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LOCAL OUTBREAK ENGAGEMENT BOARD

16 MARCH 2021

SUPPLEMENTARY PAPERS

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL OUTBREAK ENGAGEMENT BOARD

The following papers were available at the meeting but were not available for publication with the rest of the agenda.

Kevin Gibbs
Executive Director: Delivery

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6. LOCAL OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT PLAN	1 - 6
To provide an update on the Local Outbreak Management Plan.	
7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	7 - 8
To receive questions and provide answers to members of the public.	

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March 2021

BRACKNELL FOREST COUNCIL OUTBREAK CONTROL PLAN UPDATE

Outbreak Management Plan development process



2

Refine

Refine the plan with partners

Adapt

Adapt the plan as we learn more about COVID-19 and local outbreaks

Review

Review our plans alongside new national programmes

Why do we need an update of the Outbreak Plan?


- We want to continue keep our residents as safe as we can from COVID-19 as we emerge out of the pandemic and into recovery
- It has been 9 months since the first iteration of the Contain Framework, and underneath the national framework the development of local plans.
- Since then, there has been significant evolution of the pandemic and thus the Framework's parameters have shifted to establish clarity of outbreak management response across a spectrum of three emerging lenses (1) Enduring Transmission, 2) Dominant/ 'BAU' Variant 3) Variant of Concern),
- Local Plans now need to be updated in line with the parameters of the framework, but to meet local priorities and need



Outbreak Control Plan Themes

Higher-risk settings, communities and locations	Prevent and manage outbreaks in high-risk locations, workplaces and communities e.g. care home, prisons, hospitality, hospitals and education
Vulnerable and underserved communities	Support vulnerable people and ensure services meet the needs of diverse communities
Compliance and enforcement	Including: keeping our workforce safe and communications and engagement to ensure that residents are well informed
Governance and Resourcing	Capacity management to deliver on all aspects of the plan Management of the impacts of the resumption of BAU activities and or the end of temporary contracts Governance of plans locally, regionally and nationally
Communication and engagement, including community resilience	To effectively communicate with the general public, relaying information and messages and hearing their queries, concerns and viewpoints to inform our response Enabling and empowering local communities to build resilience
Data integration and information sharing and surveillance	Access to the right local data to enable the other themes and prevent outbreaks

Core aspects of the COVID-19 response

Local testing capacity	<p>Asymptomatic testing at scale Optimising testing capacity Adapting the testing offer to target hard to reach groups</p>
Contact tracing in complex settings and enhanced contact tracing	<p>The deployment of local tracing partnerships The deployment of Enhanced Contact Tracing and risky venue alerts</p>
 Support for self-isolation and shielding	<p>The local tailoring of communications and their targeting Tackling those local employers that aren't supporting self-isolation Practical and emotional wrap-around support to those self-isolating or shielding CEV individuals Enabling people to self-isolate and shield effectively</p>
Outbreak management	<p>Including: keeping our workforce safe and communications and engagement to ensure that residents are well informed</p>
Activities to enable 'living with COVID' (COVID secure)	<p>Responding to Variants of Concern (VOC) including surge capacity management Action on enduring transmission Ongoing role of Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions (NPIs)</p>
Interface with vaccines roll out	<p>Measures to improve vaccine uptake locally Linkages between vaccine roll out and testing</p>

Key Lessons & Feedback

Good Practice

- Local flexibility to respond to data and feedback and thus respond to need and demand
- Berkshire wide Local Authority networks established to share best practice
- Partnership with the VCS to provide community response hub support - over 500 community volunteers recruited
- Excellent partnership working e.g. vaccine roll out, CCG's IPC team providing support to settings directly and through provider forums

Risks

- Covid fatigue. Therefore constantly evolving communications and approaches using a variety of channels with an aim to continue to influence behaviour change
- Misconceptions and over-confidence following testing and vaccination. Communication and education messages are essential
- Self-isolation barriers. Local measures to support self-isolation being implemented but a national focus on this is essential
- Ongoing COVID response being balanced with BAU activities that this plan explores and addresses

Issues

- Lack of information or comprehensive data being shared with Local Authorities in a timely way
- Fast paced emerging policy environment challenging local implementation

Opportunities

- Opportunity to build on the approaches being developed to address inequalities in also addressing longer term inequalities emerging and how these are tackled in the recovery phase and beyond including community resilience
- The local relationships and communication routes developed and rehearsed will benefit outbreak management and local health protection response in the future
- Build on the communications and community engagement system-wide approaches further developed through the pandemic response
- Utilise the PH intelligence infrastructure that has been developed locally throughout recovery and beyond e.g. JSNA development

LOEB / SGSLs question

In view of the upcoming end of the national lockdown in the governments roadmap, and the release of what is now an expanded shielding group, on this March 31st, of nearly 4 million people, with no announced or telegraphed plan to support this vulnerable group, we would ask that:

- in the absence of a health & well being statutory board meeting until June 8th, and with many BFBC residents now in more extreme & acute need at the MH, physical, practical & support levels, we ask, firstly, that this LOEB board whole heartedly gives its fully unencumbered endorsement to not only:

1 - a user led needs based "interim" roadmap locally

2 - a high readiness working group "shielding group strategic legacy support" (hereafter SGSLs) within the statutory framework, so as to expediate its actions

but the wider endeavour to work with the local MP's and offices, through ministerial contacts, to gain short order clarity as to the governments provision, or lack there of, for the shielding group, moving forward.

if a plan is not in place, to have through the elected representatives questions or statements tabled on the floor and effect soft influence discussions in the lobby & the other place, have Hansard reflect the governments position and render duty as our representatives, to make sure government stands up a workable plan so that we may follow suit, & support the many at risk on patch, that have been put in harms way with the promise of ongoing support to facilitate better outcomes and rehabilitaitons.

Given that the LGA has confirmed no funding will be given to local authorities at this time for this purpose, and until the government signs off a plan and gives mandate to the regions, with the relevant funding, it will befall all organisations locally, herein BFBC, to support messaging and comms and reinforce more robust and resilient internal workings to identify the vulnerable and sign post, reassure and give opportunity where possible to the user group until such a time as a government backed plan is disclosed and deployed.

To this end

we wish to mobilise with from within BFBC and outlying regions, officers to form a part of said SGSLs

with a directive and commanders intent to:
"rebuild it better"

and a mantra in its activity:
"Success is a collective endeavour"

Built through the consistency of the taskings / tenacities of the team & the resolute individual,

With an intial objective,

to achieve weekly targets on a roadmap, between now and june the 8th, when further mandate and support will be required in presentation to the health and wellbeing board, of this groups working

findings, using LOEB learnings & figures locally initially and the external feedback from the soft influence / direct mandate and intent clarification exercise outlined herein above.

May it be also noted herein, that the non-statutory functions group around these matters, meeting quarterly are not a place for high readiness, nor immediate action, nor stand during emergency function.

As a member of the userbase, I have a “disability” and am shielding, during this period personally have seen a marked drop in the health of the user group’s well-being.

An outreached hand of wisdom through adversity serves the entire community, and a user led service brings resilience & clarity towards better outcomes.

SGSLS will be a driving force to give this user base not only a voice, at this vital & pivotal time, but an opportunity for all participating organisations to learn and be at high readiness for any future needs, in line with contingencies and workable deployments under emergency planning criterias.

To support this, may the local data and learned experience over periods March 2020 to date, be directed please to SGSLS via

Assistant Director - Abby Thomas

with support of:

Head of Community engagements and equalities - Harjit Hunjan

Head of Communications and marketing - Alayna Razzell

Interim director Adult social care - Melanie O’Rourke

and may these be seconded to said SGSLS for an initially bi-monthly leading to monthly meeting with action plan, review and reporting function, ethos in line with PSED and Nolan, for a calendar year from said government mandated end of shielding, to run to 31st March 2022.

I thank the board for its time, mindfulness and careful consideration, of this nuanced copy, the questions & information therein and look forward to circle back with its chairman in the days after this meeting.

Question from “Service user M” (for privacy)

“.... I am my brother's brother, not my brother's keeper.”