



[Weston Mercury](#) > [News](#)

Councillor hits out at Prime Minister's claims Weston was in 'local lockdown'



Vicky Angear



Published: 2:15 PM June 30, 2020 Updated: 11:11 PM October 27, 2020



Weston residents told LBC presenter James O'Brien the town was not in local lockdown. Cllr Mike Bell has said the Government's claims are 'damaging'. - Credit: Archant

North Somerset Council's deputy leader has said the Prime Minister's repeated claims Weston is in a local lockdown are 'damaging'.

During Prime Minister's Questions, Boris Johnson was asked about guidance on how local lockdowns will be implemented.



London, there have been local lockdowns and crackdowns.

“We have a very effective cluster busting operation which is designed to ensure that we keep those outbreaks under control.

“Local councils understand how to do it with the local resilience forums and backed up by the Joint Biosecurity Centre.”

You may also want to watch:

Save Weston A&E

Campaigners from Save Weston A&E outside North Somerset Council's Weston To...

Watch more local videos



Save Weston A&E

TIMELAPSE: The
demolition of Weston
Police Station

Sir Keir Starmer Sends
Best Wishes To Prime
Minister Boris Johnson

Mr Johnson’s claims about Weston were brought up on James O’Brien’s LBC radio show on Monday when two Weston residents called in to state ‘there is no local lockdown’.



Dive in

Shop Now

The council's deputy leader Mike Bell said: "It's incredibly frustrating that the Prime Minister and Government continue to spin this line that Weston went into 'local lockdown'.

Most Read

▼ MORE

- 1 Weston boy, 4, has glass removed from head after skate park fall
- 2 Three men arrested after motorbike theft
- 3 PICTURES: Stunning space photography captured from Worle garden

Receive the top news, sport and things to do, sent to your inbox **twice a week.**

Email address

SUBSCRIBE

[Our Privacy Policy](#)

"While I appreciate the need for the Government to make it look like they're in complete control of the battle against Covid-19, it really is not helpful and is indeed damaging to keep creating false impressions like this.

"The reality in Weston is that there was a cluster of cases based at the hospital and the only action that was taken was to close the hospital to new patients and carry out an effective testing and tracing process.



“We did not have a local lockdown, we were not advised to have a local lockdown, we were given no guidance as to what a local lockdown might look like in any event and had no powers offered to deliver it anyway.”

Health Secretary Matt Hancock also referred to a lockdown in Weston during a Government coronavirus briefing on June 5.

Cllr Bell added: “North Somerset Council, Weston Hospital and Public Health England dealt with our cluster strongly and appropriately.

“It wasn’t a lockdown and the Government needs to stop saying it was. The first ‘local lockdown’ has now been announced for Leicester and I am sure this will become the example that everyone refers to.”

Become a Supporter

This newspaper has been a central part of community life for many years. Our industry faces testing times, which is why we're asking for your support. Every contribution will help us continue to produce local journalism that makes a measurable difference to our community.

BECOME A SUPPORTER

Don't Miss



Jobs boom as Weston firm looks to expand

VICKY ANGEAR



SPONSORED CONTENT

Go with the flow to help halt COVID-19

PRESENTED BY: UK GOVERNMENT

Mini tornado does damage in Weston



Weston shopfront restored to its former glory

LILY NEWTON-BROWNE



Banwell traffic will soon be 'a thing of the past'

VICKY ANGEAR



The Reasons You Should Release Equity If You're 55+

Equity Release Zone | Sponsored

Most Computer Owners Don't Know This Trick (Do It Today!)

TotalAV | Sponsored

UK Seniors Born 1940 - 1970 Can Claim This Brilliant New Benefit

Guaranteed Savings with this new Plan

Forward Thinking Plans | Sponsored

[Learn More](#)

See Everything from Miles Away Like You Are Standing Next to It

The most advanced miniature telescope that zooms in for clear, crisp vision. It's compatible with most smartphones

Starscope | Sponsored

Doctors Baffled: Simple Tip Relieves Years of Joint Pain and Arthritis (Try Tonight)

Health | Sponsored



ALSO ON WESTON MERCURY

6 days ago • 1 comment

North Somerset communities benefit ...

15 days ago • 5 comments

Chargeable garden waste collection ...

16 days ago

Extinct Rebel Retire

0 Comments

Weston Mercury

Disqus' Privacy Policy

Login ▾

Recommend

Tweet

Share

Sort by Best ▾



Start the discussion...

LOG IN WITH

OR SIGN UP WITH DISQUS

Name

Be the first to comment.

Subscribe

Add Disqus to your site

Do Not Sell My Data

Man suffers head injuries in Weston robbery

A man in his 50s suffered head injuries and cuts to his face after he was robbed in Weston-super-Mare. The man, who walks with a stick, had withdrawn...

The West On Mercury

The green energy trend is affecting investors. Learn how you can invest

eToro | Sponsored

[Click Here](#)



Month

Our Healthcare | Sponsored

Nurse quizzed at 10-year-old's inquest

THE parents of a 10-year-old girl have raised serious concerns over treatment a nurse gave their child 48 hours before she died.

The West On Mercury

Three men arrested after motorbike theft

Three men have been arrested this morning (Wednesday) following a motorbike theft. Police were called to Taunton Road, in Worle, at about 5.15am by a...

The West On Mercury

Simple Trick Makes People Lose Weight Like Never Before

Support My Weight | Sponsored

Female Athlete Fails You Can't Look Away From

Daily Funny | Sponsored

May 17: Grand Pier outlines busy summer schedule

The owner of the Grand Pier has outlined a busy summer schedule ahead of the attractions full reopening on May 17. Michelle Michael told the Mercury that...

The West On Mercury

Weston boy, 4, has glass removed from head after skate park fall

A Weston parent has called for North Somerset Council to deploy wardens after her four-year-old son was left with glass in his head following a fall in a Herons' Moor skatepark.

The West On Mercury

Why is This £39 Monocular Better Than a £3000 Telescope?



Peter Kay Is So Skinny Now And Looks Like A Model

Life Indigo | Sponsored

Couple celebrate 70 years together after falling in love at first sight

Winscombe couple Alfie and Joan Bendall celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary with an afternoon tea in their garden.

The West On Mercury

PICTURES: Stunning space photography captured from Worle garden

A Worle father has captured stunning images of galaxies far away, all from his garden.

The West On Mercury

Man Decides to File for Divorce After Taking a Closer Look at This Photo!

JustPerfact USA | Sponsored

Married? Lookup Your Name To See If Your Due A Tax Refund

Marriage Tax Helpdesk | Sponsored



2021 © Archant Community Media Ltd