

Integrated Highways Management Centre

Incident Report - October 2021

Incident Report

The Integrated Highways Management Centre (IHMC) monitors traffic around the Cambridgeshire road network in real time to identify any issues caused by works, events or accidents and then relays the information both externally and internally to help mitigate those issues.

The IHMC responded to 127 incidents on the road network throughout Cambridgeshire in October, covering 21 weekdays. This is an increase in figures compared to September and understandably higher than October 2020 when lockdown restrictions were in place. In October 2019 we responded to 74 incidents. Please see the table below which illustrates the number of incidents over the last 6 months, compared to the same period last year;

Incidents by month/year

	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sept	Oct
2020	17	30	29	47	47	69
2021	52	72	63	68	99	127

Table 1: Number of Incidents Responded to by IHMC

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.

Throughout August we gained 145 followers, although we lost a few followers this is the highest increase we have seen over the last 6 months. The number of Tweets sent, the number of Tweet impressions and the number of profile visits increased compared to September.

Twitter Analytics	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sept-21	Oct-21
Number of Followers	15,400	15,400	15,500	15,500	15,600	15,800
Increase in followers from previous month	-15	0	32	0	100	131
Number of Tweets sent	250	271	327	200	319	438
Number of profile visits	10,500	16,400	20,700	20,500	31,600	44,400
Number of Tweet impressions	482,000	571,000	650,000	466,000	573,000	691,000

Table 2: Twitter Analytics for @Cambs_Traffic

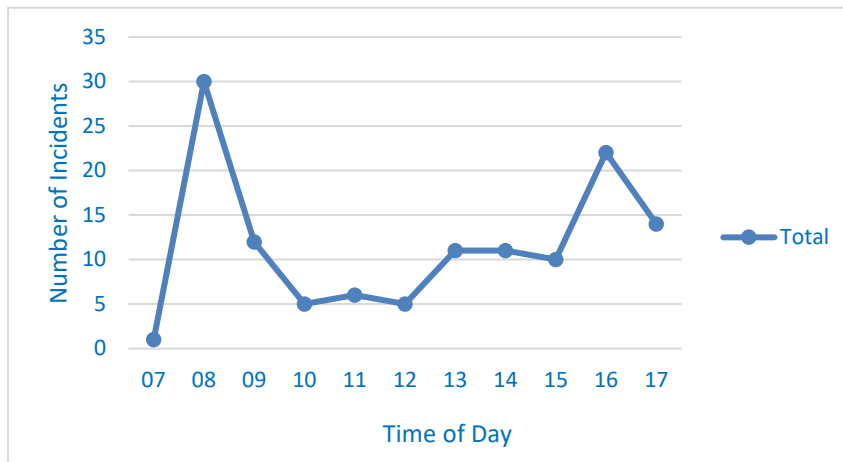
Note: The number of Tweets sent includes advance notice road works and event Tweets alongside live incident Tweets.



Follow us on Twitter for live traffic updates and news at; [@Cambs_Traffic](#)

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Number of Incidents by time of day -October '21



The number of incidents recorded peaked at 8:00am, followed by another peak at 13:00pm and then a much higher peak at 4:00pm.

Figure 1: Number of incidents recorded by time-of-day October 2021

Type of Incident - October '21

Of the incidents recorded during October, 19% were due to Road Traffic Collisions (RTC's) and 29% were due to road works (both planned and unplanned). A further 9% were due to an obstruction in the carriageway and 1% was due to a vehicle fire. A further 36% were classed as 'Other' which includes incidents where the cause could not be confirmed (Figure 2).

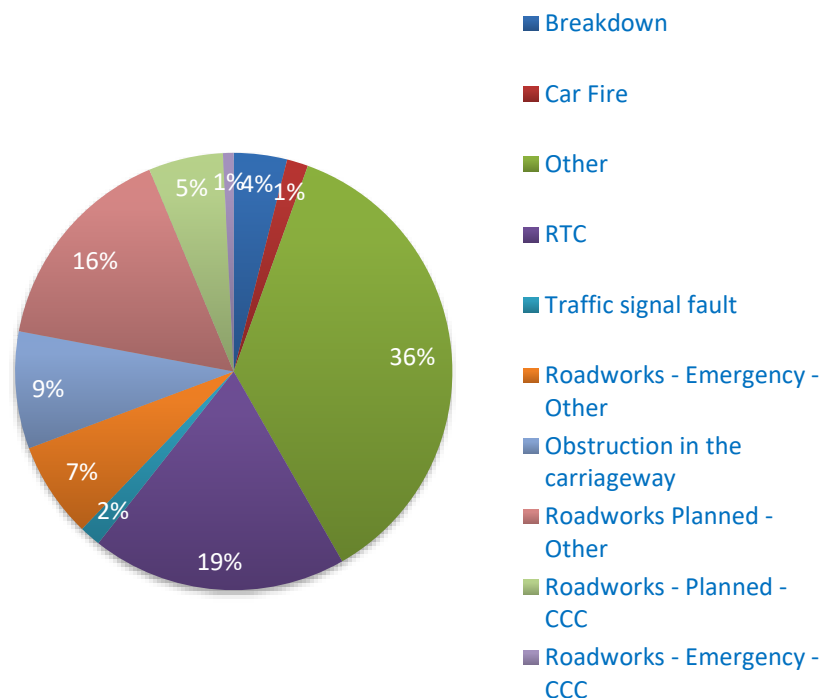


Figure 2: Type of Incident - October 2021



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Impact of incident - October '21

Of those incidents recorded 9% had a road closure, 13% temporary traffic lights, and 72% had congestion which was not considered normal for the location and time of day. (See Figure 3). A further 4% had a lane closure and 2% were classed as signals out which meant that the signals failed.

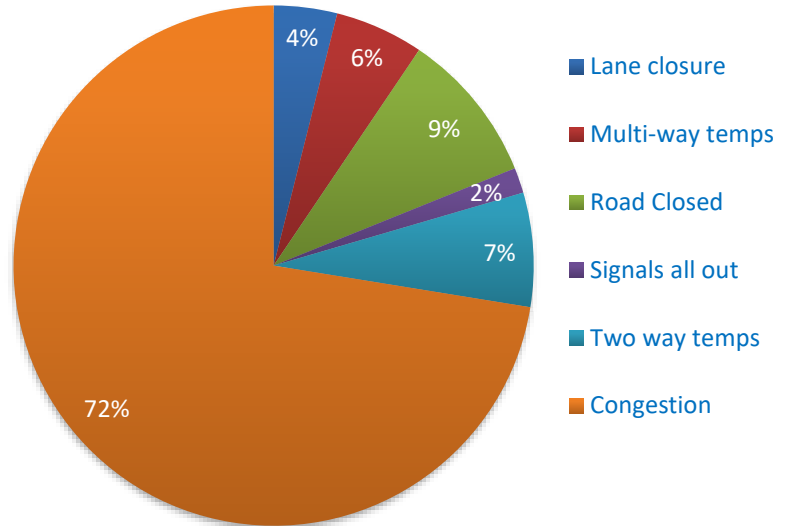


Figure 3: Impact of Incident on the network – October 2021

Incidents by District – October '21

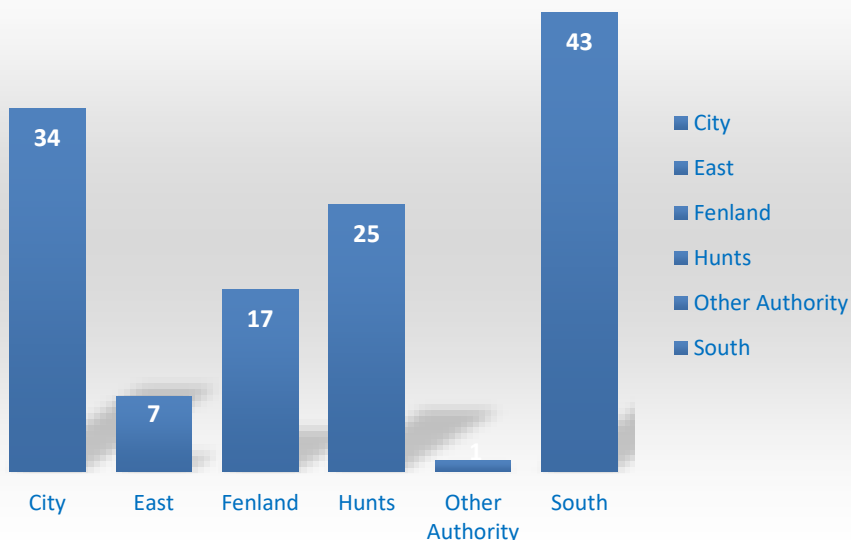


Figure 4: Incident location by District area - October 2021

This month the highest number of incidents were recorded in South Cambridgeshire followed by City and Huntingdonshire (Figure 4).

East Cambridgeshire had the lowest number of incidents recorded throughout October followed by Fenland.



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Classification of Incident October '21

During the month we responded to 49 minor incidents, 64 medium incidents, 11 major incidents and 3 critical incidents.

(See Figure 5).

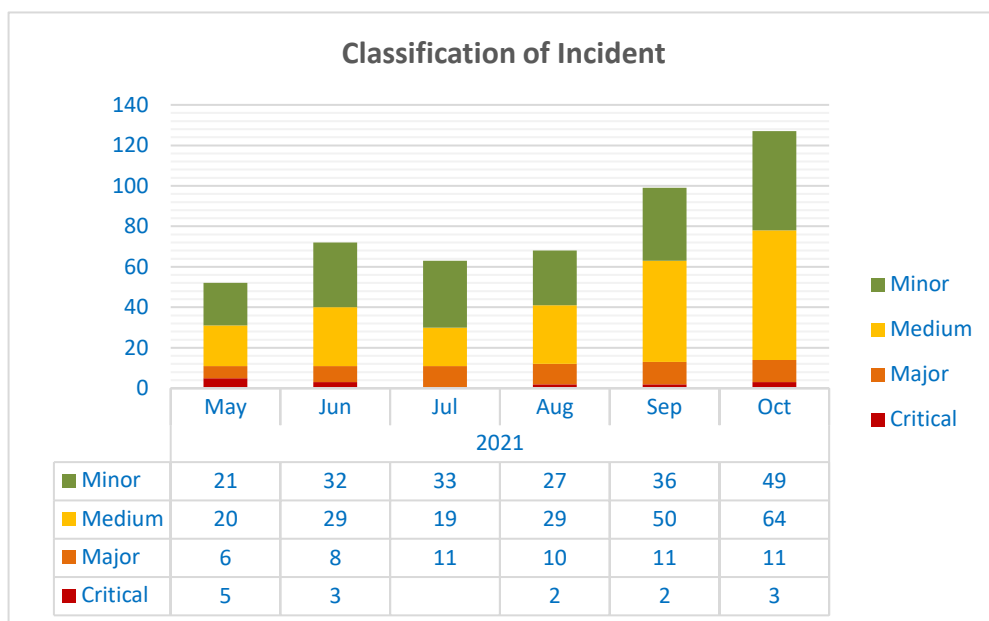


Figure 5: Classification of incident October 2021

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

With all the restrictions being lifted we have seen an increase in the number of incidents we have dealt with since September and from what we were seeing in October 2019. Congestion levels are increasing somewhat with traffic looking to be back to 'normal' (pre Covid). We have therefore increased our monitoring hours to incorporate the morning and evening rush hours from 8:00am-6:00pm.

Please find details of the critical incidents below:

- **07/10/21 (09:00 - 11:00) A1307 Huntingdon Road - Cambridge** - Temporary signals were put in place on the junction with Eddington Avenue due to emergency works by UK Power Networks. Delays peaked at 1 hour.
- **21/10/2021 (17:00 - after 17:30) A11 J31 M11/A428 - J34 Fen Ditton** Congestion due to the closure of the A428 following an earlier RTC. Delays peaked at 1 hour 36 minutes.
- **29/10/2021 (13:30 - after 17:30) A1 J17 Fletton Parkway - J18 Chesterton** - Cambridgeshire Police implemented a road closure due to an RTC. Delays peaked at 1 hour 38 minutes.

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 to warn and advise of disruptions on the network.

Operating Hours: **8:00am-6:00pm Mon-Fri.**

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



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