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**PRESS RELEASE – CITY OF ELY COUNCIL**

**ELY CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON EVENT – 27TH NOVEMBER 2020**

With heavy hearts the City of Ely Council's Christmas Lights Committee, last night took the decision to cancel the Ely Christmas Lights Switch on event which was scheduled to take place on the 27th November 2020.

Members agreed that the event, which has an attendance of around 6000 people could not go ahead this year due to the current pandemic situation and the restrictions regarding public events, social distancing etc, which may still be in place towards the end of the year. The Council must put the safety of the public, its staff and volunteers first and not put any potential, unnecessary strain on the emergency services.

The Committee are still planning to erect the Christmas Lights as long as circumstances allow and the necessary Government restrictions are adhered to.

The Committee however is hopeful to arrange an alternative 'Online Switch on Event' that will include the community. Once this idea has been discussed further, details will be released in due course.

In the meantime, stay home, protect the NHS, save lives.

Stay safe.

**Sarah Jay  
Deputy Clerk to the Council**