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IHMC Incident Report January 2021

The IHMC responded to 39 incidents on the road network throughout Cambridgeshire in January, covering 20 weekdays. This is a decrease compared to December and is the lowest number we have seen over the past 6 months. Please see the table below which illustrates the number of incidents over the last 6 months, compared to the same period last year.

	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
2019/20	75	74	74	87	79	107
2020/21	47	47	69	56	64	39

We use the term 'incident' to describe something that has happened on the County's road network which has an impact (of varying degrees) on usual traffic flows. This could include, for example, a Road Traffic Collision, a burst water main or temporary traffic lights for roadworks.

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.

The increase in followers throughout January was lower than December, although a similar figure to November. The number of tweets sent, number of profile visits and number of tweet impressions remained higher than December and the previous 6 months. National lockdown was implemented in early January which could explain the drop in new Twitter followers, however the extreme weather conditions affecting the transport network were probably why the other figures remained so high.

Twitter Analytics	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21
Number of Followers	15,234	15,222	15,216	15,249	15,326	15,358
Increase in followers from previous month	10	-12	-6	33	77	32
Number of Tweets sent	155	230	265	277	324	315
Number of profile visits	2,361	3,007	3,363	3,481	12,600	10,700
Number of Tweet impressions	389,000	436,000	538,000	646,000	674,000	684,000

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 peaked at 8am, followed by a smaller peak at 2pm.

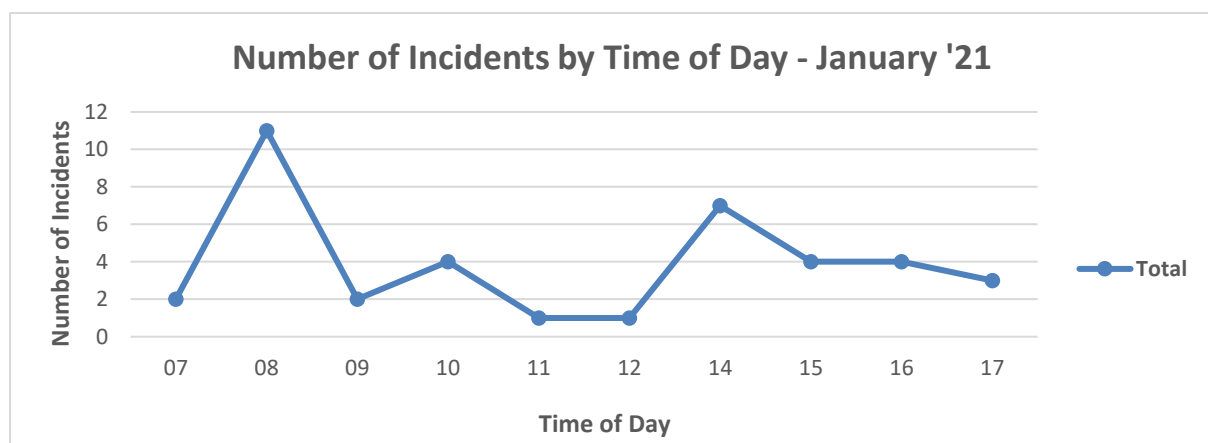


Figure 1: Number of incidents recorded by time of day – January 2021



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Of the incidents recorded during January, 18% were due to Road Traffic Collisions (RTC's) and 36% were due to road works (both planned and unplanned). A further 15% were due to an obstruction in the carriageway and 8% was due to a vehicle breakdown. A further 2% was due to a vehicle fire, 3% due to flooding and 18% were classed as 'Other' which includes incidents where the cause could not be confirmed. See Figure 2 below.

Type of incident - January '21

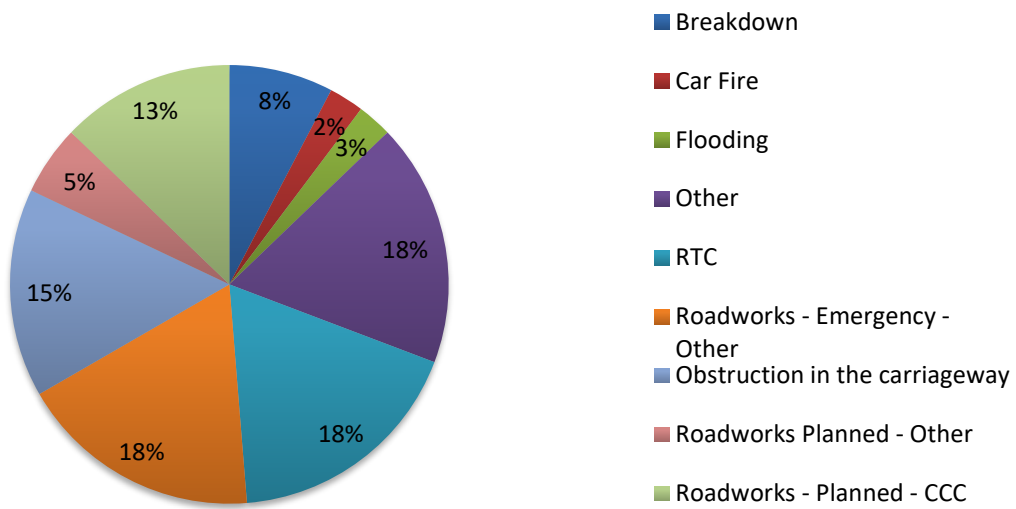


Figure 2: Type of Incident - January 2021

Of those incidents recorded 23% had a road closure, 28% temporary traffic lights, and 39% had congestion which was not considered normal for the location and time of day. (See Figure 3). A further 10% had a lane closure.

Impact of incident - January '21

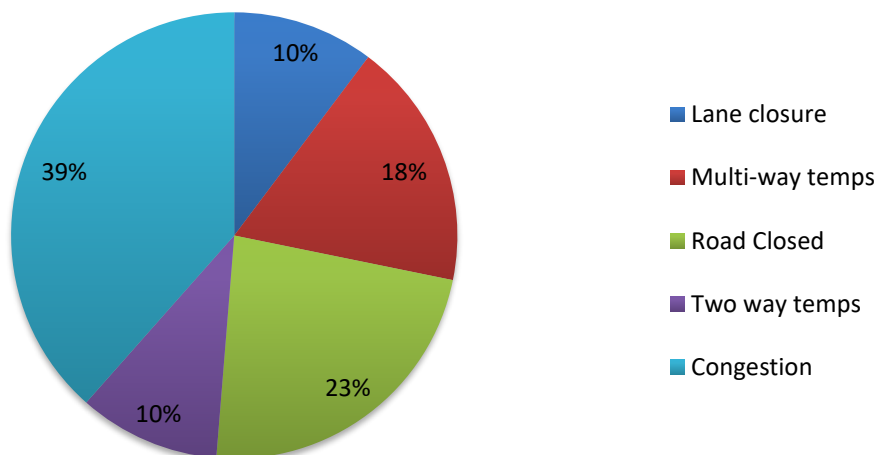


Figure 3: Impact of Incident on the network - January 2021



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This month the highest number of incidents were recorded in South Cambridgeshire, followed by Fenland and Huntingdonshire (Figure 4, below). Cambridge City had the lowest number of incidents recorded throughout January, closely followed by East Cambridgeshire.

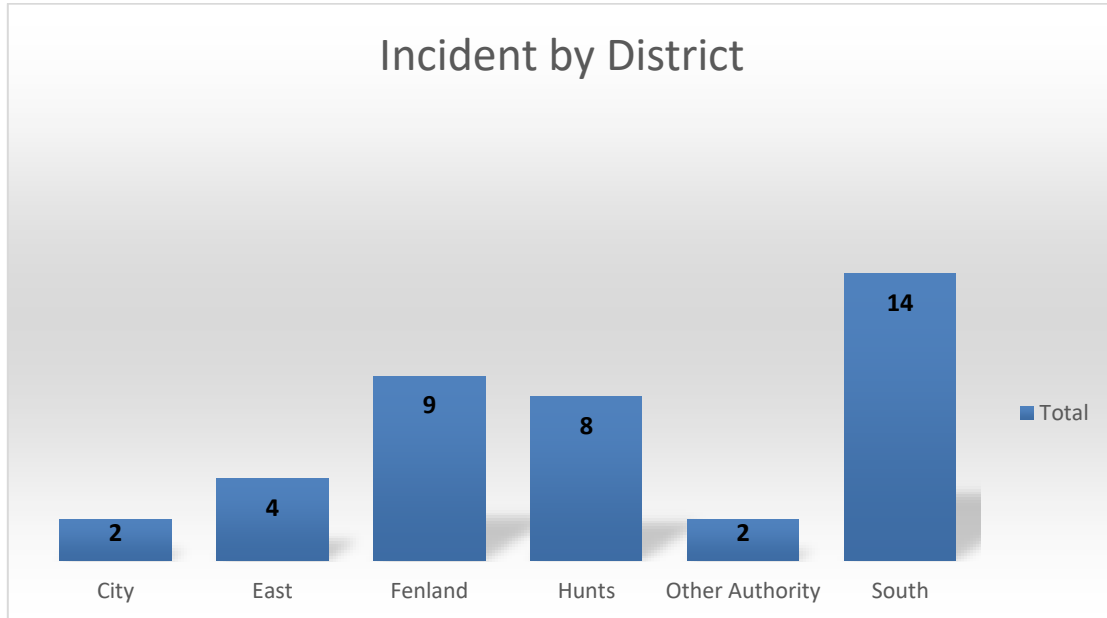


Figure 4: Incident location by District area - January 2021

During the month we responded to 16 minor incidents, 18 medium incidents and 5 major incidents. (See Figure 5).

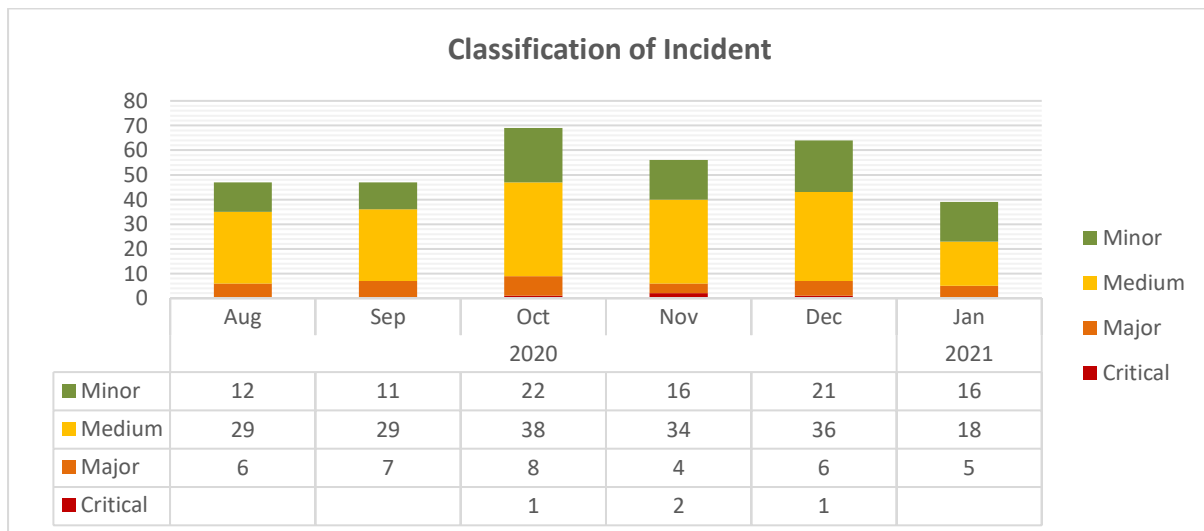


Figure 5: Classification of incident

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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With the Country being in another lockdown since early January, we have noticed lower levels of congestion, in particular with schools being shut this time around. This could explain the lower number of incidents we have seen over the month.

The weather has continued to play a part in travel disruption across the County, in particular flooding from heavy rainfall and melting snow on saturated surfaces. Many roads remain shut due to being impassable from flood water. This could be why we have not seen a drop in numbers viewing our Twitter feed.

Whilst there is still less traffic on the roads, we have continued operating under reduced monitoring hours, which are 08:30 - 17:30. This is being regularly assessed.

For more information on roadworks across the County, please have a look at <https://one.network/>



Integrated Highways Management Centre (IHMC) – Monitors Cambridgeshire’s Highways in order to warn and advise of disruptions on the network.

Operating Hours: 8:30am-5:30pm Mon-Fri.

Contact us: 01223 507176 ihmc@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

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