



Springtime is nearly here! The daffodils are blooming, the lighter evenings are making their way back, and we can now see light at the end of the tunnel as we slowly, but safely, start to come out of lockdown.

On 8th March we entered Step 1 of the Government's 4-Step plan to come out of lockdown. The children have returned to school, we can meet one other person in an outdoor space for a coffee, or visit a loved one in a care home.

Providing the roadmap goes to plan, we look forward to welcoming you back into our town centre from **12th April**, when non-essential retail reopens. Until then, all other restrictions remain the same where only essential businesses remain open.

It has been a long 12 months, but our town centre businesses have become more resilient, adapting their services to ensure survival. As we come through the otherside, we look forward to welcoming new businesses opening in the town centre.

Watch this space! We'll be sure to share with you any new openings as they happen.

In the meantime, please continue to follow all guidance to **#ProtectEveryone** and **#RespectEveryone** and we'll soon be welcoming you back to the town centre - the heart of our wonderful community.

#TogetherWeCan #KeepSwindonSafe

Anita Bellinger
BID Manager



STEP 1

8 MARCH

EDUCATION	BUSINESS / ACTIVITIES	SOCIAL CONTACT	LARGER EVENTS	TRAVEL
Schools and colleges open for all students Practical Higher Education courses	Wraparound care, including after school sports, to enable parents to work	Exercise and recreation with your household or one other person in a public outdoor place e.g. picnic or coffee Household only indoors Care home residents in England can nominate a single named visitor for regular visits	Funerals (30 people) Weddings and wakes (6 people)	Stay at home No domestic or international holidays

COVID-19 ROADMAP 2021

Star of #ShineOnSwindon



Congratulations to our very own Ambassador - Nigel Skinner - as our Star of the Month.

Nigel has received fantastic feedback from both members of the public and our retailers. Here's why Nigel is our Star of the Month:

"I'd like to give a huge thank you to Nigel and his team for their caring and fast response today to my father's fall outside Iceland."

It's very reassuring to know that in these strange times there are such caring and thoughtful individuals looking out for us."

Member of the Public (Son of gentleman)

"We would like to say a big thank you to Nigel from inSwindon BID. He is always on hand to help us, checking in on our business throughout the day. Nigel is very thoughtful and his lovely smile first thing in the morning, sets us up for the day. The Ambassadors presence in town is very reassuring for all the businesses. Thank you, Nigel."

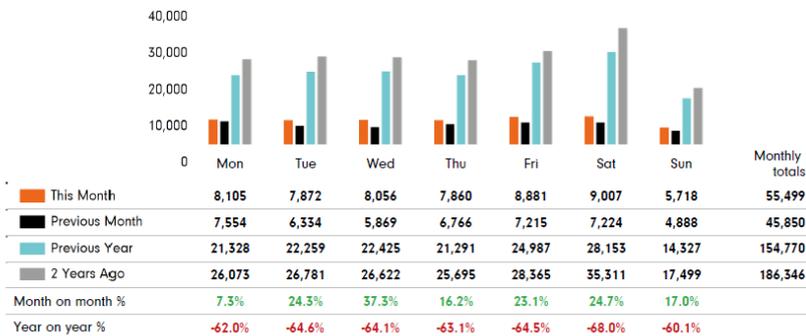
Theresa (Robert Dyas)

Footfall Statistics - February 2021

Footfall by day

The figures shown below are calculated using weekly averages.

Data provided by Springboard



Number of visitors: 221,991

Busiest day: Saturday 27 February with 10,711 visitors

Peak hour: 13.00 on Saturday 27 February 2021 with footfall of 1,365

Month on month: 21%

Year on year: -64.1%



We're calling on businesses in Swindon to join us in tackling child exploitation

SOMETHING NOT RIGHT? REPORT EXPLOITATION.



CrimeStoppers.
0800 555111
100% anonymous. Always.

The Children's Society

inSwindon
town centre BID



SWINDON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wiltshire and Swindon
pcc

Wiltshire Police are inviting businesses to join them for a free online training course as they look to tackle child exploitation, which is happening in Swindon.

Operation Makesafe is a Wiltshire Police-led initiative focused on making sure that people working in the business sector are aware of the early warning signs of child exploitation and are confident to report their concerns to them so they can prevent any young person coming to harm.

It has been launched in Swindon this month, with the intention to roll it out across Wiltshire, amid concerns and local evidence that criminals are taking vulnerable children into legitimate businesses such as takeaways, gyms, barbers shops, clothes shops and places licensed to serve alcohol.

Wiltshire Police and the **Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC)** have partnered with **Swindon Borough Council**, **The Children's Society**, **Crimestoppers** and **inSwindon BID** in a collective response to empower businesses to protect their local community.

They will be offering three free online training sessions, which are taking place on **Thursday 18 March**, in support of **National Child Exploitation Awareness Day**, to any business in Swindon who signs up. If you are a business interested in this training for you and your employees, you can sign up to one of three training sessions on the day **HERE** by simply selecting a time and registering. [Read the full release here.](#)

Budget 2021: Swindon to receive £19.5m

Chancellor Rishi Sunak announced the 2021 budget at the start of this month. The announcement revealed over £1 billion funding for a further 45 towns in England through the Towns Fund, supporting their long-term economic and social regeneration as well as their immediate recovery from the impacts of COVID-19.

Of the 45 towns, **Swindon is set to receive £19.5m** where the money will go towards town centre regeneration projects.

For full details on the Budget, visit gov.uk, or for local government support and information on grants visit swindon.gov.uk.

HM TREASURY

Looking for a new career?

The town centre website is home to a variety of job vacancies currently available in the town centre. Whether it's a **sales assistant**, **working for the community**, a **bus driver**, admin assistant or a **position in the public sector** - there are plenty of opportunities to find something new!

[Visit our website to find the perfect job for you.](#)