

Notice of Meeting

Local Outbreak Engagement Board

Councillors:

Dr Barnard, Bettison OBE, D Birch and Brunel-Walker

Bracknell Forest Council:

Andrew Hunter, Director: Place, Planning & Regeneration

Abby Thomas, Assistant Director: Chief Executive's Office

Kellie Williams, Head of Operations

Charlotte Pavitt, Consultant in Public Health

Alayna Razzell, Head of Communications and Marketing



Thames Valley Police:

Acting Chief Inspector Helen Kenny

East Berkshire Clinical Commissioning Group:

Fiona Slevin-Brown, Executive Managing Director - Bracknell

Forest, NHS East Berkshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)

Involve:

Philip Cook, General Manager Involve

Tuesday 19 January 2021, 4.00 - 5.00 pm

Online Only

Agenda

Item	Description	Page
1.	Apologies for Absence Reporting: Kirsty Hunt	
2.	Declarations of Interest Members are asked to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary or Affected Interests and the nature of that interest in respect of any matter to be considered at this meeting. Any Member with a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in a matter should withdraw from the meeting when the matter is under consideration and should notify the Democratic Services Officer in attendance that they are withdrawing as they have such an interest. If the Disclosable Pecuniary Interest is not entered on the register of Members interests the Monitoring Officer must be notified of the interest within 28 days. Any Member with an Affected Interest in a matter must disclose the interest to the meeting. There is no requirement to withdraw from the meeting when the interest is only an affected interest, but the Monitoring Officer should be notified of the interest, if not previously notified of it, within 28 days of the meeting. Reporting: Members	
3.	Urgent Items of Business	

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	Any other items which, pursuant to Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chairman decides are urgent. Reporting: Kirsty Hunt	
4.	Community and Schools Lateral Flow Testing	1 - 6
	To provide an update on the status of lateral flow testing for COVID-19 asymptomatic residents in community and in within the Borough. Reporting: Kellie Williams	
5.	Public Participation	
	To receive questions and provide answers to members of the public. Reporting: Kirsty Hunt	

Date of Next Meeting

02 February 2021

Sound recording, photographing, filming and use of social media is permitted. Please contact Kirstine Berry, 01344 354068, kirstine.berry@bracknell-forest.gov.uk, so that any special arrangements can be made.

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Local Outbreak Engagement Board

Update on school and community testing programmes

Tuesday 19 January 2021

1

Community Lateral Flow Testing Programme



What are lateral flow tests?

- Lateral flow tests (LFTs) are conducted in the same way as a PCR test using a long 'cotton bud' to swab the tonsils and then to swab in the nostril(s)
- The test takes 20 to 30 minutes to produce a test result
- The test detects the viral load of COVID-19 present in the sample
- If the viral load is high enough, a positive result is obtained

2



Lateral flow tests provide a quick result that indicates whether or not someone without symptoms (asymptomatic) is carrying COVID-19 at an infectious level that could be transmitted to others without knowing it.



Identifying these asymptomatic cases and ensuring they isolate is a useful tool to break transmission chains and control the spread of COVID-19 in our communities.

Public Health Aims and Objectives



Aim

- To actively identify asymptomatic cases of COVID-19 and to reduce transmission in the event of an outbreak

3

Where will testing be targeted?

- Initial focus will be critical and key workers and anyone who is required to leave home for work or a crucial activity or for the management of local Covid-19 outbreaks.
- The Military have worked hard with Public Health and council colleagues to identify the target population groups by job sector and work to model and finalise this list is ongoing.

Schools Testing Programme



To safeguard the health of the teaching workforce and keep as many staff and pupils in school and college as possible, the government has introduced a testing programme for schools using rapid-result coronavirus tests.

The schools programme comprises two elements:

4



the school and college workforce to conduct weekly testing of staff



for students and pupils as well as the workforce to conduct daily testing for those identified as close contacts of workforce colleagues, students or pupils that have tested positive

For every group, testing is voluntary, but those who are eligible for tests are strongly encouraged to participate to reduce the risk of transmission within schools and colleges.

Schools Testing Programme



- As part of our ongoing response to COVID-19 the East Berkshire Health Protection Board provides oversight of the delivery of our Outbreak Control Plan. At last week's East Berkshire Health Protection Board.
- At last week's Health Protection Board meeting, the Board discussed the schools testing programme.
- In light of case numbers locally and the new variant of COVID-19, which is prevalent across Berkshire, the Board recommended that proceed only with weekly testing of staff for the purpose of case finding.
- We have advised our schools and colleges not to proceed with the second element of the programme; daily testing of those who have had contact with positive cases.
- Instead, all close contacts of positive cases should continue to be instructed to self-isolate for 10 full days after contact with a positive case.
- This decision will be kept under review by the East Berkshire Health Protection Board.

5

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