



Local Outbreak Engagement Board

2 March 2022

Report title	Wolverhampton COVID-19 Outbreak Control Plan Report	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Ian Brookfield Leader of the Council	
Wards affected	All wards	
Accountable director	John Denley, Director of Public Health	
Originating service	Public Health	
Accountable employee	Madeleine Freewood	Partnership and Governance Lead
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Report has been considered by	Wolverhampton COVID-19 Strategic Coordinating Group via email circulation	15 February 2022

Recommendations for action:

The Local Outbreak Engagement Board is recommended to:

1. Receive the Wolverhampton COVID-19 Outbreak Control Plan Report.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The multi-agency Wolverhampton COVID-19 Strategic Co-ordinating Group (SCG) provides regular progress reports to the Local Outbreak Engagement Board to enable it to fulfil its objectives.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Every Local Authority is required to produce and publish a thematic Local Outbreak Control Plan specific to COVID-19. The aim of the Wolverhampton Outbreak Control Plan is to:
- Reduce the spread of COVID-19 infection and save lives
 - Help as many people as possible return to normal life, in a way that is safe, protects our health and care systems and supports our economy to recover.
- 2.2 Wolverhampton's Outbreak Control Plan was last updated in December 2021 and is kept under active review. It is published here: <https://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-and-information/covid-19-outbreak-control-plan>
- 2.3 Wolverhampton's COVID-19 Strategic Co-ordinating Group (SCG), supported by the Public Health led Outbreak Control Planning Group, is responsible for prioritising, managing and overseeing the work plans aligned to the following themes in the Local Outbreak Plan:
- Care homes and schools
 - High risk places, locations and communities
 - Local testing capacity
 - Contact tracing in complex settings
 - Data integration
 - Vulnerable people
 - Local Boards
- 2.4 In addition, the Wolverhampton COVID-19 Vaccine Partnership Working Group brings together strategic leads from across the local health system to coordinate a one city response to supporting vaccine roll out to best meet population need.
- 2.5 SCG provides a regular progress report regarding the above to the Local Outbreak Engagement Board summarising key activity across the eight themes in the Local Outbreak Plan, including an update regarding finance and the associated communication plan.
- ## **3.0 SCG progress overview**
- 3.1 Appendix 1 of this report provides a copy of the SCG report to the Local Outbreak Engagement Board.

4.0 Financial implications

- 4.1 The Government has announced a number of one-off grants to support local authorities in their response to the pandemic. This includes allocations from the Outbreak Control - Test and Trace grant and the Contained Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) which are ring-fenced public health grants and have to be spent in line with the conditions of grant. In 2020-2021 the Council received a total of £9.3 million from these two grants.
- 4.2 The extension of the COMF into 2021-2022 totalled £400 million, Wolverhampton's allocation was £2.2 million, this grant continues to be subject to grant conditions and the submission of monitoring returns. The COMF will be used to support the activities outlined in the plan for 2021-2022. The Government have announced the COMF grant can be rolled over into 2022-2023 to help further reduce the spread of coronavirus and support local public health initiatives. The refreshed Local Outbreak Control Plan provides an overview of where this money is being targeted.
[JG/22022022/M]

5.0 Legal implications

- 5.1 Every Local Authority is required to produce a Local Outbreak Control Plan specific to COVID-19 as outlined in the August 2020 national framework:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/containing-and-managing-local-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreaks/covid-19-contain-framework-a-guide-for-local-decision-makers>
- 5.2 The Coronavirus Act 2020 provides a legal framework that gives Local Authorities – through Public Health and Environmental Health functions – the primary responsibility for the delivery and management of public health action to control outbreaks of infectious disease.
[TC/15022022/F]

6.0 Equalities implications

- 6.1 The Local Outbreak Engagement Board is a sub-board of Health and Wellbeing Together. Equalities implications of COVID-19 are being actively reviewed by both boards informed by qualitative and quantitative data.

7.0 Health and wellbeing implications

- 7.1 The Local Outbreak Engagement Board is a sub-board of Health and Wellbeing Together and health and wellbeing implications of Local Outbreak Plan are kept under review through established reporting lines.

8.0 COVID-19 Implications

- 8.1 The SCG summary report outlines progress relating to the delivery of the COVID-19 Local Outbreak Control Plan.

9.0 Schedule of background papers

- 9.1 Wolverhampton COVID-19 Outbreak Control Plan
<https://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-and-information/covid-19-outbreak-control-plan>