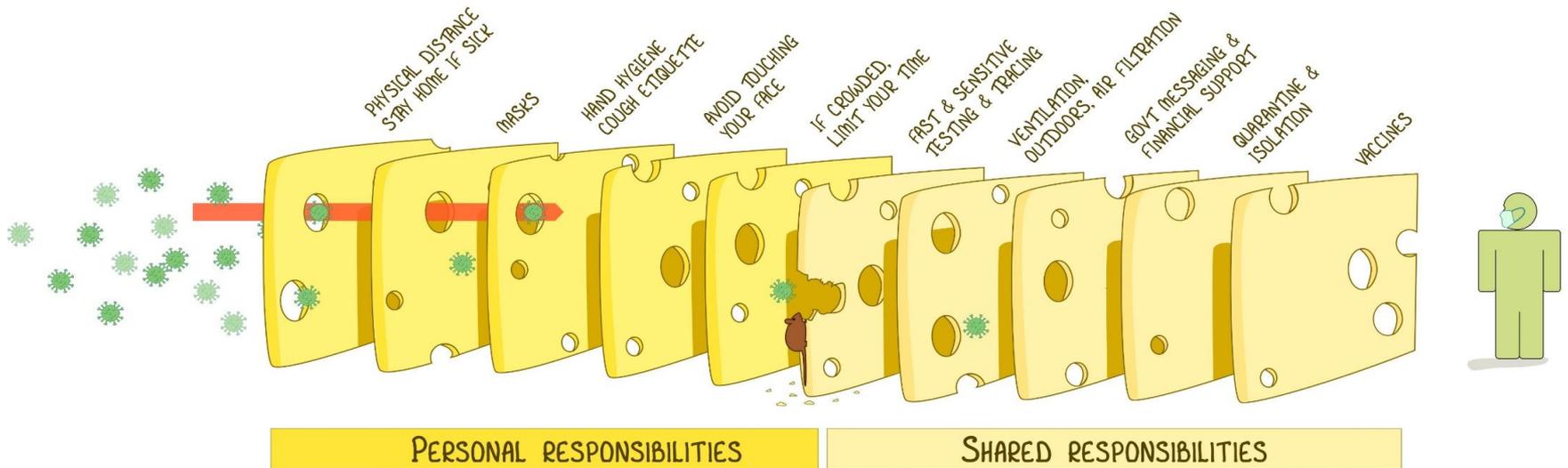
What would
get us out of
simmering?
*Towards exit
with
suppression*

- Test, Trace and Isolate (EVERY bit working optimally)
- Ensure we have the right intelligence and surveillance
- Combination Prevention – Non Pharmacological Interventions – until the vaccine
- “We’re in this together” Hearts and Minds of Residents into prevention
- Enforcement where absolutely necessary

Combination Prevention

THE SWISS CHEESE RESPIRATORY VIRUS PANDEMIC DEFENCE

RECOGNISING THAT NO SINGLE INTERVENTION IS PERFECT AT PREVENTING SPREAD



EACH INTERVENTION (LAYER) HAS IMPERFECTIONS (HOLES).
MULTIPLE LAYERS IMPROVE SUCCESS.

IAN M MACKAY
VIOLOGYDOWNUNDER.COM
WITH THANKS TO JODY LANARD, KATHERINE ARDEN & THE UNI OF QLD
BASED ON THE SWISS CHEESE MODEL OF ACCIDENT CAUSATION, BY JAMES T REASON, 1990
VERSION 3.0
UPDATE: 24OCT2020

Key Priorities during “Lockdown 2”

1

Prepare to roll out Lateral Flow Testing

2

Increase contact tracing

3

Support people to self-isolate better

4

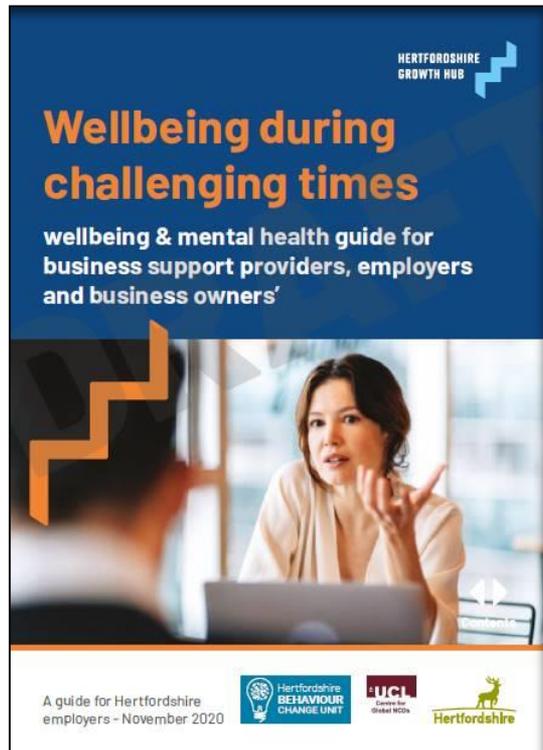
Tackle the key sources of transmission during lockdown

SO THEY ARE SUPPRESSED AFTER

4

Enforce deliberate and repeated non-compliance

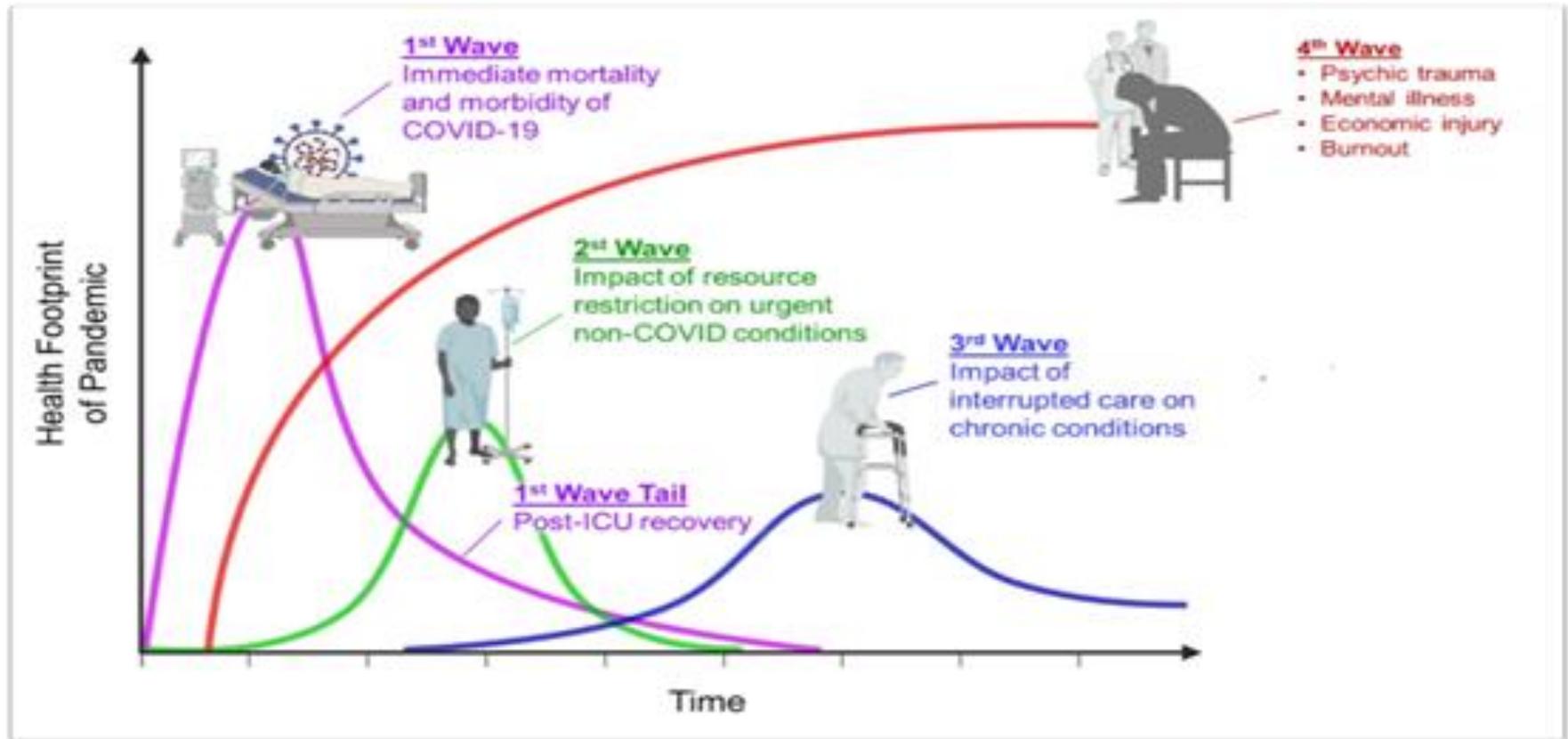
Business Support from Public Health



*Liza Armstong from
Herts Growth Hub will be speaking more on this*

- Make schools as safe as possible
- Keep the County Open for Business
 - Events advisory Group
 - Focus on what CAN be done safely
 - EG Music Events
- Guidance Hub
- Compliance Visiting
- Funding for business support (eg taxi screens, bus screens)
- Infection Control Training (eg taxis)
- Growth Hub Wellbeing Post with LEP
- Growth Hub Psychosocial Skills Manual for Advisers on Wellbeing so people stay well
- PTSD Training for Care Providers
- Purchase Local where possible

Post COVID Health Impacts in Waves – Not a Pandemic but a Syndemic



Key Sources of Transmission during Lockdown

Retail

“Good to go”
Accreditation project

Supermarkets Cell

Care

Care Cell

Education

Schools Cell

Lack of Self Isolation

Isolation
Pathway

CIr Mandy McNeil, Portfolio Holder for Business, Tourism & Culture

Work of the Council to support businesses in response
to COVID-19

Financial support for businesses required to close

Coronavirus National Lockdown Grant

- For properties with a Rateable Value of £15k or under, grants to be £1,334 per month, or £667 per two weeks;
- For properties with a Rateable Value of between £15k-£51k grants to be £2,000 per month, or £1,000 per two weeks;
- For properties with a Rateable Value of £51k or over grants to be £3,000 per month, or £1,500 per two weeks.
- Our website will updated with further details on this soon.

Additional Restrictions Grant

- A discretionary grant scheme for Local Authorities to administer.
- £20 per head of population totaling **£2,969,040**.
- This funding is to cover the remainder of 2020/21 and 2021/22.
- Further decisions are yet to be made on how this will be allocated.

Takeaway Provision – Food and Click & Collect

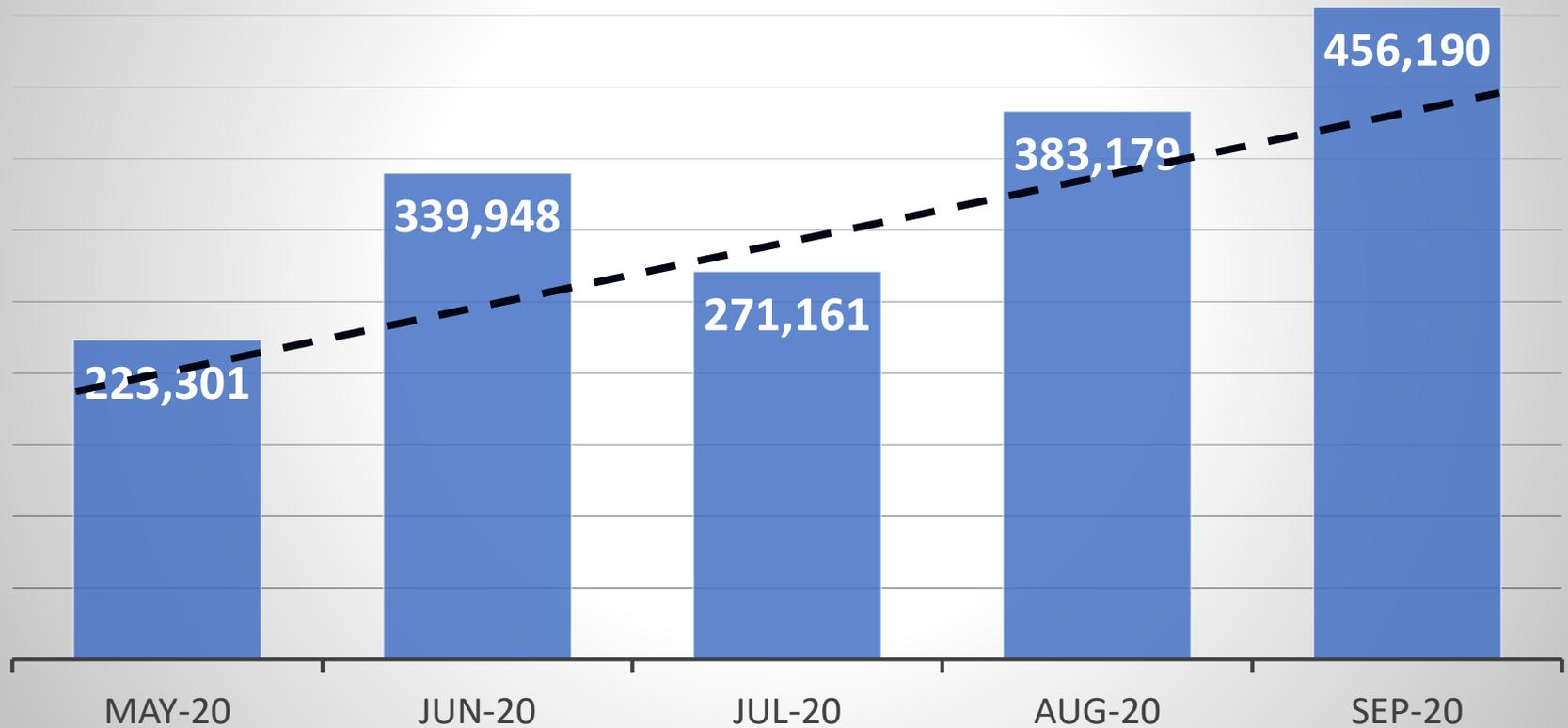
- Essential businesses such as food, hardware, off licenses, pharmacies etc. and stalls selling products such as the above can continue to operate.
- Hospitality venues including restaurants, bars and pubs are closed but can still provide takeaway and delivery services.
- Takeaway and non alcoholic drinks can be ordered on premises by the customs between 5am & 10pm.
- Pubs and restaurants will be able to sell takeaway alcohol during this month's lockdown, as long as its pre-ordered by phone or online.
- Between 10am and 5pm, all orders must be by click and collect and delivery only.
- A closed or restricted business can close then reopen as a shop selling 'essential' items. There are very strict criteria.

Further Support...

- The licensing team is identifying options for hospitality businesses to support the current regulations that permit off-licence sales of alcohol outside of a premises (i.e. car park) without click & collect.
- We are working on solution so our pubs, restaurants etc can trade as part of the market.

Moving Forwards: Bringing Back Footfall

BID Area Footfall May - September 2020



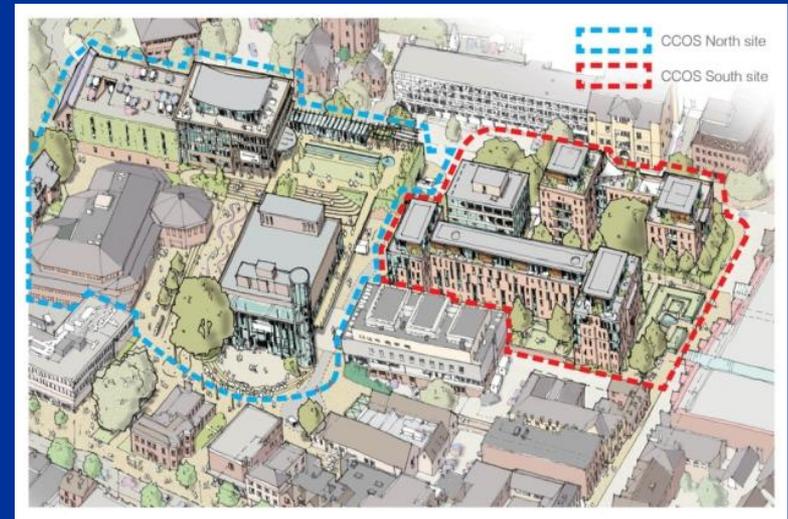
Reopening High Streets Safely Fund

St Albans City and District Council was allocated **£130,464** through the Government's Reopening High Streets Safely Fund.

- Working with Hertfordshire County Council, the BID and the District's Town and Parish Councils.
- The Fund will support a range of practical safety measures, in high streets, across the District and includes:
 - New signage
 - Street markings
 - Temporary barriers including planters and gates
- The Council intends to use this money to advise local businesses and to develop local marketing campaigns to explain the changes to the public, providing reassurance that their high streets and other areas are safe to visit.

Investing in our High Street City Centre Opportunity Sites (CCOS) & Lockey House

- Cabinet voted to approve the acquisition of Lockey House in St Peter's Street.
- This enables the Council to:
 - Manage the area more effectively.
 - Shape the economic mix of uses for shoppers, businesses and residents.
- CCOS South is underway and some of the buildings are now complete.
- The Council will be investing in the CCOS North Centre Development.
- In order to do so effectively, the Council are creating a steering group looking further at the CCOS North Development
- The BID and others are also developing a City Centre Vision.



St Albans Charter Market

- Market continuing during Lockdown 2 for those selling groceries, takeaway food and other essential products.
- More traders can continue to trade than during the initial lockdown.
- St Albans City and District Council has established regular market trader meetings.
- We are exploring ways to facilitate more opportunities for our traders and our independent retail and hospitality association for takeaway and click and deliver options for our markets/partner markets during this time.





Hertfordshire

Local Enterprise Partnership

HERTFORDSHIRE
GROWTH HUB



st albans
bid

ST ALBANS
CITY OF EXPERTISE



STANTA
St Albans Enterprise Agency



Better Business for All

*A local partnership between Businesses and
Regulatory Services to promote growth*

Alison Berneye, Chair of St Albans BID & St Albans Visitor Partnership

Update on actions to showcase the District during &
beyond the pandemic

**Lauren Dovey,
Programme Manager BBfA
Hertfordshire County Council**

How Local Authority regulators can help businesses &
Covid19 toolkit



Better Business **for** All

A local partnership between Businesses and Regulatory Services to promote growth

**Support for Businesses from Local Authority
Regulators**

Lauren Dovey – BBfA Programme Manager



Better Business **for All**

*A local partnership between Businesses and
Regulatory Services to promote growth*

Better Business for All

The Herts Better Business for All (BBfA) partnership aims to ensure appropriate support and guidance is provided to businesses on how to comply with local authority regulation and works with the business support sector to ensure businesses understand their responsibilities and when to seek advice.

Partners Include:

- Local Enterprise Partnership
- Hertfordshire Growth Hub
- Federation of Small Businesses
- Chambers of Commerce
- ACAS
- All Herts Local Authority Regulators
(Trading Standards, Fire & Rescue,
Environmental Health, Licensing,
Highways, Planning & Building
Control)



Better Business for All

*A local partnership between Businesses and
Regulatory Services to promote growth*



Federation of Small Businesses
The UK's Leading Business Organisation



What do LA regulators enforce?

Business Law Checklist:

- Pollution, Waste and the Environment
- Health & Safety
- Fire Safety
- Consumer Law
- Licences and registrations
- Planning & Building permissions



Better Business for All

*A local partnership between Businesses and
Regulatory Services to promote growth*

How can LA regulators help you at this time?

Hertfordshire local council regulatory teams can support businesses with:

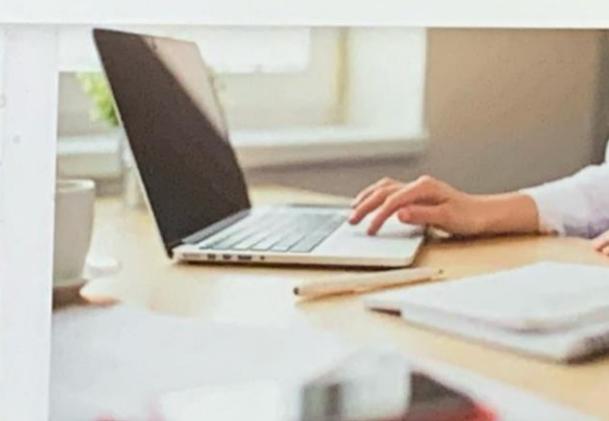
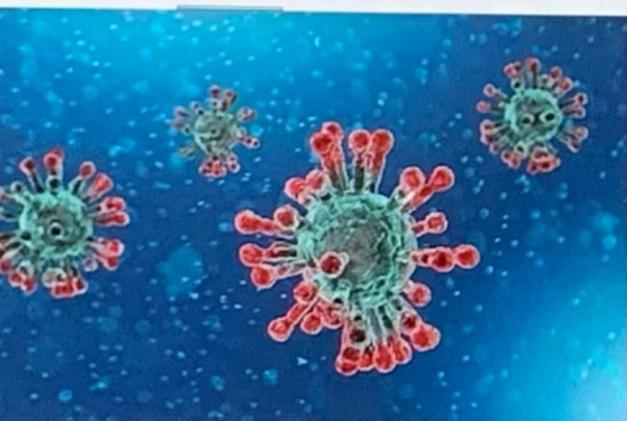
- Conducting risk assessments and trading safely – **Environmental Health**
- Re-opening safely – **Environmental Health**
- Diversifying products or services – **Trading Standards and Licensing**
- Trading online, via delivery or click and collect – **Trading Standards**
- Understanding consumer law in regards to cancellations and returns – **Trading Standards**
- Understanding the Coronavirus regulations – closures, face coverings, track & trace etc – **Trading Standards and Environmental Health**
- Fire Safety – **Fire Protection team**

Local Environmental Health Teams (number on your district/borough council website) or Hertfordshire Trading Standards Business Advice Line: 01707 281401 trading.standards@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Covid-19 – supporting local businesses

The BBfA Covid19 **toolkit** for businesses hosted on the [LEP website](https://www.hertfordshirelep.com/Better-Regulation) contains guides, checklists and templates for Hertfordshire businesses to use for **re-opening, diversifying and trading safely**:
<https://www.hertfordshirelep.com/Better-Regulation>

do | **Priorities** Funding Projects



COVID-19 advice and support

Support is available from Hertfordshire regulators for businesses re-opening, diversifying or manufacturing new products during the Coronavirus

About regulation

Whatever kind of business you operate, you will have rules you need to work within. These can be national and/or local requirements...

Who sets regulation?

Both the County Council and District Councils have regulatory powers, but this doesn't mean it's harder to comply with regulation, or that you have to speak to twice as many Councils...

What action should you take?

- Use the Trading Safely Toolkit
- Follow the Twitter account for regulatory updates
- Seek advice from the LA regulatory teams
- Contact your LA even if you think you're not compliant
- Include compliance in your contingency plans
- Sign-up to your council newsletters & social media accounts for updates
- Follow GOV.UK



Better Business for All

*A local partnership between Businesses and
Regulatory Services to promote growth*

BBfA:

<https://www.hertfordshirelep.com/Better-Regulation>



@BbfaHerts



Unsure who to contact?

bbfa@hertfordshire.gov.uk



Better Business for All

*A local partnership between Businesses and
Regulatory Services to promote growth*

**Liza Armstrong,
Business and Strategic Development
Manager
Hertfordshire Growth Hub**

Work of growth hub in supporting Businesses



Hertfordshire Growth Hub

Liza Armstrong

Business and Strategic
Development Manager

Powered by Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership

Funded by



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

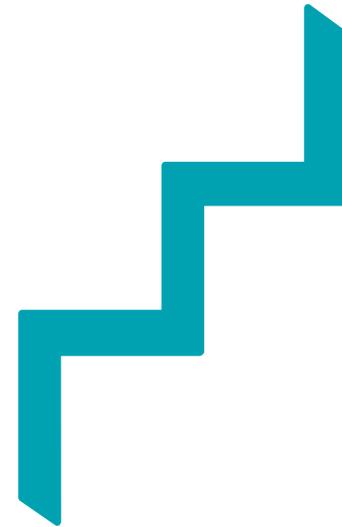


HM Government



About Us

- Led by and delivered on behalf of Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership
- Delivered by a consortium of partners, led by business support specialists Exemplas, with the University of Hertfordshire and Hertfordshire Chamber of Commerce
- Support is free to access and available to all businesses in Hertfordshire (including the third sector)



Powered by Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership

Funded by



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Central Point of Access for Support

Working in Partnership to offer:

- Access to fully funded staff training
- Wellbeing and resilience guidance
- Support with starting or improving an export strategy
- Innovation and new market entry advice
- Manufacturing support/funding
- Advice on talent acquisition
- Access to academia and business incubation
- Advice on funding options
- Regulation and compliance guidance/trading COVID securely
- And much more

"Through the Growth Hub, we were able to engineer more training, investment in our staff and development of our website. All these things help you to look beyond COVID."

Rashid Lalloo
Owner, Premier Ship Models



Response to COVID-19

Volunteer Business Support Scheme

Network of volunteers has been set up to mentor businesses impacted by COVID-19

One to one mentoring – up to 12 hrs.

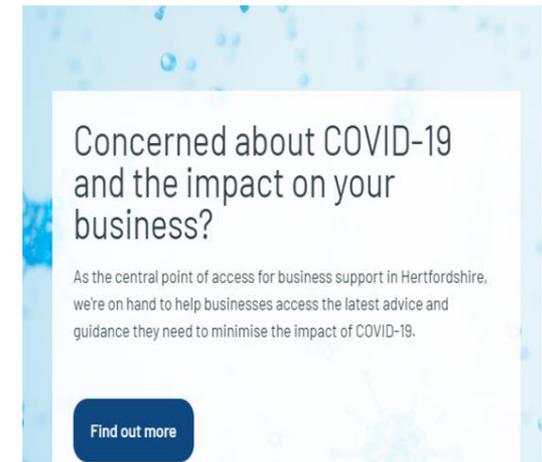
Peer Networks

A national peer-to-peer networking programme for SME leaders that want to grow and develop their organisation for future success.

The programme includes:

- Interactive action learning
- Trained facilitators
- Cohorts 8-11 people

COVID-19 Resource Page & Hub





Wellbeing & Resilience Programme



Working in partnership with Public Health Team at Hertfordshire County Council

- Advice and signposting to local support organisations
- Wellbeing Manual & Toolkit for Advisors, Employers and Business Owners developed by HCC and UCL
- Events Programme including on-demand videos
- Guides and Resources

Powered by Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership

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Register Today for Support

Registration is free and only takes five minutes

Visit www.hertsgrowthhub.com/register

Tell us about you and your business by completing a short set of questions

We will be in touch to follow-up with you to see how we can support you and your business

In the mean time, as a registered client, you can browse all of the websites features including the Knowledge Bank, Marketplace, Events and News and Blogs



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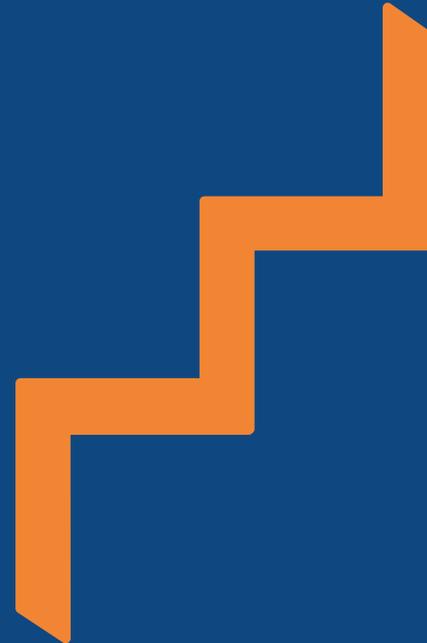
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Thank you

Find out more at hertsgrowthhub.com

The central point of access for business support



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Funded by



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund



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Alastair Woodgate, St Albans District Chamber of Commerce

View from the Chamber

**Pam Charman,
Area Leader Bedfordshire
Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire
Federation of Small Businesses**

FSB Support to Businesses

Phil Corrigan, The Maltings & Catherine Morris, Christopher Place

Update on Local Retail Issues