

Decision Maker: HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Date: 2nd July 2020

Title: Public Health Update Covid-19

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Ward: All

1. Summary

1.1 Public Health in Bromley has new responsibilities in relation to the Covid-19 outbreak:

- Local outbreak management of COVID-19 in key or complex settings
- Local area outreach and engagement with vulnerable, hard-to-reach or disconnected residents, groups and communities
- Establishing regional or area networks to provide sharing of intelligence and mutual support if pressure on the national system
- Specialist Public Health support to Bromley council and key local partners

2. Reason for Report going to Health and Wellbeing Board

2.1 To provide an update on the progress towards the development of this programme.

3. **SPECIFIC ACTION REQUIRED BY HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD AND ITS CONSTITUENT PARTNER ORGANISATIONS**

3.1 The HWB is asked to:

- 1) Note the update on progress towards the development of this programme

Health & Wellbeing Strategy

1. Related priority: Not Applicable

Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Not Applicable

2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable

3. Total savings: Not Applicable

4. Budget host organisation:

5. Source of funding:

6. Beneficiary/beneficiaries of any savings:

Supporting Public Health Outcome Indicator(s)

Not Applicable

4. COMMENTARY

4.1 Introduction

A new test and Trace service has been launched which forms a central part of the government's Covid-19 recovery strategy. This will operate through online phone contact whilst an app is being developed.

Local authorities have been charged with supporting the new test and trace service in their area with each local authority developing tailored outbreak control plans, working with local NHS and other stakeholders. The plans will focus on identifying and containing potential outbreaks in places such as workplaces, housing complexes, care homes and schools.

4.2 Timescale

Work on plans starts immediately, with an expectation that plans will emerge during the month of June 2020.

4.3 Objectives

- The primary objectives of the Test and Trace service will be to control the Covid-19 rate of reproduction (R), reduce the spread of infection and save lives, and in doing so help to return life to as normal as possible, for as many people as possible, in a way that is safe, protects our health and care systems and releases our economy.
- A co-ordinated effort from local and national government, the NHS, GPs, businesses and employers, voluntary organisations and other community partners, and the general public is anticipated.
- Local planning and response has been identified by the government as essential part of the Test and Trace service, with local government having a central role to play in the identification and management of infection.

4.4 Bromley's Local Plan

Building on our existing health protection plans, Bromley's Public Health team is developing a local outbreak control plan ahead of further phases of the national infection control framework.

They will be supported by and work in collaboration with Gold command emergency planning forum, the Bromley COVID Strategic Response Group, and the council Executive to communicate openly with the public. Links are in place with Local Resilience Forums and NHS Integrated Care Systems.

Public Health in Bromley has new responsibilities in relation to the Covid-19 outbreak:

- Local outbreak management of COVID-19 in key or complex settings
- Establishing regional or area networks to provide sharing of intelligence and mutual support
- Specialist Public Health support to Bromley council and key local partners
- Local area outreach and engagement with residents and vulnerable, groups and communities

In addition, Public Health is supporting the response of the council and partners in:

- Mitigating the wider impact of the expansion of tracing and testing on local communities, economies and residents
- Supporting residents and settings that may be negatively impacted or at-risk by the expansion of tracing and easing of lockdown
- Responding to local issues and pressure-points generated by the roll-out of tracing and testing.

Bromley Public Health has set up a Health Protection Covid Board chaired by the Director of Public Health, Dr Nada Lemic, and appointed a Contact Tracing Lead, Dr Jenny Selway

Three working groups have been set up looking at:

- Supporting vulnerable people
- Data
- Communications.

Links with key partners including the hospital, GPs/CCG, and other providers are being set up to manage contact tracing. A key link is with the London Coronavirus Response Centre (LCRC)

Local outbreak plans are a way to build on our strong public health expertise of the DsPH, linked to our Health Protection Covid Board so that there is broader support for the pandemic, with support from the local Bromley COVID Strategic Response Group and the council Executive recognising that public engagement and trust is crucial to keep the R rate down. The local outbreak plan will include 7 key themes:

- 1 - Planning for local outbreaks in care homes and schools
- 2 - Planning for local outbreaks in other high-risk places, locations and communities of interest including sheltered housing, dormitories for migrant workers, transport access points, detained settings, rough sleepers etc
- 3 - Identify methods for local testing to ensure response that is accessible to the entire population
- 4 - Assessing local and regional contact tracing and infection control capability in complex settings and the need for mutual aid
- 5 - Integrate national and local data and scenario planning through the Joint Biosecurity Centre Playbook
- 6 - Supporting vulnerable local people, including to get help to self-isolate
- 7 - Establish governance structures

Bromley will be providing a local support role to the work of The London Coronavirus Response Centre and provide support and guidance around any identified 'community clusters' which are defined as 'a number of positive tests in a locality or a common site or activity'. The local authority will be notified by PHE if a community cluster is identified.

	Setting						
	Care settings	School and Early Years	Workplace	Primary care	Prison/ custodial institutions	Homeless and/or hostel	Community cluster
London Coronavirus Response Centre response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Receive notification from Tier 2 - Gather information and undertake a risk assessment with the setting - Provide advice and manage cases and contacts, testing and infection control - Provide information materials to the setting - Recommend ongoing control measures - Convene IMT if required - Provide information to DsPH and advice/recommendations for ongoing support 						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Receive notification from Tier 2 - Support Local Authority in their risk assessment of and response to an identified community cluster

Local authority response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prevention work and respond to enquiries - Support vulnerable contacts who are required to self isolate - Liaise with setting to provide ongoing advice and support for testing, communications, infection control and PPE - Participate in IMT if convened by LCRC - Local communications e.g. briefings for Cllrs, local press inquiries, comms with the public - Liaise with CCG, GPs and other healthcare providers to provide ongoing healthcare support to setting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Receive notification from Tier 2 - Convene IMT - Provide support to community which may include translated materials, support to self-isolate, advice and enforcement - Liaise with the local CCG, GPs and other healthcare providers - Local communications (e.g. Cllr briefing, local press inquiries, comms with public)
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5. IMPACT ON VULNERABLE PEOPLE AND CHILDREN

5.1 There might be an for vulnerable people and children if they need help with self-isolation in terms of access to food or medicines. We have a pathway in place for them through the volunteering and assistance programme which already exists.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The Local Authority Test and Trace Service Support Grant allocation for Bromley is £1,370k. The purpose of the grant is to provide support to local authorities in England towards expenditure lawfully incurred or to be incurred in relation to the mitigation against and management of local outbreaks of COVID-19. The Chief Executive and Chief Internal Auditor of the local authority are required to sign and return a declaration.

6.2 The total resources required to undertake the work and any associated financial implications are not fully known at this point.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

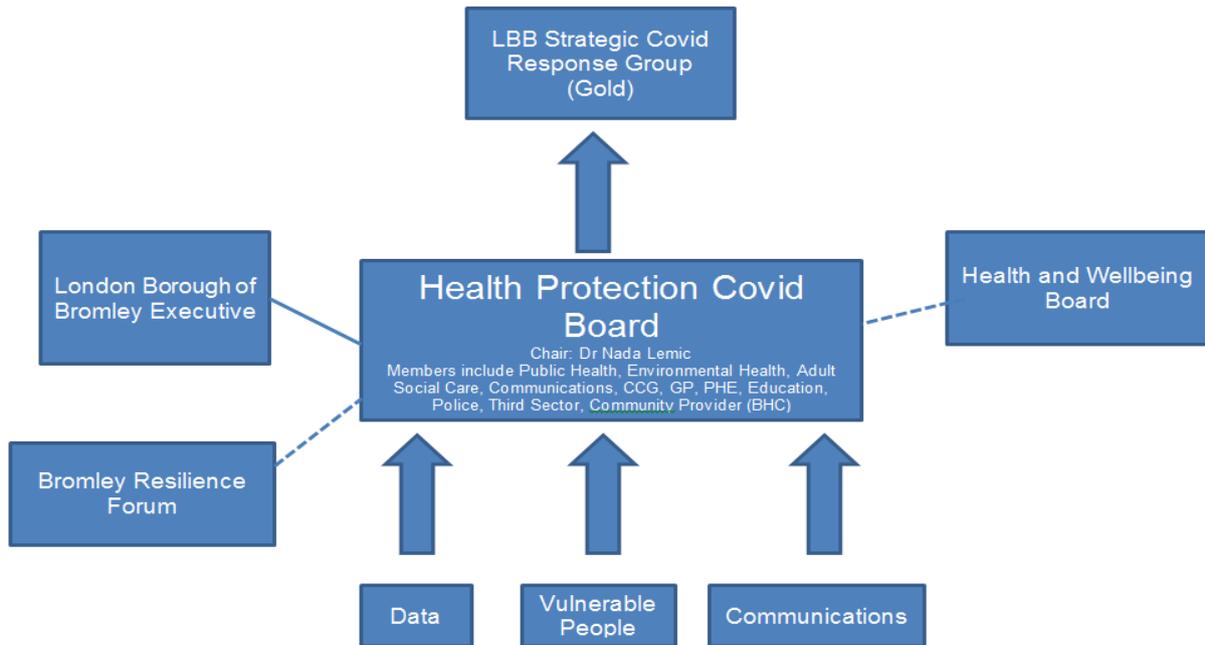
7.1 Local authorities and PHE will conduct follow up of these settings as outlined on Page 4 and fulfil their statutory duty for safeguarding and protecting the health of their population.

- PHE has responsibility for protecting the health of the population and providing an integrated approach to protecting public health through close working with the NHS, Local Authorities, emergency services and government agencies. This includes specialist advice and support related to management of outbreaks and incidents of infectious diseases
- The health system has a shared responsibility for the management of outbreaks of COVID-19 in London
- Infection control support for each setting will be provided in line with local arrangements
- Under the Care Act 2014, Local Authorities have responsibilities to safeguard adults in their areas. These responsibilities for adult social care include the provision of support and personal care (as opposed to treatment) to meet needs arising from illness, disability or old age
- Under the Health and Social Care Act 2012, Directors of Public Health in upper tier and unitary local authorities have a duty to prepare for and lead the local authority public health response to incidents that present a threat to the public's health

- Medical practitioners have a statutory duty to notify suspected and confirmed cases of notifiable diseases to PHE under the Health Protection (Notification) Regulations 2010 and the Health Protection (Notification) Regulations 2020

8. IMPLICATIONS FOR OTHER GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS, BOARDS AND PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS, INCLUDING ANY POLICY AND FINANCIAL CHANGES, REQUIRED TO PROCESS THE ITEM

8.1 See below the diagram which shows the Governance arrangements for this programme



9. COMMENT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF AUTHOR ORGANISATION

Not applicable.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Comment from the Director of Public Health
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	Not Applicable