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(Please note that "Information Only" reports do not require Equality Impact Assessments, Legal or Finance Comments as no decision is being taken)

Title of meeting:	Health and Wellbeing Board
Subject:	Local Outbreak Engagement Board
Date of meeting:	25 th November 2020
Report by:	Director of Public Health, Portsmouth City Council
Wards affected:	All

1. Requested by

Chair, Health and Wellbeing Board

2. Purpose

- 2.1 To update the Health and Wellbeing Board on the work of the Local Outbreak Engagement Board (sub-committee of the Health and Wellbeing Board).

3. Background

- 3.1 At the Health and Wellbeing Board in on June 17th 2020, it was reported that Nationally Government had announced the requirement for Local Outbreak Control Plans (CoVid-19) to be developed to reduce local spread of infection and for the establishment of a Member-led Covid-19 Engagement Board for each upper tier Local Authority.
- 3.2 Government guidance required that local plans should be centred on 7 themes:
- Planning for local outbreaks in care homes and schools (e.g. defining monitoring arrangements, identifying potential scenarios and planning the required response).
 - Identifying and planning how to manage other high-risk places, locations and communities of interest including sheltered housing, dormitories for migrant workers, transport access points (e.g., ports, airports), detained settings, rough sleepers etc. (e.g. defining preventative measures and outbreak management strategies).
 - Identifying methods for local testing to ensure a swift response that is accessible to the entire population. This could include delivering tests to isolated individuals, establishing local pop-up sites or hosting mobile testing units at high-risk locations (e.g. defining how to prioritise and manage deployment).
 - Assessing local and regional contact tracing and infection control capability in complex settings (e.g., Tier 1b) and the need for mutual aid (e.g. identifying specific local complex communities of interest and settings, developing

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assumptions to estimate demand, developing options to scale capacity if needed).

- Integrating national and local data and scenario planning through the Joint Biosecurity Centre Playbook (e.g., data management planning including data security, data requirements including NHS linkages).
- Supporting vulnerable local people to get help to self-isolate (e.g. encouraging neighbours to offer support, identifying relevant community groups, planning how to co-ordinate and deploy) and ensuring services meet the needs of diverse communities.
- Establishing governance structures led by existing Covid-19 Health Protection Boards and supported by existing Gold command forums and a new member-led Board to communicate with the general public.

3.3 Terms of reference for a Local Outbreak Engagement Board (LOEB) were agreed at the Health and Wellbeing Board on 17th June, and this was established as sub-committee of the Health and Wellbeing Board. The Health and Wellbeing Board received a report on activity between June and September at its last meeting.

4. Summary of Local Outbreak Engagement Board activity since September

4.1 Since June, the LOEB has met three times. Full minutes of board deliberations are published at <https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/coronavirus-covid-19/local-outbreak-control-plan> . Significant business has included:

- Continuing to oversee the Local Outbreak Plan, including significant changes relating to the local testing picture.
- Regularly receiving a summary of the latest intelligence and data relating to COVID-19 in the local community. This information is updated weekly and is also placed on the Local Outbreak Plan page on the PCC website at the link above.
- Considering changes to powers and regulations and ensuring that proposed responses are appropriate.
- Receiving reports relating to Test and Trace payments to support those at risk of hardship through losing income because of a requirement to self-isolate.
- Considering progress in developing a local contact tracing service.
- Considering the development of a local escalation framework.

4..2 The LOEB also receives a regular assurance report which summarises the supporting work of the local Health Protection Board, which is providing the focus for local outbreak prevention activity, and assesses the local preparedness picture. The report is structured around four key areas:

- Local context, looking at local data including the early warning indicators
- Local activity, looking at confidence in a range of local matters such as enforcement, provision of PPE, testing etc.
- Assurance to PHE, looking at the confidence in the seven areas of the plan required to be included; and
- Risks, looking at what are the issues that may cause Portsmouth to see an increase in infections.

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- 4.3 At the most recent meetings, the LOEB have noted that the infection rates in the city have been rising, although until very recently this trend had mainly been in the young adult population. The LOEB were ready to consider a recommendation to work with national bodies to raise Portsmouth's national tier before the increased national restrictions were introduced on the 5th November 2020. The Board will be engaged in considerations around any future tier allocated to the city under arrangements following the 2nd December national lockdown review date.
- 4.4 In relation to risks, the rate of infection among the young adult population in the city meant that the activity in the University was a high risk; it will be important to keep monitoring this particularly if there is movement of populations in the Christmas vacation and then another mass return.
- 5. Future working**
- 5.1 The LOEB will continue to meet on a monthly basis, and will receive reports summarising the activity of the Health Protection Board and the resultant assurance levels. The Board is a helpful forum for providing check and challenge around local outbreak arrangements, and for ensuring that the arrangements are fully appropriate to the city and its communities.
- 5.2 Summary reports of LOEB activity will be presented to each Health and Wellbeing Board meeting.

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 Signed by Helen Atkinson, Director of Public Health, Portsmouth City Council

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location