

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD WHOLE SYSTEM JOINT SUB-COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 3
29 JUNE 2020	PUBLIC REPORT

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH LOCAL OUTBREAK CONTROL PLAN

RECOMMENDATIONS	
<i>To:</i>	<i>Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Health and Wellbeing Board Whole System Joint Sub-Committee</i>
<i>From:</i>	<i>Dr Liz Robin: Director of Public Health</i>
<p>The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Health and Wellbeing Board Whole System Joint Sub-Committee is recommended to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consider and comment on the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Outbreak Control Plan – attached. 2. Note the requirement to set up a Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Outbreak Member-led Engagement Board 	

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1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 In response to the COVID-19 pandemic Government launched its Test and Trace programme on 28 May 2020. As part of the national programme we are required to publish and submit to Government a Local Outbreak Control Plan for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough by the 30 June 2020.
- 1.2 This Local Outbreak Control Plan includes the setting up of a Member led Engagement Board to provide political ownership and public engagement and reassurance on how we will prevent the spread of COVID-19, and where outbreaks do occur to ensure these outbreaks are managed effectively.
- 1.3 This report is for the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Health and Wellbeing Board Whole System Joint Sub-Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference as below:

Aim: To drive forward wider system health and wellbeing priorities, which require involvement from a range of organisations.

- 1.4 Authority to approve non-statutory joint strategies on health and wellbeing issues (e.g. Cambridgeshire and Peterborough suicide prevention strategy), subject to agreement by the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the two parent Health and Wellbeing Boards.

2. PURPOSE

- 2.1 In response to the COVID-19 pandemic the United Kingdom went into lockdown on 23 March 2020 to mitigate the spread of the virus. As part of its strategy to release lockdown Government launched its Test and Trace system on 28th May 2020.
- 2.2 The national Test and Trace system supports individuals with COVID-19 symptoms to get tested and, if tested positive, to support that person and their household to self-isolate. The national team of clinicians and call handlers then follow up on that person's contacts to determine whether they and their households also need to go into self-isolation.
- 2.3 Part of this national strategy, to manage and control the pandemic, is for every area in England to develop a Local Outbreak Control Plan for COVID-19 by the end of June 2020.
- 2.4 In Cambridgeshire and Peterborough our Local Outbreak Control Plan builds on existing infectious disease outbreak plans. It relies on working closely with our local communities to reduce the risk of transmission of the infection, to establish systems to identify new cases and to reduce outbreaks.
- 2.5 The delivery of our Local Outbreak Control Plan will be supported by Councillors, Community Leaders, and partners who will receive information in a timely way about the impact of COVID-19 across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. This information will make it clear where we need their support in managing an outbreak and where we need their support to reinforce and reassure our residents about action being taken to prevent outbreaks and contain any outbreaks that do occur.
- 2.6 Where these clusters of new COVID-19 cases do arise we will identify them swiftly and working with the Public Health England Health Protection Team, our local authority Public Health and Environmental Health teams and our partners we will put measures in place to control these cases. That way we can support the continued lifting of lockdown restrictions and the gradual return to normal life.

2.7 Our Local Outbreak Control Plan, has two principle aims:

Prevention

- To support communities, health & social care, education & childcare settings and businesses to understand and observe national guidance and prevention measures to reduce the likelihood of contracting or spreading the virus.

Surveillance & Response

- To quickly identify any new cases of COVID-19 and their contacts.
- To put steps in place to control outbreaks – particularly in high risk settings – and to stop these outbreaks spreading.

2.8 In summary the Local Outbreak Control Plan will identify:

- How COVID-19 outbreaks in health care settings, care homes, schools & early years' settings, workplaces and in the community will be prevented by a comprehensive set of measures – with a focus on locations, communities and individuals at higher risk of COVID-19.
- How data from national, local and NHS sources will be brought together to inform decision making to prevent, identify and control outbreaks.
- How local testing capacity will be deployed where it is needed alongside ensuring that test results come back in a timely manner.
- How we will ensure that there are sufficient staff and volunteers trained and able to take on the responsibilities within the Local Outbreak Control Plan, including the setting up of community rapid response teams to take immediate action to prevent and deal with local outbreaks.
- The support that will be available through the existing community hubs in County, City and District Councils to help people to self-isolate.
- How contacts that are more complex will be followed up by trained staff deployed across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough from the Public Health England Health Protection Team, Local Authority Public Health and Environmental Health.
- How outbreaks that do occur will be managed and controlled through already established infection control measures that are used to manage outbreaks of other infectious diseases.

2.9

The Senior Officer responsible for the Local Outbreak Control is the Director of Public Health, Dr Liz Robin. To oversee the development and delivery of the Local Outbreak Control Plan we are required to set up a Health Protection Board. This Board has already been established. It is Chaired by Gillian Beasley Chief Executive of Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council, who is also the co-Chair of the Local Resilience Forum's Strategic Co-ordinating Group alongside Jan Thomas, Accountable Officer for the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group. This establishes the link between the Health Protection Board and the Local Resilience Forum. The Health Protection Board comprises of Senior Officers from County, City and District Local Authorities, the Clinical Commissioning Group and Public Health England.

2.10

We are also required to set up a Member-led Engagement Board to provide political leadership and public reassurance on how we will prevent and manage the spread of COVID-19. The membership of this Board is primarily drawn from the Health & Wellbeing Board Core Joint Sub-committee.

Its membership is as follows:

2.11 **Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council**

- Cllr Hickford and Cllr Holdich (Chair of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Health and Wellbeing Boards)
- Cllr Hudson (Chair of Health Committee, CCC)
- Cllr Fitzgerald (Public Health Portfolio holder, PCC)
- Dr. Liz Robin, Director, Public Health (CCC and PCC)
- Wendi Ogle-Welbourn, Executive Director, Peoples and Communities (CCC and PCC)
- Adrian Chapman, Service Director, Communities and Partnerships (CCC and PCC)

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group

- Jan Thomas, Accountable Officer
- Gary Howsam, Clinical Chair
- Louis Kamfer, Chief Finance Officer
- Louise Mitchell, Director of Strategy & Planning

Cambridgeshire District/City Councils

- Represented by: Cllr Malyon (South Cambridgeshire District Council)

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough HealthWatch

- Val Moore (Healthwatch Chair)

2.12 The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Health and Wellbeing Board Whole System Joint Sub-Committee is asked to:

- Consider and comment on the Local Outbreak Control Plan
- And, to note the requirement to set up a Member-led Local Outbreak Engagement Board.

3. CONSULTATION

3.1 Consultation has taken place with members of the:

- Local Resilience Forum's Strategic Co-ordinating Group
- Health Protection Board
- Public Health England
- Regional team set up by Government to oversee the development of Outbreak Control Plans in the East of England

4. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

4.1 The anticipated outcome of developing and implementing the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Outbreak Control Plan is that we will:

- Prevent the likelihood of contracting or spreading COVID-19;
- Support the identification any new cases of COVID-19 and their contacts;
- Take steps to control outbreaks – particularly in high risk settings – and stop these outbreaks spreading.

5. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

- 5.1 Government has allocated £1m for Peterborough and £2.5m for Cambridgeshire for this work. The formula for this calculation is based on the 2020/2021 Public Health grant. The grant is to be used to support the delivery of the Outbreak Control Plan across County, City and District local authorities.
- 5.2 A detailed resource is being put together to inform the allocation of this grant. This will be overseen by the Health Protection Board.

Legal Implications

- 5.3 The legal context for managing outbreaks of communicable disease which present a risk to the health of the public, and which require urgent investigation and management, sit with:
- Public Health England and Directors of Public Health under the Health and Social Care Act 2012
 - Chief Environmental Health Officers under the Public Health (Control of Disease) Act 1984
 - NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups collaborating with Directors of Public Health and Public Health England to take local action (e.g. testing and treating) to assist the management of outbreaks under the Health and Social Care Act 2012
 - Other responders' specific responsibilities to respond to major incidents as part of the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 and the recent Coronavirus Act 2020
- 5.4 This underpinning context gives Local Authorities (Public Health and Environmental Health) and Public Health England the primary responsibility for the delivery and management of public health actions to be taken in relation to outbreaks of communicable disease through the local Health Protection Partnerships and local Memoranda of Understanding.
- 5.5 The Director of Public Health has and retains primary responsibility for the co-ordination of the Health Protection System at a local level in England. These arrangements are clarified in the 2013 guidance Health Protection in Local Government.

Equalities Implications

- 5.6 The recent Public Health England Disparities report, and a subsequent report 'Beyond Data: Understanding the impact of COVID-19 on BAME groups', found that the impacts of COVID-19 have replicated existing health inequalities, both in terms of general inequalities and with Black and Minority Ethnic (BAME) groups.
- 5.7 Other underlying conditions have been shown to increase risk such as obesity and diabetes and the comparatively poor uptake of preventive services by men. When it comes to COVID-19, age is a serious risk factor and older people in the community and in institutions have been shown to be at very high risk, and need to benefit from effective health protection measures.
- 5.8 Our growing knowledge of COVID-19 has been used to inform the approach we have taken to mitigate these health inequalities and reduce the impact of the virus on people with protected characteristics, as defined in the 2010 Equalities Act.
- 5.9 For instance we have:

- Produced targeted communications, delivered by community leaders in different languages, to communities across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough to ensure people understand the key public health messages and the messages about what to do if their experience symptoms of COVID-19;
- A specific focus on people from excluded groups to ensure they receive these messages and know where they can get support if they experience symptoms – these groups include people who are Homeless/Rough Sleepers, Gypsy and Travellers, those who have experienced Child Exploitation or Domestic Violence, Offenders, Sex Workers, Substance Misusers, people suffering from poor Mental Health, and Migrants including those with No Recourse to Public Funds status;
- Detailed plans about how to deal with outbreaks of COVID-19 which may occur within these excluded communities;
- Built on the work of the community hubs, that have been supporting those who are shielded and those who are at higher risk of contracting COVID-19, so that people who are required to self-isolate and have no other means of support know where to access help;
- Ensured our workforce understand how we can support people who are at higher risk from the virus;
- COVID-19 Risk Assessments for our premises, our teams and for individuals to help to prevent the virus from affecting our staff and our visitors.

6. APPENDICES

6.1 Appendix 1 - Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Outbreak Control Plan.

7. SOURCE DOCUMENTS

Source Documents	Location
Public Health England - Disparities in the risk and outcomes of COVID-19 Report - June 2020	https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/892085/disparities_review.pdf
Public Health England - Beyond the data: Understanding the impact of COVID-19 on BAME groups Report - June 2020	https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/892376/COVID_stakeholder_engagement_synthesis_beyond_the_data.pdf