

NI HUB

# NORTHERN IRELAND SITUATION REPORT

SitRep **004**

Date **Tuesday 17 November 2020, Information correct as of 18:00**

## Weekly Rhythm

CCG (O) Wednesday

NI EPG Down-Rep Friday

SCG N/A

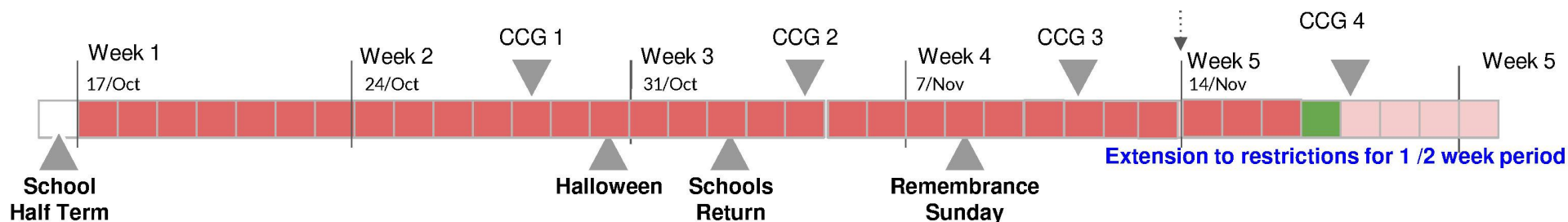
## Civil Contingencies

● NI Hub Status Alert Phase - Partial Stand-Up

● DOC Status Not Activated - C3 Reach Back



## Restriction Period: Status (Source: DoH Dashboard, Daily data Excel spreadsheet, 17th November 20)



### Impact of current restrictions on key COVID-19 metrics (Source: DoH Dashboard excel spreadsheet and \*\*Source: DOH Regional Covid 19 Modelling Group 17th Nov 20)

\*Week 5 average based on data from 14 Nov - 16 Nov

7 Day Rolling Values	Week 0 (10 - 16 Oct)	Week 1 (17 - 23 Oct)	Week 2 (24 - 30 Oct)	Week 3 (31 Oct - 06 Nov)	Week 4 (07 Nov - 13 Nov)	Week 5* (14 Nov - 17 Nov)	Trend
<b>R (Cases)</b>	1.4 - 1.8	1.0 - 1.3	0.8 - 1.1	0.6 - 0.9	0.7 - 0.95	0.9 - 1.1	
<b>R (Inpatients)</b>	1.4 - 1.8	1.2 - 1.5	1.1 - 1.3	0.9 - 1.1	0.8 - 1.0	0.9 - 1.1	
<b>Deaths (all settings)</b>	3.8	4.7	9.6	9.4	9.6	11.3	
<b>Number of Test Positive Individuals (as % of overall tested)</b>	1,000 (16.0%)	979 (16.9%)	761 (16.0%)	581 (13.2%)	577 (10.7%)	424 (11.6%)	
<b>Covid-19 Inpatients</b>	284	406	480	511	500	464	
<b>COVID-19 ICU Inpatients</b>	23.0	30.6	39.9	49.6	50.0	48.3	

OFFICIAL – SENSITIVE

2 17/11/2020

Reproduction(R) number as calculated by the NI Regional Modelling Group and published on the DoH website

INQ000065956\_0002

## Executive Summary

### Headline Data (Source: DoH Dashboard 17th Nov 20)

7-Day Rolling Average Covid-19 Patients in ICU		Doubling Time for Cases (Last 7 Days)		Number of Care Homes with COVID-19 Outbreaks		Economic Impact of COVID-19
<b>48</b> - consistent with prior 7-day rolling average of 50 (w/e 13 Nov) and peak of 49 in April.		<b>59.7 days</b> - which is less than half of ROI's rate (120.5). ROI restrictions incl. places of worship and non essential travel (closed).		<b>165</b> - highest ever number of care homes with Covid-19 outbreaks, increase from 146 reported in last SitRep and 72 on		<b>£4.5bn</b> - estimated loss to economy since March. <b>£400m</b> - Estimated cost of recent restrictions.

### Items for Escalation to CCG

URN	Dept.	Decision Description	BRAG

### Key Issues

Dept.	Issue Description	BRAG
DoH/PHA	At the NI EPG meeting on 13.11.20 PHA advised a potential issue with clusters in church and university accommodation.	A
DAERA	Closure of WD Meats due to Covid in the workforce has resulted in (i) a potential disruption to an element of the beef supply chain, and (ii) the TB reactor contract being temporarily suspended. WD Meats, is engaged with PHA, HSENI and DAERA to agree a way forward, a restart plan is being formulated with guidance.	A
DfE	Less stringent procedures for critical energy workers serving a 14 day self-isolation period - raised to CCG on 4 /11/20 - NI Hub has raised directly with DoH - Update required at CCG on 18 November.	A

## Executive Summary con't

### Key Progress

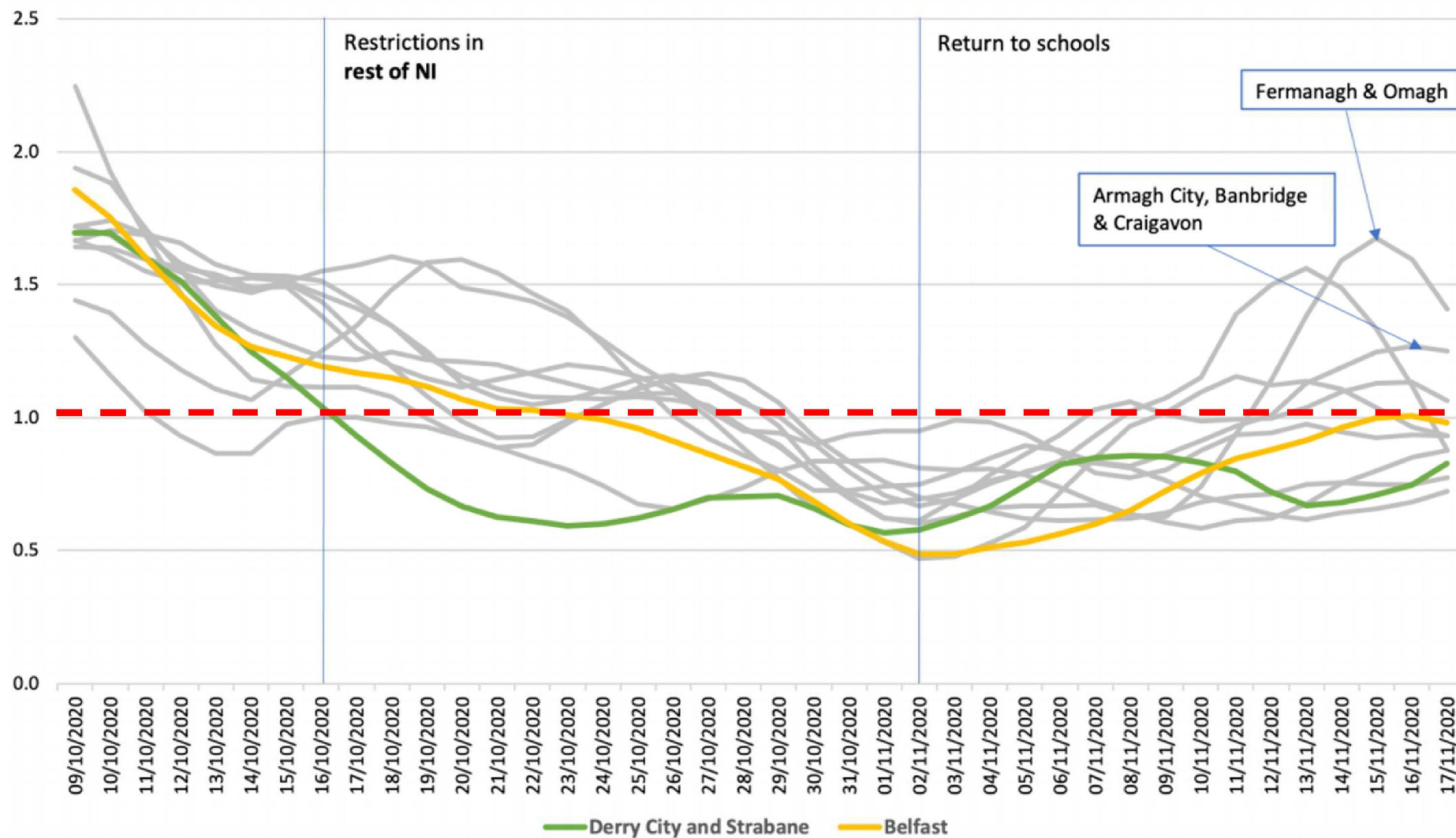
Dept.	Progress Description
DoF	The range of businesses eligible for the Local Restrictions Support scheme was expanded, and the amount of financial support provided to successful applicants was doubled.

### Other Key Information

Dept.	Information Description
DfE	The number of confirmed redundancies rose to 4,060 in the 12 months to the end of October, with over 3,200 in the last four months; compared to 3,100 the previous year.
DoF	Growing media interest and social media commentary around payments made to businesses under the Localised Restrictions Support Scheme, including a growing public narrative that the payments are taking too long to be paid.
DfE	Labour Force Survey data for July-September shows the unemployment rate (3.6%) increased, and the economic inactivity (26.8%) and employment (70.5%) rates decreased over the quarter.

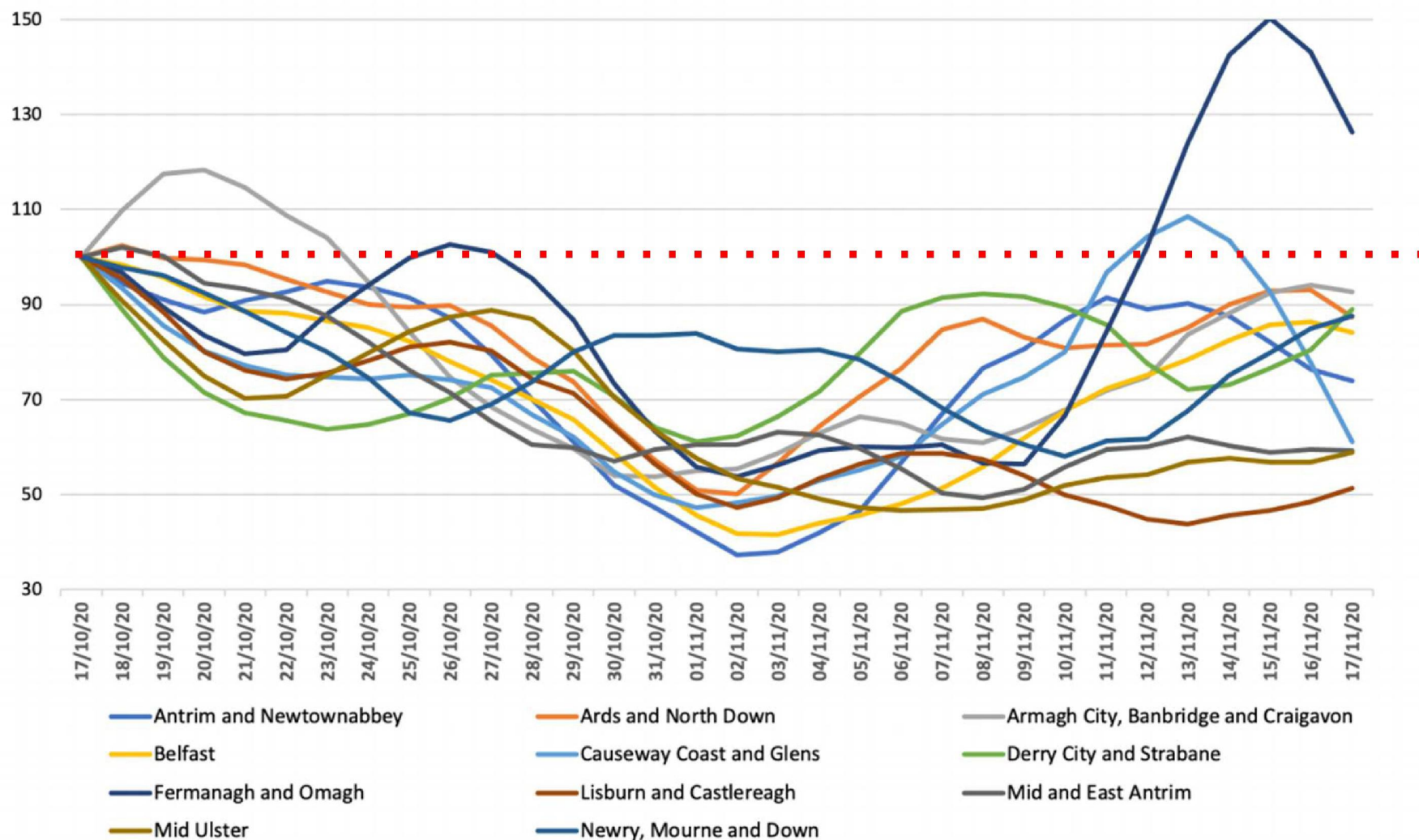


## COVID-19 Transmission Value (R) x Local Government District



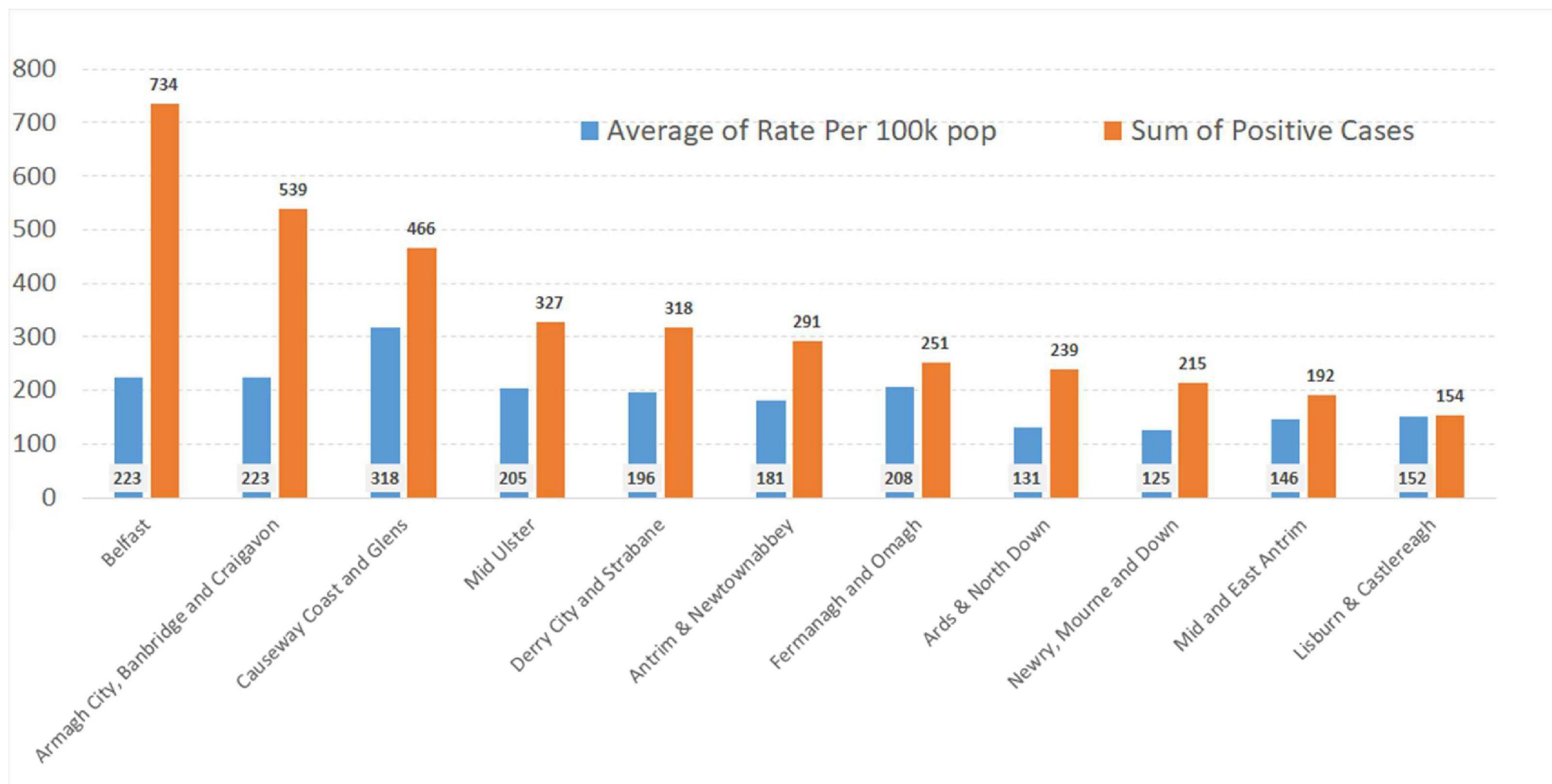
## COVID-19 TRANSMISSION VALUE (Source: DoH Covid Modelling Group 17th Nov)

**Relative change in COVID-19 Transmission Value (R)  
x Local Government District (17 Oct = 100)**



## Positive Cases per LGD per 100k of population for the week commencing 9 Nov '20

(source: DoH Dashboard data 17 Nov '20)



## Current Media and Communications

- The coronavirus track and trace team, which started work in March, has been expanded from 30 to almost 250 people.(BBC News)
- Health officials have said they are looking for a new site for the Covid-19 testing centre at Belfast's SSE Arena. The government said it was important to have long-term arrangements that ensure value for taxpayers' money (Belfast Live)
- The executive will do all it can to "protect" as much of the Christmas period as possible, However, Prof Ian Young said mid-December could be the "big risk period" (BBC News).
- The coronavirus pandemic has had a "catastrophic impact" on medical research charities, according to a Belfast-based scientist. Prof Grieve of Queen's University says the sector needs urgent support (BBC News)
- Emergency departments will be trialling a new phone-first service in the latest bid to ease pressures and prevent overcrowding, The dedicated telephone line is being piloted at the Causeway Hospital from Tuesday at 10:00 (BBC News).
- Driving tests resume 21 November. Range of initiatives being put in place to increase the number of appointments available for customers impacted by the recent restrictions (DfI).
- A £5 million fund to help educational settings support the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people has been launched today (EIS)
- Health Minister Robin Swann has announced a £5m funding package for Domiciliary Care as well as confirming the completion of a Rapid Learning Review which will help shape plans moving forward (EIS)

# Themes



# Theme – Economy and Infrastructure

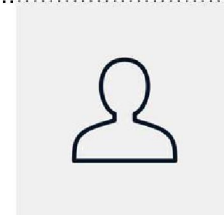
ISSUES			
	Description	Owner	BRAG
1	The four-week restriction period has exacerbated the challenge faced by tourism and hospitality businesses.	DfE	R
2	The reduction in passenger numbers risks not only the short term viability of the public transport network but also erodes the progress made in encouraging people to adopt more sustainable travel habit. The risk is that public transport is seen as unsafe and that unsustainable travel behaviours become engrained.	DfI	A
3	A sharp loss of income in Translink, NI Water, DVA and core DfI as a direct result of Covid-19 restrictions. If not bridged, these shortfalls will have a significant impact on the ability to deliver vital public services.	DfI	A

RECENT ACTIONS	
	Decision
1	Coronavirus Restrictions Business Support Scheme (DfE) - 2,580 applications submitted and payments made to 377 applicants totalling approximately £1m. 113 applications have been rejected to date.
2	Localised Restrictions Support Scheme (DoF) - 11,617 applications received and 3,418 payments totalling £12.9m made. Approximately 1,200 applications identified as being ineligible to date.

**KEY** Increasing/ Decreasing  
Stabilising/ Stable  
Recovering/ Recovered



## Economic Trends: RAG Status (Source: DfE Dashboard 13 Nov '20)



### Labour Market

Unemployment



Vacancies



Redundancies



### Trade

Cross Border Act.



HGV Traffic Flow



Shipping Visits



### Consumption

Consumer Conf/ Spending



Footfall



Retail Activity



### Business

PM Index



NI Chamber Survey



Construction



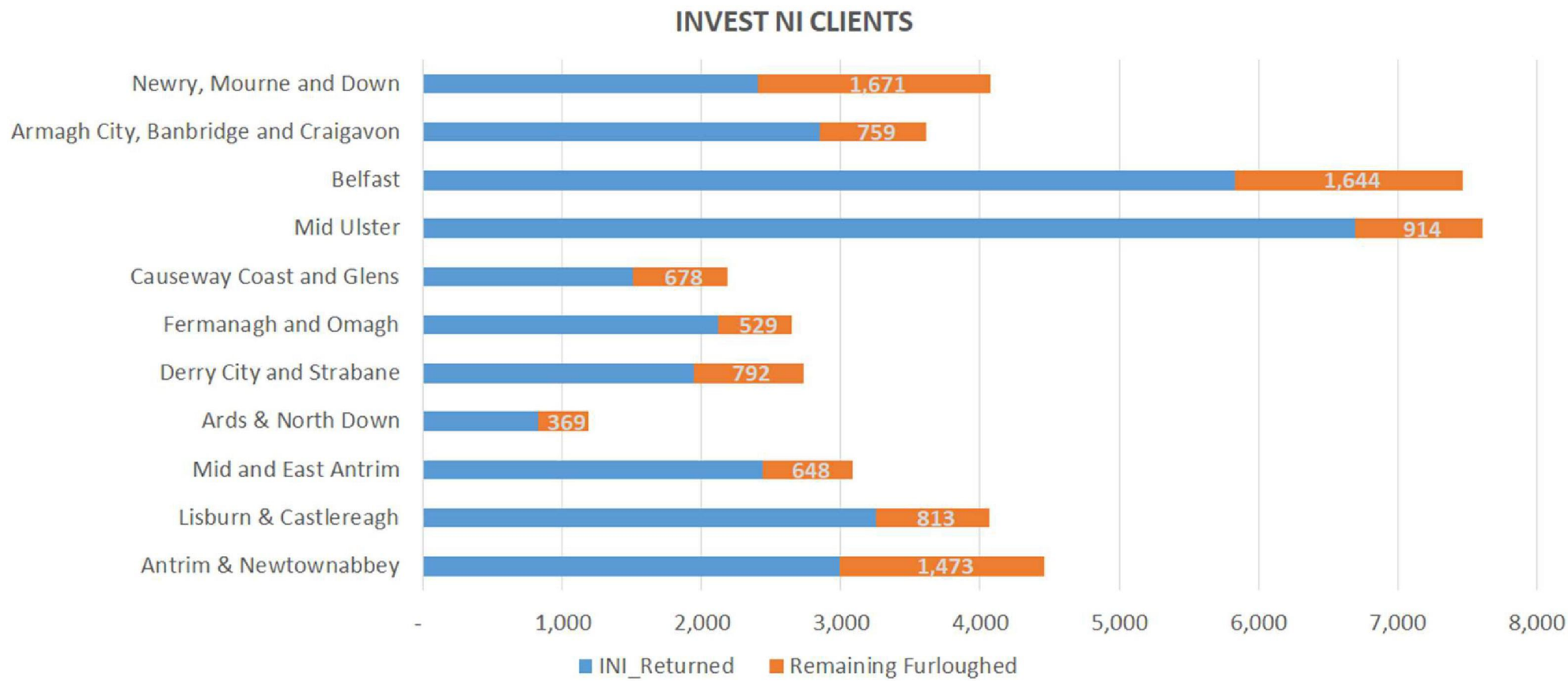


Theme – Economy and Infrastructure: Furlough (Source: DfE dashboard 13 Nov ‘20)

An estimated 70,500 employees were furloughed at August 2020

Approximately 61% were associated with Invest NI Clients

74% of Invest NI furloughed employees have returned to work

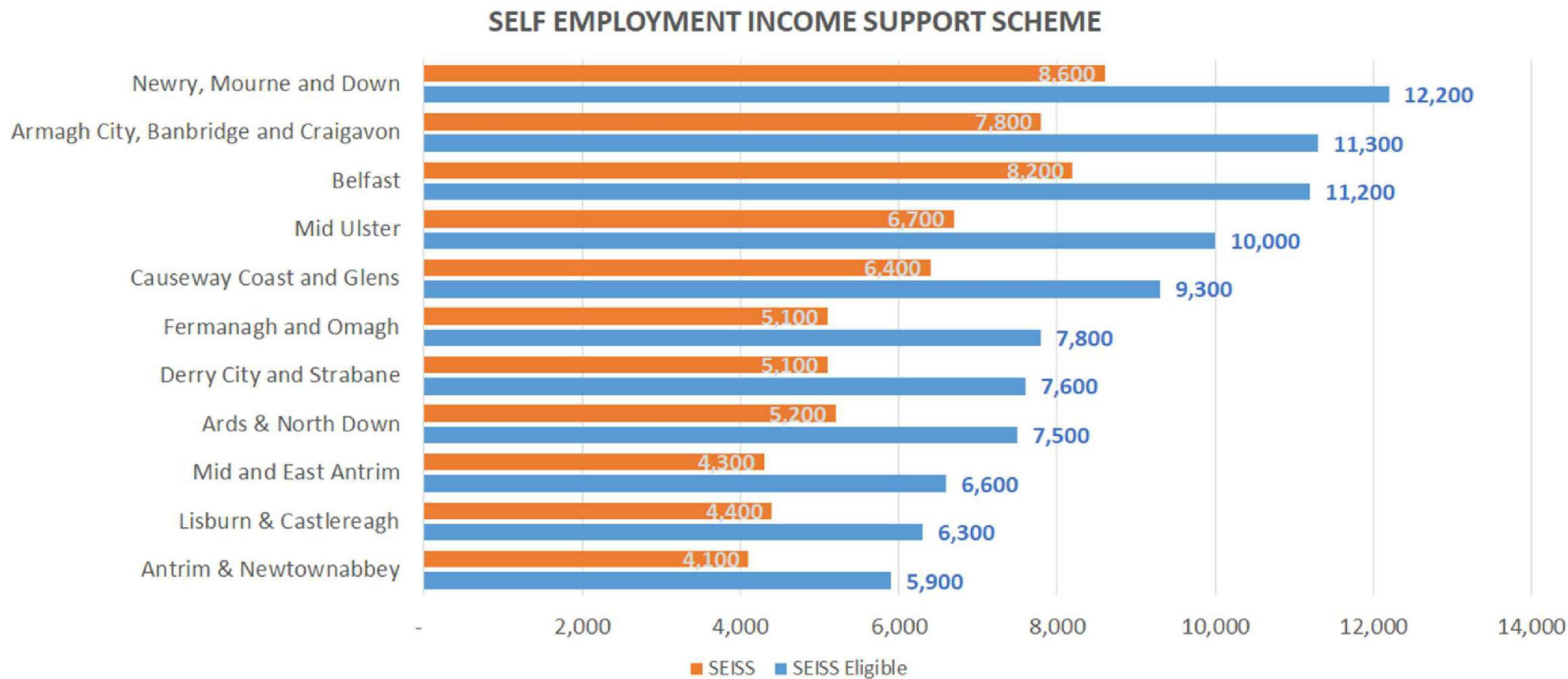


Theme – Economy and Infrastructure: Self Employed (Source: DfE dashboard 13 Nov '20)

An estimated 96,000 self-employed eligible for Self Employment Income Support Scheme

66,000 (69%) of the self-employed had made claims at 30 Sep '20

13% of these were associated with Newry, Mourne & Down

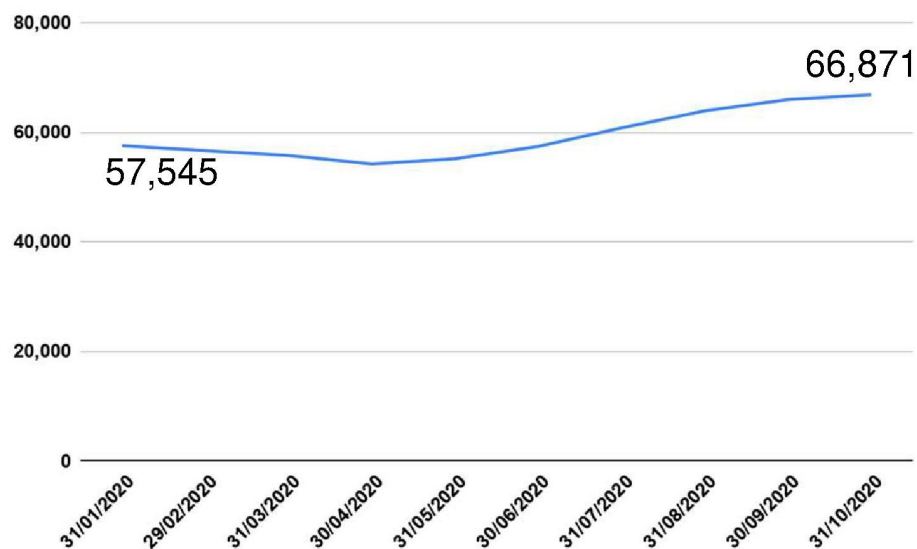


## Theme – Health

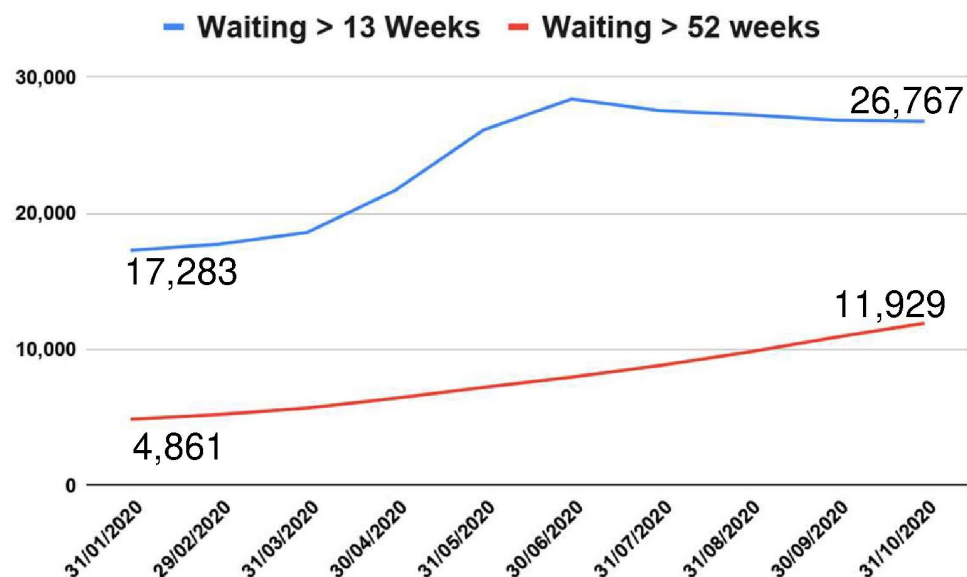
ISSUES			
	Description	Owner	BRAG
1	There continues to be an unavoidable impact on capacity across the HSC Trusts as a result of pressures due to Covid-19.	DOH	A
2	Recent increase in COVID concerns for children's homes across the region, mainly due to staff testing positive.	DOH	A

RECENT ACTIONS	
	Decision
1	On Friday 20 Nov the Nightingale step down, non-acute facility in Whiteabbey will open.

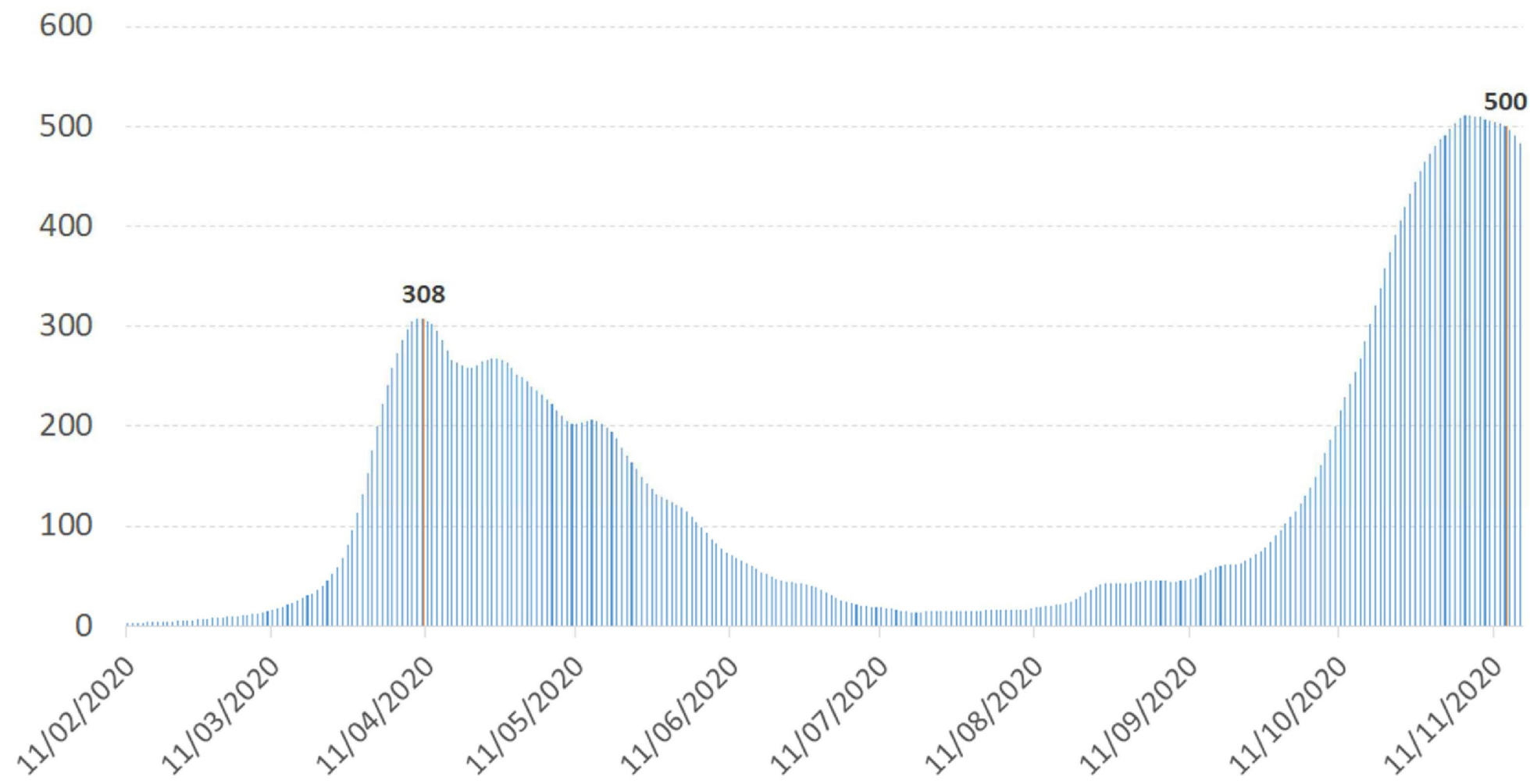
**Number of patients waiting for an Urgent First Consultant-Led Outpatient Appointment 31 Jan to 31 Oct** (Source: DoH Covid-19 Review - Tracking Health Recovery 16th November)



**Number of patients waiting for an Urgent Inpatient or Day Case Appointment 31 Jan - 31 Oct** (Source: DoH Covid-19 Review - Tracking Health Recovery 16th November)



7-Day Rolling Average: Covid-19 Inpatients

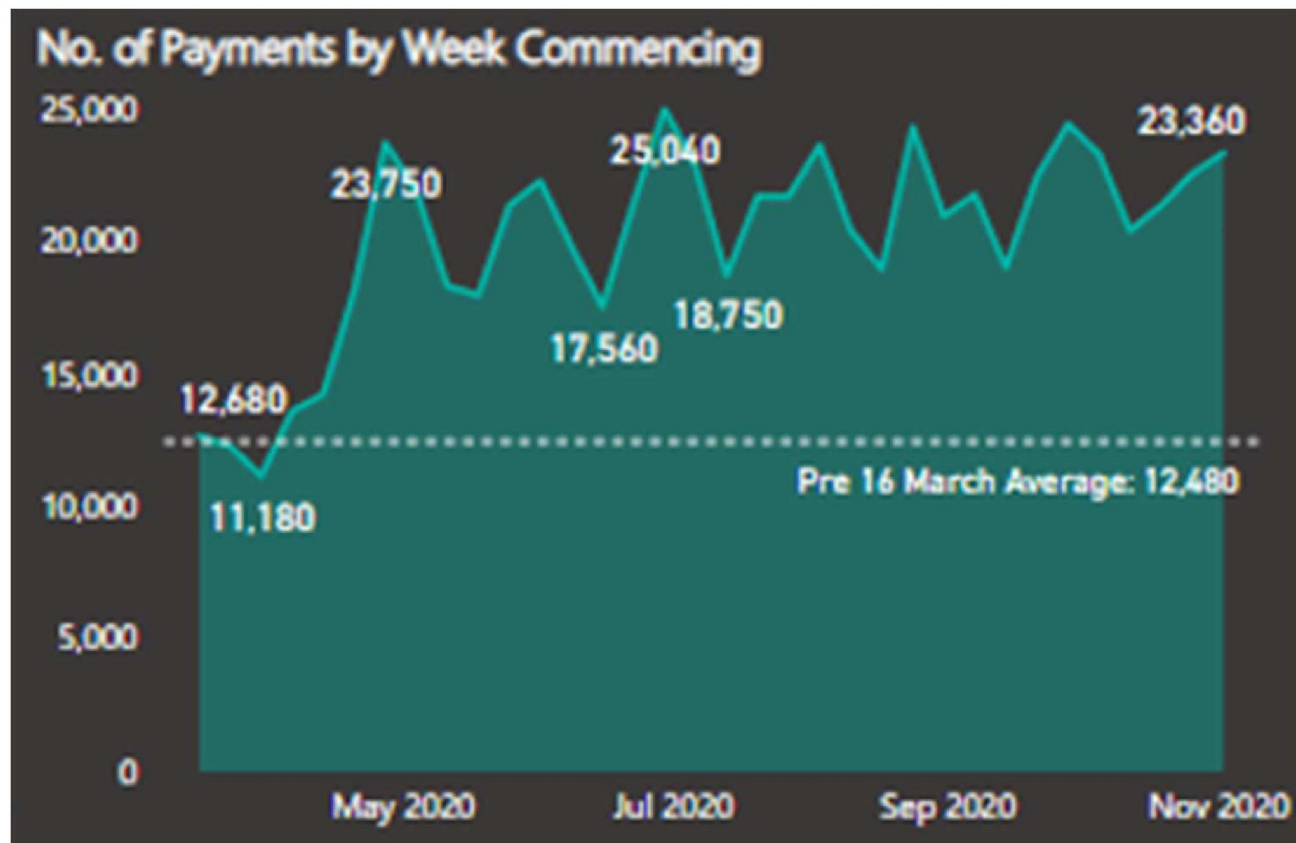


## Theme – People and Wellbeing

ISSUES			
	Description	Owner	BRAG

RECENT ACTIONS	
	Decision
1	Initiation of a Task and Finish Group to facilitate students to return home for Christmas in a planned and controlled way.

### Number of Universal Credit Payments (Source: DfC Universal Credit Dashboard 11 Nov 2020)



### Take Away

The average number of weekly Universal Credit payments is running at almost double the average before the pandemic.

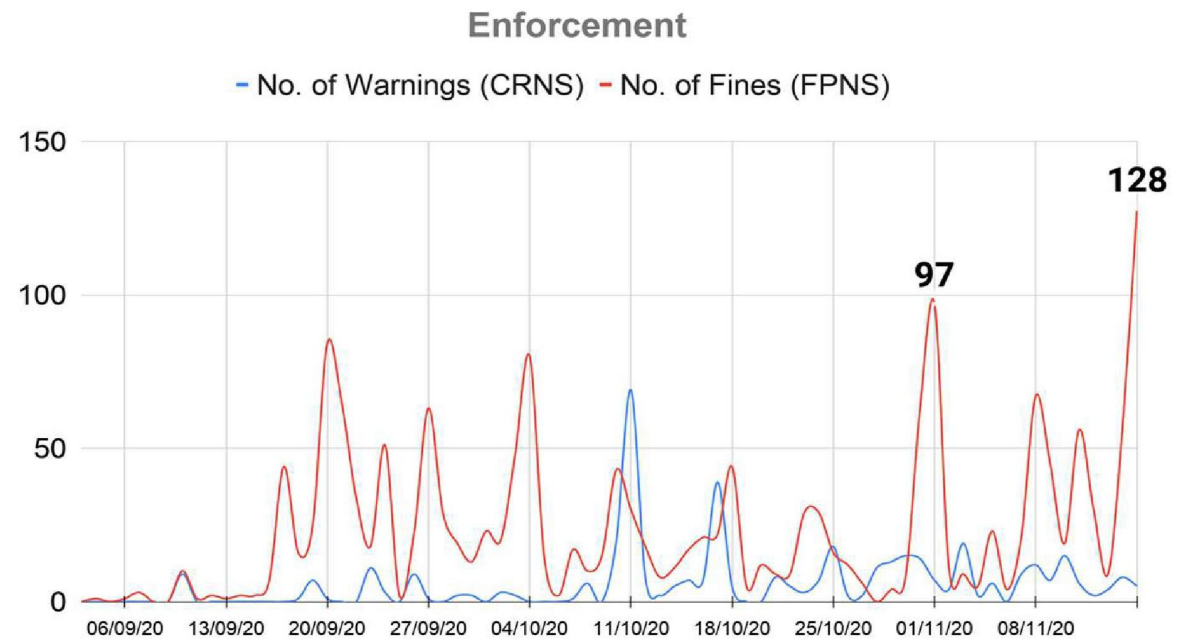


## Theme – Justice

ISSUES			
	Description	Owner	BRAG
1	In the past 7 days, 2 new positive cases in the prison population have been detected.	DoJ	A
2	As at 16/11/20 NIPS have 72 operational staff self-isolating – increase from 50 last week.	DoJ	A

RECENT ACTIONS	
	Decision
1	NIPS has formal testing and contact tracing procedures in place and a range of measures have been put in place to minimise infection spread.
2	A full test of the Northern Ireland Temporary Resting Place took place in early November and DoJ is satisfied that it could be operational within 24 hours if required. DoJ along with colleagues in DoH will continue to monitor mortuary capacity in the coming weeks and months.

### Enforcement of the Covid regulations Surce: DoJ SitRep return 17 November



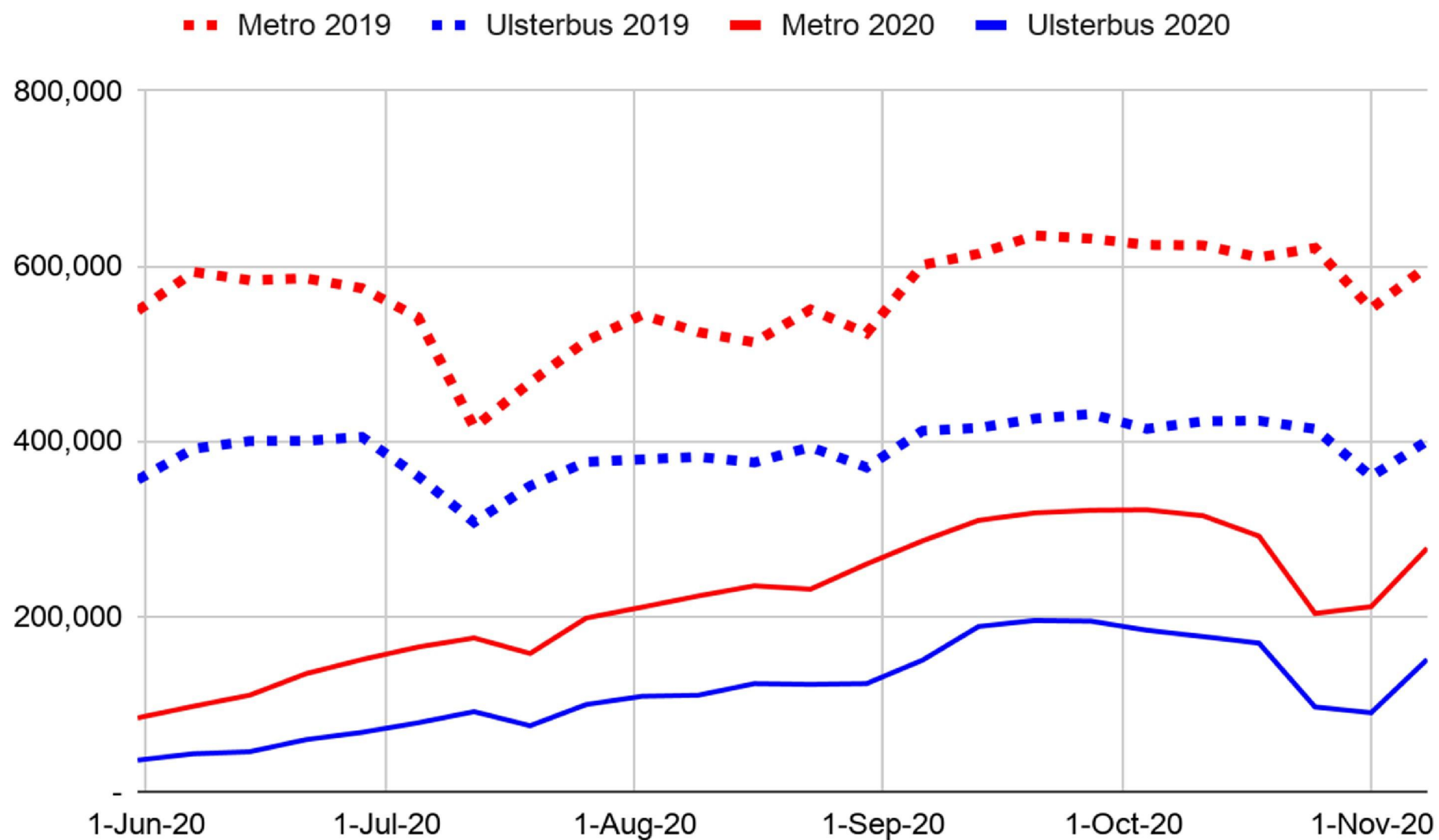
### Take Away

128 fines were issued on 15 Nov, the highest ever issued. The previous highest number was 97 on 1 Nov.



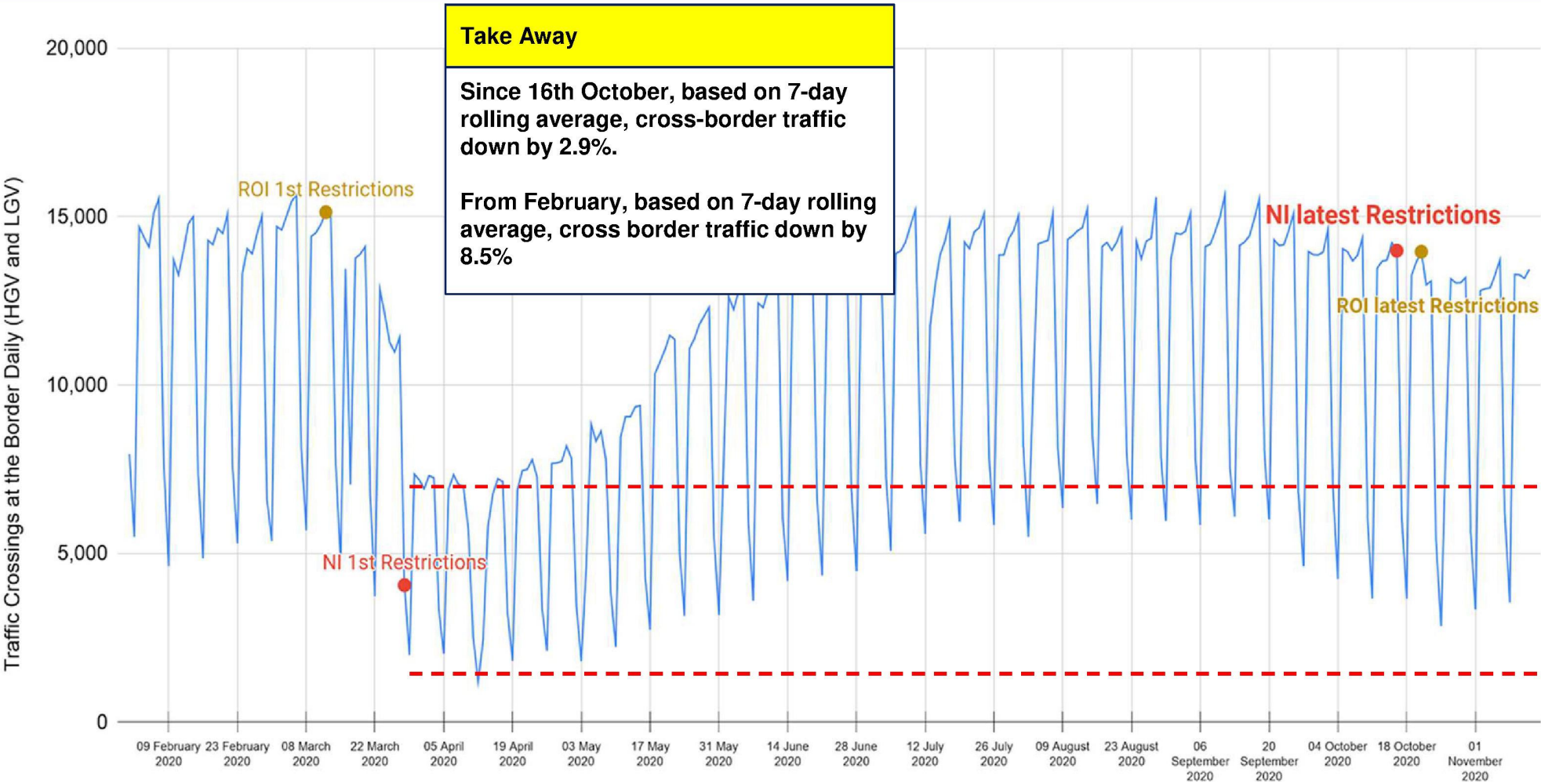
# Supporting Information

## Supporting Information: Weekly passengers Metro and Ulsterbus 2019 / 2020 comparison (Source: DfI SitRep 16 Nov 2020)



# Supporting Information: Cross Border Traffic

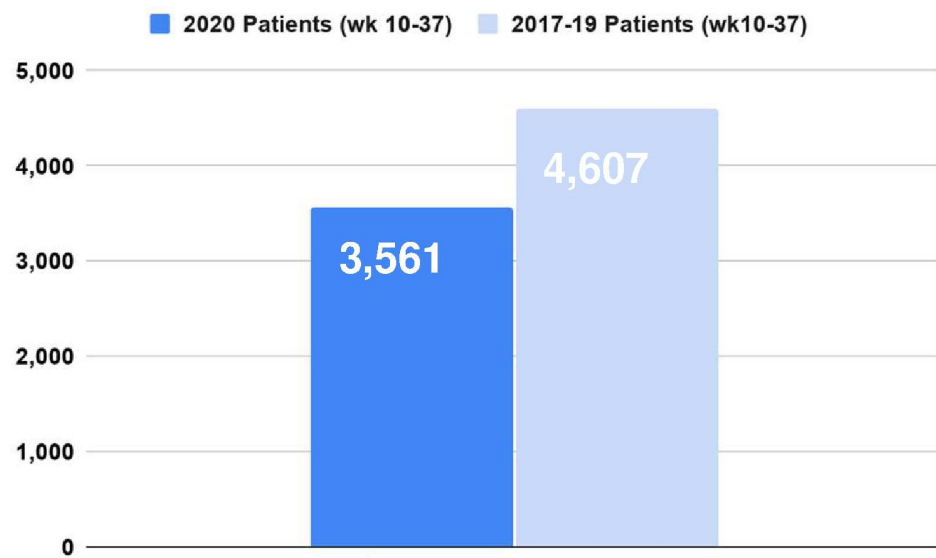
Cross Border Traffic (Source: DfE 13 Nov 20. Data up to 12 Nov 2020 )



## Supporting Information - Impact of the Covid-19 on cancer diagnosis

Source: Northern Ireland Cancer Registry - Recent trends in the number of patients with pathology samples indicating cancer.  
September 2020 Update

Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, with first sample taken from 1 March 2020 to 12 September 2020

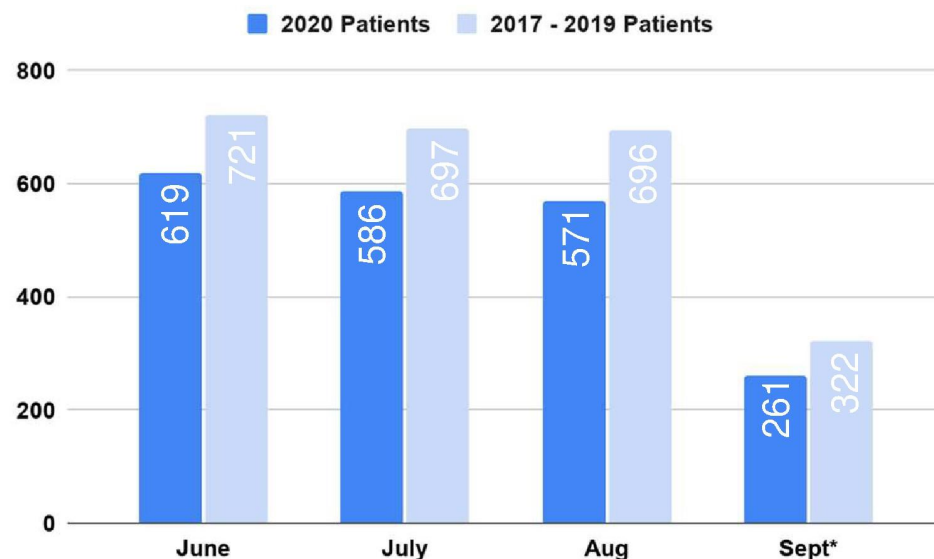


-22.7% change

### Take Away

In recent years, an additional c.1,000 patients received a cancer diagnosis.

Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month first sample taken (up to 12 Sept).



\* Part only - up to 12 Sept

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