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## IHMC Incident Report February 2020

The IHMC responded to 96 incidents on the road network throughout Cambridgeshire in February, covering 20 week days. There was also February Half Term between the 17<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> February where we generally see a drop in traffic on the Cambridgeshire road network.

Our @Cambs\_Traffic Twitter account is our quickest engagement tool with the public and the interaction gives a good indication of how effective the messages are getting out to people.

In February, the account gained 324 followers, which is the highest increase compared to the last six months. The reason for this could be due to the storms we experienced, such as Storm Dennis and also the week-long Extinction Rebellion Protest which took place in Cambridge during February Half Term. The number of profile visits was 18,200 which is low compared to recent figures. The number of Tweets sent out was 421, a surprisingly similar figure to January.

Twitter Analytics	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20
Number of Followers	14,200	14,385	14,659	14,819	14,974	15,298
Increase in followers from previous month	153	185	274	160	155	324
Number of Tweets sent	373	477	490	350	420	421
Number of profile visits	23,000	28,700	40,100	35,000	29,600	18,200
Number of Tweet impressions	910,000	986,000	1.28 million	1.05 million	1.17 million	1.21 million

Table 1: Twitter Analytics for @Cambs\_Traffic

**Note:** The number of Tweets sent includes advance notice road works and event Tweets alongside live incident Tweets.

The number of incidents recorded was busiest at 7am.

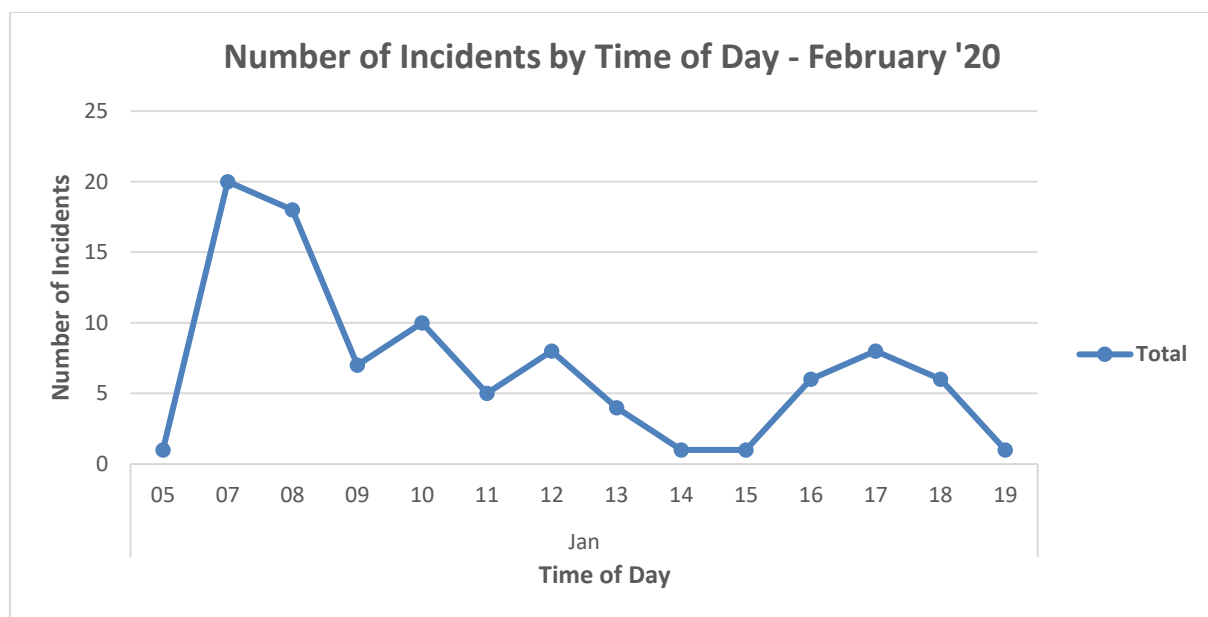


Figure 1: Number of incidents recorded by time of day – February 2020



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Of the incidents recorded during February, 28% were due to Road Traffic Collisions (RTC's and 32% were due to road works (both planned and unplanned). A further 12% were due to breakdowns, 7% were due to an obstruction in the carriageway, 2% were due to flooding, 2% due to a traffic signal fault and 17% were classed as 'Other'. The incidents recorded as 'Other' included exceptional volumes of traffic and police incidents. See Figure 2 below.

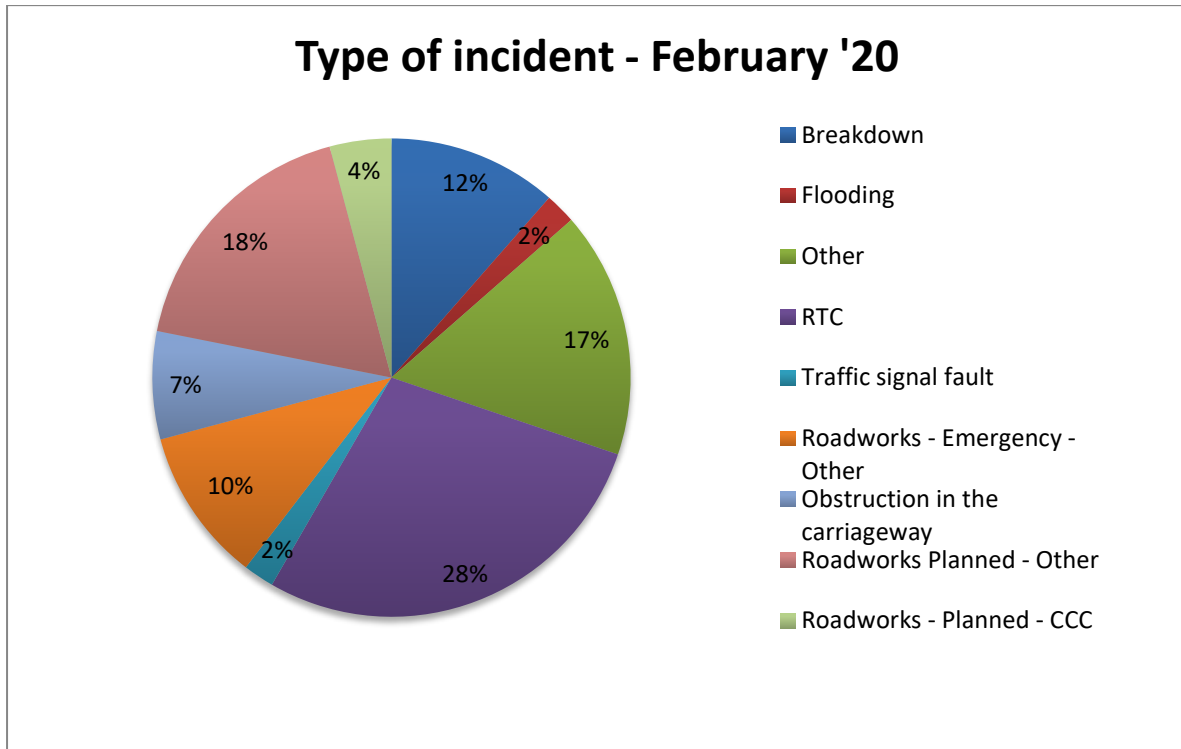


Figure 2: Type of Incident - February 2020

Of those incidents recorded 12% were due to a lane closure, 2% due to a traffic signal fault, and 25% due to the road being partially blocked. (See Figure 3). The road was closed for 8% of incidents, 32% had temporary traffic lights, 20% had congestion which wasn't considered normal for the location and time of day and 2% was 'other'.

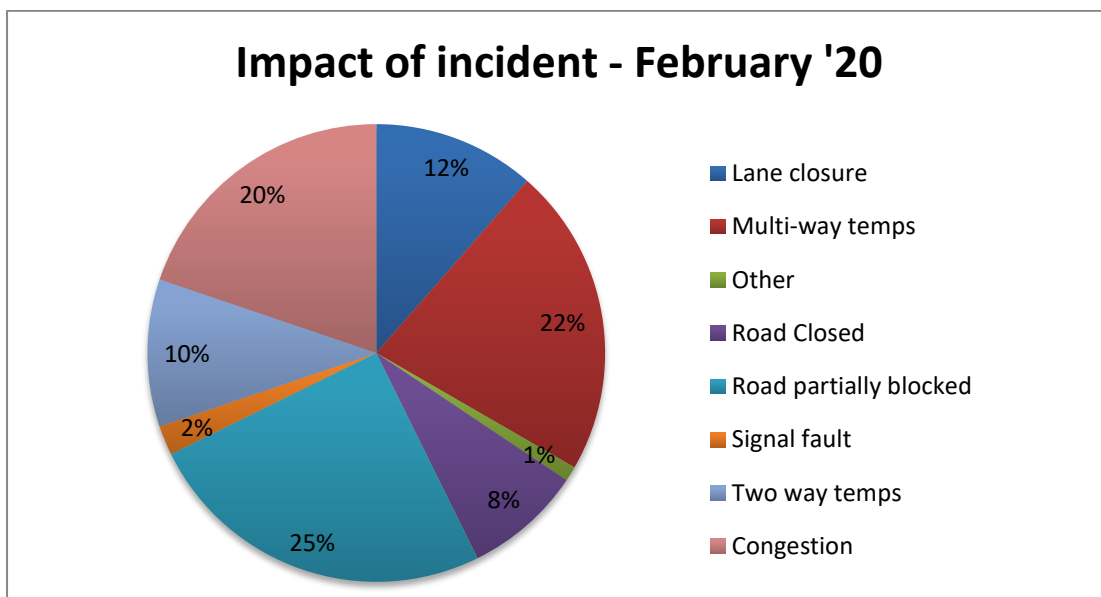


Figure 3: Impact of Incident on the network - February 2020



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This month the highest number of incidents were recorded in South Cambridgeshire, followed by Cambridge City (Figure 4, below). Fenland had the lowest number of incidents, with East Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire in-between. Other authority can include Peterborough, or another neighbouring authority where the delays affect our county.

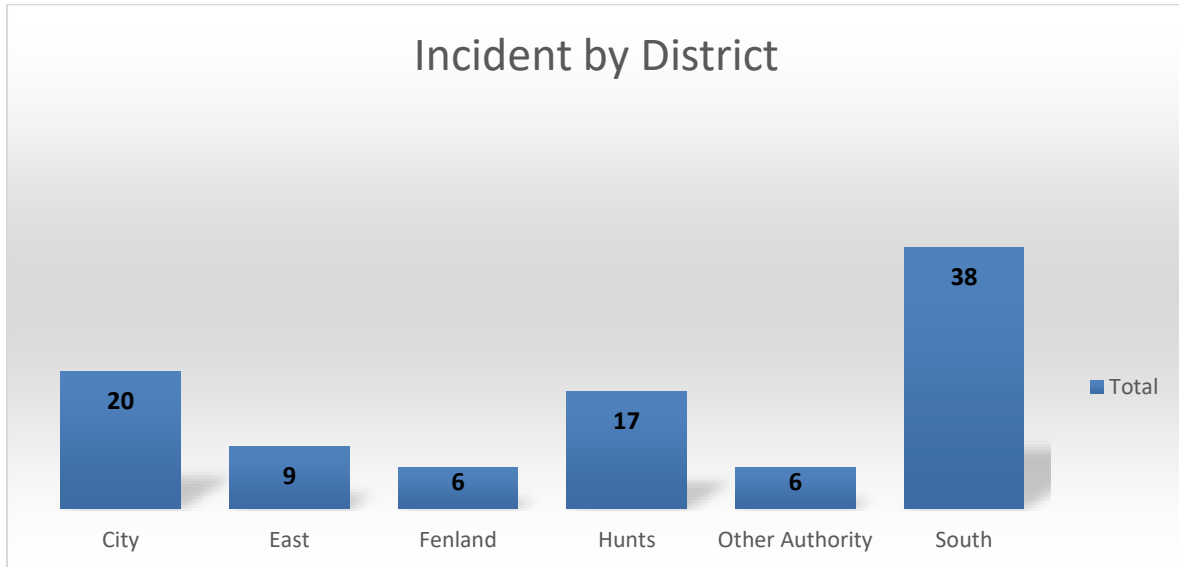


Figure 4: Incident location by District area - February 2020

During the month we responded to 15 minor incidents and 52 medium incidents. There were 25 major and 4 critical (See Figure 5).

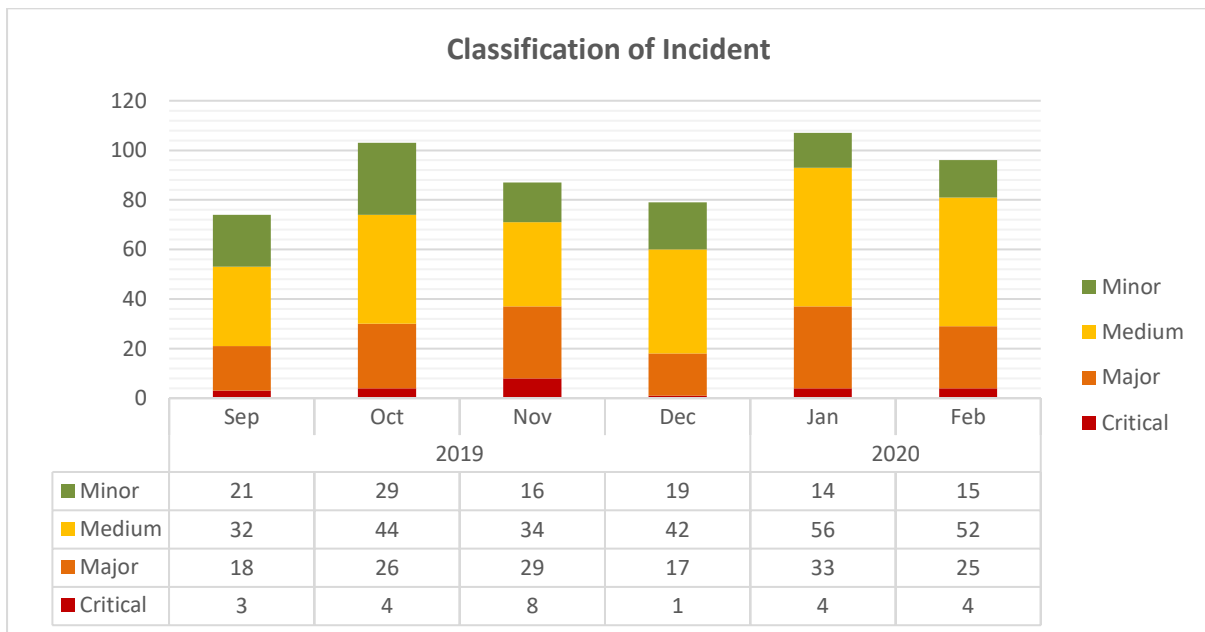


Figure 5: Classification of incident

**Notes: Classification of Incidents**

**Minor:** Delays less than 15 minutes. Low levels of congestion which are not normal conditions.

**Medium:** Delays of up to 30 minutes. Significant congestion which is not normal conditions.

**Major:** Delays of up to one hour. Severe congestion that has started to spread to neighbouring roads which is not normal conditions.

**CRITICAL:** Delays of over 1 hour. Congestion that has spread to numerous roads over a wide area. e.g. whole of central Cambridge.



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February, although a short month, was busy with a mixture of incidents experienced across the Cambridgeshire road network. The weather was a definitive talking point where the UK experienced three storms bringing strong winds and rain. Storm Ciara battered the region over the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of February, bringing strong winds that damaged a hanger roof at the Imperial War Museum, Duxford. This meant that part of the M11 and the A505 were closed for safety reasons until the afternoon of the 10<sup>th</sup> February.

Luckily, we did not experience any further direct effects from Storm Dennis or Storm Jorge on our road network. We did, however see a lot of emergency works appear due to burst water mains. One in particular affected our neighbouring region of Peterborough, where restrictions were put in to place due to flooding on Bourges Boulevard at Fengate. The restrictions were in place between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and the 7<sup>th</sup> February.

Extinction Rebellion Cambridge held a week long protest in February between the 16<sup>th</sup> and the 23<sup>rd</sup> where they based themselves at the roundabout on Trumpington Road intersecting with the Fen Causeway. Due to the nature of the protest, the Police used their emergency powers to close Trumpington Road and the Fen Causeway.

The critical incidents are explained in more detail below.

- **06/02/20** (18:16 – after 19:00) **A14 eastbound between J36 (A11) and J37 (Newmarket)** – Two lanes were closed (of 3) due to a collision implemented by Highways England. Delays peaked at 1 hours 39 minutes.
- **12/02/20** (17:46 – 18:14) **M11 southbound J9 (A11) – J8 (Stansted)** – Lane closure implemented due to a Road Traffic Collision. Delays of over an hour were recorded.
- **17/02/20** (08:20 – 11:00) **Milton Road, Cambridge** – Temporary traffic lights were in place at the junction with Cowley Road. Delays peaked at just over an hour for southbound traffic, with queues backing on to the A10. We kept Streetworks updated about the delays, who sent an Inspector out to site to liaise with the crew and advise them how to better manage the lights to work with the flow of traffic.
- **20/02/20** (17:21 – 19:00) **A11 northbound at Babraham** – Road was partially blocked by a Road Traffic collision causing delays to peak at 1 hour 15 minutes.