



Health and Wellbeing Together

14 July 2021

Report title	Wolverhampton COVID-19 Outbreak Control Plan Report	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Jasbir Jaspal Public Health and Wellbeing	
Wards affected	All wards	
Accountable director	John Denley, Director of Public Health	
Originating service	Public Health	
Accountable employee	Madeleine Freewood Tel Email	Stakeholder Engagement Manager 01902 550352 madeleine.freewood@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to has been considered by	Wolverhampton COVID-19 Strategic Coordinating Group (email circulation)	02 July 2021

Recommendations for action:

Health and Wellbeing Together 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 (LOEB) to enable it to fulfil its objectives. The LOEB is a sub-board of Health and Wellbeing Together (HWBT). The LOEB Chair, Councillor Ian Brookfield, has agreed that the July 2021 progress report be shared directly with Health and Wellbeing Together to ensure the HWBT membership is fully sighted on the latest position regarding COVID-19.

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 first published its Outbreak Control Plan in June 2020, supported by a governance structure including the creation of a 'Local Outbreak Engagement Board' (LOEB), a sub-board of Health and Wellbeing Together.
- 2.3 Following the publication of the Government's Roadmap on 22 February 2021, a refresh of the Department of Health and Social Care 'Contain Framework' and an increasing focus on Variants of Concern, Local Authorities were asked to review and update their Local Outbreak Management Plans in coordination with partners by March 2021 in order to ensure they remained fit for purpose.
- 2.4 Wolverhampton's refreshed Outbreak Control Plan is published on the Council website here: <https://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-and-information/COVID-19-outbreak-control-plan>
- 2.5 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 educational settings
 - Higher-risk settings, communities and locations
 - Community testing
 - Contact tracing
 - Data integration and information sharing
 - Vulnerable communities

- Interface with the vaccine roll out
- Governance and local boards

2.6 In addition, a Wolverhampton COVID-19 Vaccine Partnership Working Group has been established to bring 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.

2.7 The remit of the SCG is to:

- set and regularly review strategic priorities for the city
- ensure plans are consistent with resources available and if not, escalate within the appropriate organisations
- escalate any situations to Public Health England /Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group level for mutual aid if necessary and ensure that any response to a local COVID-19 outbreak is completed as a co-ordinated approach, managing the various elements in the response
- review local and national epidemiology.

2.8 SCG provides a regular progress report to the Local Outbreak Engagement summarising key activity across the eight themes in the Local Outbreak Plan, finance and communication plan. The July 2021 progress report is being shared directly with Health and Wellbeing Together to ensure the board membership is fully sighted on the latest position regarding COVID-19.

2.9 Appendix 1 of this report provides a copy of the SCG report to Health and Wellbeing Together.

3.0 Financial implications

3.1 Government have 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 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.

3.2 The Government have announced the extension of the Contained Outbreak Management Fund into 2021-2022 totalling £400 million, Wolverhampton's allocation is £2.2 million, this grant continues to be subject to grant conditions and the submission of monitoring returns. The Contained Outbreak Management Fund will be used to support the activities outlined in the plan for 2021-2022. The SCG summary report provides an overview of where this money will be targeted.

[JB/06072021/H]

4.0 Legal implications

- 4.1 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>
- 4.2 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.
[SB/04072021/C]

5.0 Equalities implications

- 5.1 Equalities implications of COVID-19 and the multi-agency response are actively reviewed in the monitoring of the progress of the Wolverhampton Local Outbreak Control Plan.

6.0 COVID-19 Implications

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

7.0 Schedule of background papers

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

8.0 Appendices

- 8.1 Appendix 1: July 2021 Wolverhampton COVID-19 Outbreak Control Plan Report