

# **COVID 19 Resilience, Recovery and Renewal Committee**

**Monday, 25 January 2021 at 10:30**

Virtual meeting, <https://www.youtube.com/user/nottsccl>

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## **AGENDA**

- |   |  |         |
|---|--|---------|
| 1 | Minutes of the last meeting held on 14 December 2020   | 1 - 4   |
| 2 | Apologies for Absence  |         |
| 3 | Declarations of Interests by Members and Officers:- (see note below)<br>(a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests<br>(b) Private Interests (pecuniary and non-pecuniary) |         |
| 4 | COVID-19 resilience, recovery and renewal at Nottingham's universities   | 5 - 8   |
| 5 | COVID-19 situational update  | 9 - 12  |
| 6 | Asymptomatic testing in the community  | 13 - 18 |
| 7 | COVID-19 update report   | 19 - 30 |
| 8 | Progress on the COVID-19 Crisis Economic Recovery Action Plan (January 2021)   | 31 - 42 |
| 9 | Work Programme   | 43 - 46 |

## **Notes**

- (1) Councillors are advised to contact their Research Officer for details of any Group Meetings which are planned for this meeting.
- (2) Members of the public wishing to inspect "Background Papers" referred to in the reports on the agenda or Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act should contact:-

Customer Services Centre 0300 500 80 80

- (3) Persons making a declaration of interest should have regard to the Code of Conduct and the Council's Procedure Rules. Those declaring must indicate the nature of their interest and the reasons for the declaration.

Councillors or Officers requiring clarification on whether to make a declaration of interest are invited to contact Jo Toomey (Tel. 0115 977 4506) or a colleague in Democratic Services prior to the meeting.

- (4) Councillors are reminded that Committee and Sub-Committee papers, with the exception of those which contain Exempt or Confidential Information, may be recycled.
- (5) This agenda and its associated reports are available to view online via an online calendar - <http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/dms/Meetings.aspx>

Meeting COVID 19 RESILIENCE, RECOVERY AND RENEWAL COMMITTEE

Date 14 December 2020 (commencing at 10.30 am)

**Membership**

Persons absent are marked with an 'A'

**COUNCILLORS**

John Knight (Chairman)  
Reg Adair (Vice-Chairman) **A**

Joyce Bosnjak  
Ben Bradley  
Mrs Kay Cutts MBE **A**  
Stephen Garner

Michael Payne  
Alan Rhodes  
Jason Zadrozny

**SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS**

Richard Butler for Reg Adair  
Richard Jackson for Mrs Kay Cutts MBE

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Anthony May, Chief Executive  
Jonathan Gribbin, Director of Public Health  
Derek Higon, Service Director, Place and Communities  
Matthew Neal, Service Director, Investment and Growth, Place  
Rob Fisher, Group Manager, Emergency Planning Management and Registration, Place  
Jo Toomey, Advanced Democratic Services Officer, Chief Executive's

**1. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 3 NOVEMBER 2020**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 3 November 2020, having been previously circulated, were confirmed for signing by the Chairman.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

- Councillor Mrs. Kay Cutts MBE (other County Council business)
- Councillor Reg Adair (other reasons)

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS**

None.

#### **4. COVID-19 SITUATIONAL UPDATE**

Jonathan Gribbin introduced the report and gave a presentation, which provided a situational update of COVID-19 cases in Nottinghamshire.

During discussion, Members:

- Asked questions about community testing in Nottinghamshire and the availability of Lateral Flow Tests and how the county position correlated with the messages being delivered from Government.
- Requested that the Director of Public Health set out the position regarding the deployment of Lateral Flow Tests and community testing in Nottinghamshire in a briefing note for Members and as part of his weekly press briefing for dissemination of messages to the public.

#### **RESOLVED 2020/016**

That, following consideration of the committee report and presentation, there were no further possible measures to be recommended to the Nottinghamshire County COVID-19 Engagement Board.

#### **5. COVID-19: UPDATE REPORT**

Derek Highton introduced the report, which updated Members on the impact of the Coronavirus crisis on the work of Nottinghamshire County Council and the Council's response and recovery planning.

During discussion, Members:

- Expressed their gratitude, acknowledging the work of Council staff during the COVID-19 response period. The efforts of elected Members were also recognised.

#### **RESOLVED 2020/017**

- 1) That Members approved and endorsed the continuing efforts of services to ensure effective service provision during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 2) That the following further actions be implemented:
  - a. The Chief Executive to pass on the thanks of the Committee to officers of the Council for their work throughout the year as part of the response to the pandemic.
- 3) That further update reports be submitted to future meetings of the Committee.

## **6. ROLE OF THE LOCAL RESILIENCE FORUM IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19**

Rob Fisher introduced the report which provided information to Committee about the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Local Resilience Forum and its role in the local response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **RESOLVED 2020/018**

- 1) That no further actions were required in relation to the issues contained within the report.
- 2) That Members agreed to receive further updates at subsequent meetings.

## **7. FOOD AND DRINK SECTOR BUSINESS SUPPORT TOOLKIT**

Matthew Neal introduced the report, which updated Members on Government help for small and medium sized businesses in the food and drink industry and informed the Committee about the Business Toolkit that had been created to support Nottinghamshire's food and drink sector.

### **RESOLVED 2020/019**

- 1) To approve the launch of the Business Support Toolkit to enable commencement of support to Nottinghamshire's food and drinks sector at the earliest opportunity.
- 2) That an extensive public relations campaign is mobilised to launch the Business Support Toolkit, involving some of Nottinghamshire's prominent growers and producers to help with the promotion.

## **8. UPDATE ON YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

Matthew Neal introduced the report, which provided contextual information relating to youth unemployment across Nottinghamshire. It also gave Members an overview of the Government's Kickstarter Scheme and other national, regional and local programmes aimed at supporting young people, and sought approval to undertake procurement of an online platform for career management and transition.

During discussion, Members:

- Asked about the cost of procurement of the online platform for career management and transition and how the success of the platform would be measured, requesting that a report be brought to the next meeting of the Committee.

### **RESOLVED 2020/020**

- 1) To approve the procurement of an online platform for career management and transition.
- 2) To confirm agreement to the continued involvement of the Council in providing an 'Introduction to Kickstart' programme for eligible young people in

Nottinghamshire, in partnership with the Department of Work and Pensions and the Council's jointly owned Futures Company.

## **9. WORK PROGRAMME**

### **RESOLVED 2020/021**

That the following item be added to the work programme for consideration at the next meeting of the Committee:

- The indicative cost of procurement and success measures for the online platform for career management and transition.

The meeting closed at 12.06 pm.

**CHAIRMAN**

**25 January 2021****Agenda Item: 4****REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE****RESILIENCE, RECOVERY AND RENEWAL AT NOTTINGHAM'S  
UNIVERSITIES****Purpose of the Report**

1. To provide an overview of COVID-19 resilience, recovery and renewal arrangements at the University of Nottingham and Nottingham Trent University.

**Information and Advice**

2. On 15 December 2020, the Chairman of the COVID-19 Resilience, Recovery and Renewal Committee and the Council's Chief Executive attended a meeting regarding COVID-19 safety at both the University of Nottingham and Nottingham Trent University. It was agreed that the Committee should receive a report on the COVID-19 resilience, recovery and renewal arrangements that were in place at both universities.
3. Professor Nigel Wright, Deputy Vice-Chancellor – Research and Enterprise of Nottingham Trent University and Dr. Paul Greatrix, Registrar of the University of Nottingham provided a joint overview of the COVID-19 resilience, recovery and renewal arrangements at both of Nottingham's universities (**Appendix A**).
4. Representatives from both universities have been invited to the meeting to answer any questions that the Committee has about the information provided.

**Other Options Considered**

5. None – the report has been provided at the request of the Chairman of the Committee and the Chief Executive to inform Members of the arrangements that are in place at both universities.

**Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

6. To update Members on COVID-19 resilience, recovery and renewal at Nottingham's universities.

## **Statutory and Policy Implications**

7. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

## **Financial Implications**

8. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

- 1) That Members consider the information provided by the University of Nottingham and Nottingham Trent University and decide whether any further information is required at this stage.

**Anthony May**  
**Chief Executive**

### **For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

Jo Toomey, Advanced Democratic Services Officer, T: 0115 977 4506

## **Constitutional Comments (KK 21/12/2020)**

9. The COVID-19 Resilience, Recovery and Renewal Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of the report. If Committee resolves that any actions are required it must be satisfied that such actions are within the Committee's terms of reference.

## **Financial Comments (RWK 21/12/2020)**

10. There are no specific financial implications arising directly from this report.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- None

## **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

- All divisions in the vicinity of Nottingham's universities' campuses





**13 January 2020**

## **COVID-19 Resilience, Recovery and Renewal Committee**

### **Update report: Resilience, Recovery and Renewal at Nottinghamshire's Universities**

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#### **December Student Travel Window**

1. The Government's 'student travel window' (December 3-9) allowed the vast majority of students who wanted to travel for the winter break to do so. Before travelling both universities offered all students either a Lateral Flow Device or an Asymptomatic Test to help break the possible chain of transmission of COVID-19.
2. Over the travel window testing teams carried out over 20,000 tests, with extremely low positivity rates amongst the student community following strong adherence to regulations during the period of enhanced restrictions. The universities supported a very small number of students whose test was positive to complete their isolation before travelling.
3. In partnership with local public health teams, the two universities have invested significantly to develop in-house asymptomatic testing for staff and students. UoN hosted the NHS audit team before the winter break which, if successful, could lead to formal accreditation of the testing as part of the government framework. This would remove the need for those testing positive to take an additional confirmatory Pillar Two test, and would feed directly into the national NHS Test and Trace process.

#### **Student Returns in January**

4. Both ahead of the new year and following the implementation of the latest lockdown measures, the Government provided updated guidance on Term Two. This continues to stress that education remains a priority activity and that teaching can be carried out safely in Covid-secure environments.
5. The steps we took in summer 2020 to make our campuses Covid-secure enable us to continue with some in-person teaching activities. However, there is a need for new restrictions because of the transmissibility of the new strain of the virus and as such the movement of people into and across the country must be reduced.
6. In line with national guidance, teaching will be delivered online until at least mid-February for all subjects except those outlined in the revised [guidance for returning students issued last week](#): Medicine & Dentistry; Health & Social Care including Nursing & Midwifery; Physiotherapy and Veterinary Science; Education including initial teacher training; and Social Work. We have advised students on all other courses to remain where they are and start the term online.
7. The government guidance also recognises that some students have remained on campus during the break and for others there may be exceptional circumstances which mean they need to return before the start of their in-person teaching – for example because they are unable to study from

home, need to sit their online exams on campus, do not have alternative accommodation or for health reasons.

8. We recognise the considerable challenge of teaching and supporting students both on and off campus, and would like to thank our staff, who have made huge efforts to deliver high quality and engaging teaching both digitally and face to face in 2020, and will continue to do so.
9. All students returning to Nottinghamshire will be offered either an asymptomatic or a lateral flow test and asked to minimise social contact until they have the result. The Government has also advised that students should get tested using facilities in their home towns and cities ahead of returning.
10. Students and staff who need to be on campus can access asymptomatic (UoN) or Lateral Flow (NTU) Covid-19 testing through the University's testing service. Testing is, of course, voluntary but we hope that the service will offer reassurance at this time and keep our community safe. There are no limits on the number of asymptomatic tests any individual can take and we recommend those who are on campus regularly should consider taking a test weekly until vaccines are widely deployed.
11. The universities will continue to work with Nottinghamshire Police to ensure any student who is irresponsible faces both legal penalties and disciplinary action where appropriate. In the most serious cases, students will be fast-tracked to the highest levels of the disciplinary process where suspension and exclusion are potential outcomes.

### **Students' Contribution to Nottinghamshire's Communities**

12. As we have seen across many communities during this crisis, our students have demonstrated remarkable resilience and generosity, with many playing an active role supporting others through the pandemic. Alongside individual actions, student groups including sports teams, faith groups, community networks, course-based networks and interest groups have raised funds, organised activities and given their direct support to people across Nottinghamshire.
13. These efforts and achievements have included:
  - a. [UoN First Responders](#) are a student-run first-aid service supporting ambulance calls in the community. Last term they supported 243 allocated patients, including: 49 breathing problems, 57 medical emergencies, 20 unconscious, 12 falls and trauma, 8 cardiac arrests and 46 chest pains. In 67% of situations the First Responder arrived before the ambulance.
  - b. Hai Dinh Ngo, a NTU student, used his [language skills](#) to help families quarantining in Vietnam; [NTU's fashion students made scrubs](#) for those on the front line and students from [NTU's law school](#) offered free virtual legal advice to all the Nottinghamshire community.
  - c. The UoN [PhabSoc student group](#) usually takes children and young adults with disabilities (members) on day trips and events which they may otherwise not be able to experience. They have instead run these virtually, using music to enhance the lives of their members by getting them to sing/dance for the day.
  - d. Many students, individually and as part of groups, have supported the delivery of food parcels to those isolating or shielding.

**25 January 2021****Agenda Item: 5****REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH****COVID-19 SITUATIONAL UPDATE****Purpose of the Report**

1. To provide a situational update on COVID-19 cases in Nottinghamshire and the rollout of the national vaccination programme

**Information****Situation update**

2. The [Nottingham and Nottinghamshire COVID-19 dashboard](#) provides the latest data on Coronavirus cases locally. It is updated each day at 12pm and shows the rates of Coronavirus infection in each district of Nottinghamshire. This represents one of the key indicators used to inform what level of measures are needed to contain the spread of the virus.
3. The dashboard presents the most recent reliable data from testing carried out in hospital settings, known as Pillar 1 tests, as well as the results taken from the community, or Pillar 2 testing. Data is excluded for test results still coming through for the most recent 4 days of data because that data is widely understood to be incomplete.
4. At the Committee meeting members will be offered a short presentation from the Director of Public Health using the most up to date information.
5. An update will also be provided at the meeting of the latest status of the vaccine rollout programme in Nottinghamshire.

**Other Options Considered**

6. None.

**Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

7. The [Nottinghamshire County COVID-19 Outbreak Control Engagement Board](#) provides oversight of local outbreak control arrangements.

## **Statutory and Policy Implications**

8. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

## **Financial Implications**

9. There are no financial implications contained within this report.

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1) That the Committee considers the latest information available in the COVID-19 dashboard and the presentation delivered at the meeting and identifies any possible measures to recommend to the Nottinghamshire County COVID-19 Engagement Board.

**Jonathan Gribbin**  
**Director of Public Health**  
**Nottinghamshire County Council**

### **For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

Jonathan Gribbin  
Director of Public Health  
Nottinghamshire County Council  
Email: [jonathan.gribbin@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:jonathan.gribbin@nottscc.gov.uk)

### **Constitutional Comments (EP 21/12/2020)**

10. The recommendation falls within the remit of the COVID-19 Recovery, Renewal & Resilience Committee by virtue of its terms of reference.

### **Financial Comments (ZB 21/12/20)**

11. There are no identified financial implications arising from this report.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

[Local Covid-19 Outbreak Response and Public Health Priorities for the Period to April 2021](#)

Adult Social Care & Public Health Committee (9 November 2020)

[Local Authority Test & Trace Grant Resource Plan](#)

Adult Social Care & Public Health Committee (14 September 2020)

[Implementation of the Health Protection \(Coronavirus Restrictions \(England\) \(No 3\) Regulations 2020](#)

Adult Social Care & Public Health Committee (14 September 2020)

[COVID-19 local outbreak control: learning and next steps](#)

Health & Wellbeing Board (2 September 2020)

[COVID-19 contain framework: a guide for local decision-makers](#)

Department of Health & Social Care (28 August 2020)

[COVID-19 local outbreak control plan](#)

Health & Wellbeing Board (24 July 2020)

[Nottinghamshire County Local Outbreak Control Plan](#)

Nottinghamshire County Council (June 2020)

Recent press releases:

- [Tier 3 remains in place for Nottinghamshire](#) (17 December 2020)
- [Director of Public Health welcomes vaccine news](#) (2 December 2020)
- [Nottinghamshire to enter Tier 3 Covid-19 Restrictions](#) (26 November 2020)
- [Nottinghamshire included in new Covid-19 testing programme](#) (10 November 2020)
- [National four-week lockdown announced by the Government](#) (1 November 2020)
- [Nottingham and Nottinghamshire move to Tier 3 Very High restrictions for Covid-19](#) (28 October 2020)
- [Council Leaders confirm move to Tier 3 restrictions](#) (26 October 2020)
- [Joint statement regarding Government talks with Nottinghamshire Leaders](#) (23 October 2020)
- [Statement from the Leader of Nottinghamshire County Council on latest Covid developments](#) (22 October 2020)
- [Statements from the Leader and Public Health Director on latest Covid situation in Nottinghamshire](#) (20 October 2020)
- [New “high” alert level announced by Government for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire](#) (12 October 2020)
- [Nottinghamshire Councils urge people to follow stricter guidelines on COVID-19](#) (7 October 2020)

**Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

- All



**25 January 2021****Agenda Item: 6**

## **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

### **ASYMPTOMATIC TESTING IN THE COMMUNITY**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To describe arrangements for the deployment of lateral flow tests for asymptomatic testing in community settings

#### **Information**

2. At December's meeting, Committee received a verbal update about plans to submit an expression of interest to secure government support to deploy targeted community testing of people who are asymptomatic<sup>1</sup>, and agreed to review a report at January's Committee meeting. The expression of interest was submitted on 29<sup>th</sup> December and the Director of Public Health was notified on 8<sup>th</sup> January that it would receive approval. On 10<sup>th</sup> January, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care announced that targeted community testing will be expanded across England and that local authorities will be encouraged to target testing to people who cannot work from home during lockdown. Therefore this report:
  - Reviews the core components needed to control COVID-19, as the context within which to understand the supplementary role of asymptomatic testing
  - Identifies lateral flow tests (LFTs) as a newly emerging technology which can be used to enable asymptomatic testing
  - Describes plans for the Council's use of LFTs for targeted community testing, for which the Council is expected to receive support from the Department of Health and Social Care
  - Highlights lessons emerging from other areas and other developments which will need to be considered before confirming further deployment

#### ***Core components for the local control of COVID-19***

3. There is good evidence on which to expect that the delivery of effective vaccines to high risk groups will significantly reduce mortality and pressures on the health and social care system arising from the most direct effects of COVID-19. There are also grounds for optimism that widescale uptake of vaccines will significantly reduce spread of the virus. But for the timebeing at least, the control of COVID-19 infection continues to rest on reducing the likelihood of people coming into contact with the virus by establishing spatial or physical barriers, and on

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<sup>1</sup> The symptoms which indicate the need for immediate isolation and a COVID-19 test are a high temperature, or a new persistent cough, or a loss/change in their sense of smell or taste. In this context, "asymptomatic testing" refers to testing people who are without these symptoms

frequent hand washing. More specifically, it requires that close contact with infected people is limited and that cases are correctly identified and isolated as quickly as possible.

4. The evidence is that measures of this kind have been successful in suppressing the first wave during the Spring and the second wave during the Autumn of 2020. Debate continues about the intensity with which these measures should be pursued, the benefit they do or do not deliver in particular settings, as well as their wider impact on the economy and on other aspects of public health and wellbeing. With the recent introduction of national lockdown, there is now increased focus on the extent to which the measures are securing the same level of compliance in January 2021 as they did in spring 2020. But evidence from SAGE underlines that, prior to rollout of effective vaccines, measures which reduce the likelihood of contact with an infected person are the cornerstone of what is needed to contain COVID-19.
5. Therefore Nottinghamshire County Council continues to pursue a multi-pronged prevention and control approach which includes the following core components:
  - Consistent communication to secure consent and compliance
  - Engagement and enforcement to support people and businesses to adopt measures which limit transmission
  - Identifying cases by promoting uptake of testing for anyone that is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, even if only mildly symptomatic, through NHS Test and Trace
  - Securing results of tests and advice quickly and completing contact tracing, working with NHS Test and Trace
  - Supporting people to isolate
  - Outbreak control to manage incidents within identifiable settings
6. In community settings, the testing component has been largely delivered through NHS Test & Trace. Its primary focus has been to identify cases amongst people who are symptomatic<sup>1</sup>. During 2020 this was extended to include asymptomatic people in high risk settings such as care homes where routine testing is deployed with staff and residents. Asymptomatic testing has also been deployed in Nottinghamshire as an outbreak measure in settings and communities where it is suspected that cases are going unrecognised, e.g. in workplace or institutional settings. Until recently, all of these approaches have relied on the use of polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests which requires test samples to be processed in a laboratory.
7. Turning now from these core components, this report now considers the use of asymptomatic testing for other purposes. For the timebeing, these additional uses of asymptomatic testing must be regarded as supplementary to these other core components; there are no grounds at this time for treating asymptomatic testing as a substitute for core control measures.

### ***Newer technologies***

8. Used alongside core control measures, the availability of new testing technologies provide opportunities to strengthen and speed up the identification of new cases and protect those most vulnerable, and to reduce the period for which contacts must isolate. One of these new technologies is a Lateral Flow Test (sometimes also called a Lateral Flow Device but here referred to as LFTs).



9. LFTs have some limitations currently. For example the manufacturer of the type of LFT available up until now did not secure regulatory approval for its use on asymptomatic individuals. Furthermore, the understanding of the extent to which LFTs reduce transmission, how communities and groups engage with these types of programmes and the operational, capacity, and clinical processes required, is still emerging. For example, at the time of drafting this report, attention continues to focus on the operator training required to ensure the test performs adequately, and ensuring people do not derive a false sense of reassurance from a negative result. On the other hand, a very significant benefit of LFTs is that they provide a test result quickly without laboratory involvement. In the context of high levels of infection and ongoing strict measures, they have potential to make a valuable contribution to the public health response.
10. This report focuses on the deployment of the type of LFT which is currently available. But government has announced that another LFT manufactured in the UK will soon be available. This may open up additional opportunities depending on the uses for which it receives approval. It should also be noted a range of other technologies is emerging, each one having its own relative merit in terms of cost or application. One which is worthy of note here is Waste Water Epidemiology (WWE) where sampling and testing by PCR is applied to whole catchment areas to identify changes in community prevalence.

### ***Asymptomatic testing using LFTs***

11. About 1 in 3 people with Coronavirus do not display symptoms, and with infection rates rising, testing people who are asymptomatic becomes more important than when rates were lower or falling. Therefore the aim of the Council is to develop an asymptomatic testing capability as a supplement to the basic test, trace and isolate infrastructure.
12. To this end, the government delivered an initial supply of LFTs for Directors of Public Health to deploy according to local priorities and capacity. Following this the authority submitted an expression of interest and has now received confirmation that it will be granted support from government to address the logistical, financial, resource, and clinical challenges associated with the deployment of LFTs for targeted community testing.
13. The Council's deployment which is set out below will run alongside a growing number of other centrally-driven initiatives using LFTs which are already being rolled across Nottinghamshire. These include the deployment of LFTs with care homes, students, and with staff and pupils in schools (for implementation in January). Currently the Council is not directly responsible for the deployment of these other centrally-driven initiatives.

### ***Locally-driven deployment by Nottinghamshire County***

14. The focus of the initial phase of work is to pilot the deployment of testing in communities which may be at increased risk from rising rates of infection. The Council is working with district council partners to prioritise Ladybrook, Oak Tree and Bellamy neighbourhoods of Mansfield, and the Manton Wood and Sandy Lane neighbourhoods of Worksop. The Council has identified these communities to benefit first because they are likely to have a high proportion of working age residents who are unable to work from home during lockdown and who could benefit significantly from the support available to those needing to isolate.

15. Subject to the support available from government and the resolution of a number of practical challenges, the Council's target is to have the infrastructure and arrangements in place to deliver this starting week beginning 25 January in Mansfield, and from early February for Worksoop. Confirmation of these timescales and communication with the communities concerned will follow in due course.
16. Alongside this, the Council also intends to work with an employer to pilot routine testing of their workforce to limit transmission within and outside the workplace setting. This will be informed by early experiences of workplace pilots elsewhere in the country. Establishing the timescale for this is subject to identifying a large employer positioned to pursue this.
17. Finally, the Council intends to ensure that people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and other people living with substance misuse problems, receive timely access to testing which has proved difficult to deliver through the existing PCR testing programme. Our target is to have this capability in place from the beginning of February.
18. The scope and intensity of any subsequent rollout will be determined in due course. Plans for further rollout will need to make reference to any further information from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisations about plans to prioritise other sections of the workforce. Therefore it is proposed that further progress with the initial phase of rollout is made, along with an assessment of new emerging opportunities, before the scope of the next phase of work is confirmed.
19. The national offer includes access to training, clinical, operational design and communication and engagement support. In addition for each test carried out the authority will receive the equivalent of up to £14 (in cash and/or materials and supplies).
20. This reimbursement is subject to uptake which remains uncertain at this stage. Furthermore financial modelling suggests that small test sites may not be cost effective. For example, under one scenario, the workforce costs associated with the pilot in Mansfield may exceed the likely income by a sum in the order of £15,000. Therefore it may be that some of the cost of the initial pilots will need to be funded from the contingency budget in the Contain Oubreak Management Fund which is currently judged to be more than sufficient to cover this financial risk for the duration of the initial pilot. The affordability and cost effectiveness of the pilots will be one of things to be accounted for in considering the scope and value of further rollout.
21. Evaluation options are currently being sourced.

### ***Latest situation***

22. A verbal update of progress and current status will be delivered to the January meeting of Committee.

### **Other Options Considered**

23. Deployment targeted at other settings and groups was considered. In some instances, these opportunities became the focus of and have been overtaken by centrally-driven LFT initiatives (e.g. testing of visitors to care homes). In other instances, it is preferable to await national

solutions to the key obstacles before investing further effort locally (e.g. regulatory approval and clinical governance arrangements to deploy “doorstep testing”). By the date Committee meets, there may already be solutions to some of these obstacles which warrant further development of our local plans.

### **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

24. To ensure that people and communities in Nottinghamshire County have access to benefits associated with technologies for asymptomatic community testing.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

25. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

### **Financial Implications**

26. There are no financial implications contained within this report.

### **RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1) To approve the plans for the deployment of asymptomatic community testing

**Jonathan Gribbin**  
**Director of Public Health**  
**Nottinghamshire County Council**

### **For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

Jonathan Gribbin  
Director of Public Health  
Nottinghamshire County Council  
Email: [jonathan.gribbin@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:jonathan.gribbin@nottscc.gov.uk)

### **Constitutional Comments (EP 24/12/2020)**

27. The recommendations fall within the remit of the Covid 19 Resilience, Recovery and Renewal Committee by virtue of its terms of reference.

### **Financial Comments (DG 05/01/2021)**

28. The costs associated with the implementation are set out in the report and will be fully funded using the contingency budget associated with the Contain Fund and by the remuneration for each test completed (which is up to £14 per test).

## Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

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Adult Social Care & Public Health Committee (14 September 2020)

[COVID-19 local outbreak control: learning and next steps](#)

Health & Wellbeing Board (2 September 2020)

[COVID-19 contain framework: a guide for local decision-makers](#)

Department of Health & Social Care (28 August 2020)

[COVID-19 local outbreak control plan](#)

Health & Wellbeing Board (24 July 2020)

[Nottinghamshire County Local Outbreak Control Plan](#)

Nottinghamshire County Council (June 2020)

Recent press releases:

- [Tier 3 remains in place for Nottinghamshire](#) (17 December 2020)
- [Director of Public Health welcomes vaccine news](#) (2 December 2020)
- [Nottinghamshire to enter Tier 3 Covid-19 Restrictions](#) (26 November 2020)
- [Nottinghamshire included in new Covid-19 testing programme](#) (10 November 2020)
- [National four-week lockdown announced by the Government](#) (1 November 2020)
- [Nottingham and Nottinghamshire move to Tier 3 Very High restrictions for Covid-19](#) (28 October 2020)
- [Council Leaders confirm move to Tier 3 restrictions](#) (26 October 2020)
- [Joint statement regarding Government talks with Nottinghamshire Leaders](#) (23 October 2020)
- [Statement from the Leader of Nottinghamshire County Council on latest Covid developments](#) (22 October 2020)
- [Statements from the Leader and Public Health Director on latest Covid situation in Nottinghamshire](#) (20 October 2020)
- [New “high” alert level announced by Government for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire](#) (12 October 2020)
- [Nottinghamshire Councils urge people to follow stricter guidelines on COVID-19](#) (7 October 2020)

## Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All

**25 January 2021****Agenda Item: 7**

## **REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, PLACE AND COMMUNITIES**

### **COVID-19 UPDATE REPORT**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To update Members on the impact of the Coronavirus crisis on the work of Nottinghamshire County Council, and the Council's response and recovery planning.

#### **Information**

2. This report is an update on Nottinghamshire County Council's (NCC) response to the coronavirus emergency. Five programmes of work are managing the response to the emergency both corporately and with partners county-wide. These are: -
  - Support for Vulnerable Adults
  - Support for Vulnerable Children and Families including Schools
  - Community Support and Resilience
  - Support for Business and the Local Economy
  - Corporate Resilience

This report provides an update on activity within these programmes, excluding 'Support for Business and the Local Economy' which is covered under separate items on this agenda.

3. It should be noted that the Council is responding to the third national lockdown in a rapidly changing environment. The information contained in this report is correct at the time of writing but may have changed subsequently. Where this is the case, updated information will be shared with Members at the Committee meeting.

#### **Support for Vulnerable Adults**

##### **Response to second wave**

4. The adult social care market continues to experience sustained pressure and fragility with significant business continuity pressures. This is in part due to underlying structural issues within adult social care but is exacerbated by workforce absence due to COVID-19 and general resilience in the workforce due to continued work in a difficult context for staff, resulting in fatigue. This is also escalating quality concerns and has led to immediate service closures over the Christmas period.
5. Care home outbreaks have significantly increased as levels of community transmission have increased. This continues to be a concern for the health and wellbeing of people residing in those homes who are more at risk of adverse consequences of COVID-19 than the general population.

6. The department has introduced a number of measures to support the social care market:
  - the care home taskforce was set up with the Clinical Commissioning Group Quality Team to manage outbreaks
  - plans to introduce a response service to support care home staffing shortages and implementation of options for securing additional staffing capacity
  - the internal Quality and Market Management Team (QMMT) have introduced 7 day working to support providers during the second wave
  - redeployment of staff within the department has been completed to support the QMMT workforce.

### COVID Vaccination

7. The Adult Social Care and Health Department has put into place appropriate capacity to support the NHS COVID Vaccination Programme. This includes practical support for planning, financial support through the Infection Control Fund and officer support to care homes for information and guidance. Care home staff are the first priority in the social care workforce and the Council has been working to support the NHS to ensure staff are vaccinated quickly and effectively.
8. Senior officers are part of the NHS programme structure to support successful local implementation of the national programme, providing both Public Health and Social Care guidance. There are plans to have delivered vaccinations for the priority one group (as directed nationally) by the end of January.

### Care Home Guidance

9. Visiting to care homes remains a key concern for people and their families. As the guidance is revised and updated, the County Council is working with care homes to ensure the guidance is understood and that care homes have procedures in place to put it into practice. This includes supporting care homes to make good use of the Infection Control Fund to enable COVID secure visiting.
10. Best practice in supporting care homes continues to be shared on a regional footprint by both Public Health and Social Care, to ensure that care homes are given the best possible support in understanding their role in visiting, testing and now vaccination.
11. Healthwatch has been commissioned by the Council to undertake work with family and carers whose loved ones are residing in care homes. The intention is to learn from their experiences, so that care homes that are struggling to engage with family members can improve and develop their approach.
12. Social care providers are reporting pressure in understanding and implementing the multiple demands being placed on them. The Council is also currently seeing an increase in the number of care homes that are closing due to quality concerns as an indirect consequence of COVID-19. With this in mind, the department will continue to deploy increased staffing resources to the Quality and Market Management Team and will continue to monitor key risks and capacity on a daily basis.



## **Support for Vulnerable Children and Families including Schools**

### **Early Years, School and College Settings**

13. Following the Prime Minister's announcement of a third national lockdown on 4 January 2021, many children and young people have stayed at home, accessing remote learning. Schools remain open for critical workers and vulnerable children and national guidance directs that nurseries and Early Years settings to remain open for all children. There has been a significant increase in the numbers of children attending education on site when compared to the first lockdown. As a result, particularly within the primary sector, it has been a challenge to ensure that numbers are minimised as much as possible, in line with Department for Education (DfE) guidance.
14. The quality and quantity of remote learning has significantly improved since the first lockdown. The expectation is that key stage 1 pupils will access three hours online education daily, increasing to four hours at key stage 2 and five hours for secondary aged children. This will include both recorded or live direct teaching and time for pupils to complete tasks and assignments independently. Since the last lockdown, there is now access to national online materials through the BBC and The Oak National Academy. There is now a statutory duty on schools to provide immediate access to remote education when necessary, which is enshrined in the Coronavirus Act 2020 (temporary continuity direction). The DfE continues to deliver IT devices to schools and headteachers have been advised by the DfE of the routes to order further devices and data packages.
15. During the autumn term, publicly funded schools in Nottinghamshire overcame significant challenges to remain open to most children and young people. Schools and wider education settings continued to experience noticeable increases in the number of positive COVID-19 cases in both children and adults throughout the second half of the term. On 15 December 2020 there were reports from 59 Nottinghamshire schools that they had at least one school bubble isolating due to COVID. Securing sufficient teaching staff became an increasing issue and in a small number of schools, whole year groups moved to remote learning. Despite this, when compared nationally, attendance at both primary and secondary remained positive. As of 18 December 2020, 87.9% of children on the roll in the county were attending school compared with a national average of 83.3%.
16. The Department for Education (DfE) published the [national COVID testing arrangements](#) for college, secondary, special and alternative provision staff and pupils on 18 December 2020. The tests, along with the necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) were delivered during the week of the 4 January 2020 to allow for the mass testing of asymptomatic staff and pupils that are in these settings from January. The asymptomatic testing programme will use lateral flow test kits to be provided at no cost, with reimbursement of reasonable support costs by NHS Test and Trace.
17. Pupils and staff will also be able to have 'serial testing' (testing every day over a number of days) if they are an identified close contact of a positive case. This will enable staff and pupils who are identified as close contacts to stay in education, rather than having to self-isolate, as long as they test negative. If at any point they test positive, they will need to leave the school site, take a further PCR COVID test (standard swab test) to confirm the result, and follow the isolation guidelines.
18. The mass testing approach was piloted in some secondary schools during November and December and participating schools spoke positively of the initiative. Feedback suggested that, although there is time involved in conducting the testing, there is also time gained by both

staff and pupils not having to self-isolate. Whilst the specific details of this national schools testing programme are not yet clear, online training will be available to support the programme from now and throughout January, so that the programme can start as soon as possible.

19. On Wednesday 13 January 2021, the Secretary of State also announced the use of home testing kits within the primary sector. Primary school staff will be asked to take tests at home rather than on site as is currently the case in special, secondary schools and colleges following the approval for home-test kits to be used by teachers. The asymptomatic testing programme does not replace current testing policy for those with symptoms. All primary schools will start to receive testing kits for staff from the 18 January 2021.
20. Testing is not mandatory for individuals within education settings and staff and children will not need to produce a negative test result, or provide proof of having taken a test, to return to school. However, testing is strongly encouraged. Early feedback from Nottinghamshire's primary and secondary schools suggests strong engagement although data is not yet available.
21. There is likely to be a short-term shortage of primary staff if staff test positive as a result of the use of asymptomatic tests. Regular testing will help break the chain of transmission by identifying asymptomatic carriers. The government is continuing to develop plans for the testing of primary school pupils. However, it is considerably more challenging to test primary children and further announcements will be made in due course.
22. Education services have continued to ensure a sharp focus on the wellbeing of headteachers, teaching staff and children through the "Wellbeing for Education Return" project. In addition to the well-being support package, bespoke opportunities for headteachers to be able to meet with a focus on wellbeing have now been implemented led by the Education Psychology Service. These '*Headteacher Wellbeing Peer Support sessions*' are now being offered to headteachers of maintained schools daily. Each session is confidential and has a maximum number of four headteachers so that the peer support discussion can be kept personal and safe.
23. Statutory primary testing and national GCSE and A levels have effectively been cancelled as a result of the third nation lockdown although the Secretary of State for Education continues to be in dialogue with the examination board about the possibility of some kind of 'mini examinations'. As was the case last year, teacher assessment will be used at both primary and secondary.
24. The COVID Winter Grant Scheme awarded £2.3 million to Nottinghamshire. The scheme has been used:
  - to provide food parcels or supermarket vouchers for all children of school age who are eligible for free school meals during the Christmas holidays. This was extended to include 2-, 3- and 4-year olds from low income groups, eligible young people in further education colleges, care leavers and eligible young people aged 19-25 who have an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP). These arrangements will be continued for February half term.
  - for Council Children's Services to provide supermarket vouchers for households with children who are struggling financially because of COVID-19 from January to the 31 March 2021.
  - to fund Nottingham Energy Partnership who will be providing support with energy and water bills to households with and without children who are struggling financially.



25. The COVID Winter Grant Scheme has also awarded £340,000 to District Councils through the Local Resilience Forum (LRF) in order to provide support for households without children to access food and essentials until the 31 March 2021. This can be accessed through the Nottinghamshire Coronavirus Community Support Hub.
26. The Holiday Activities and Food programme is being developed to provide activities and food to children and young people who are eligible for free school meals during the Easter and Summer holidays.
27. Children's Centre sites which host childcare services have remained open every day throughout the pandemic. There have been challenges for some childcare organisations who have experienced a reduced income and are struggling to pay service charges. Business rate relief was provided for early years settings, but unfortunately this did not include organisations that share a site with council services.

#### Vulnerable Children, Young People and Families

28. The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) continues to operate an "urgents only by phone" service, due to a need to ensure there is sufficient staffing capacity to manage the numbers of enquiries received. All non-urgent safeguarding concerns can continue to be referred to the MASH via the online referral form or through email. It is too early to see the impact of the current national lockdown on referrals to the MASH, although this is being monitored on a daily basis.
29. Following the announcement of the current national lockdown, weekly "check in" calls to all families receiving early help or social work support have been reinstated. In addition, early help case managers and social workers have been in contact with schools to ensure that vulnerable children are offered a school place during the lockdown. In line with government guidance, all families open to children's social care continue to receive some level of face to face contact following risk assessment, with appropriate social distancing measures in place and personal protective equipment (PPE) if necessary. Early indications are that there are higher numbers of staff either self-isolating or absent from work due to COVID-19 during this phase of the pandemic. This will continue to be monitored with contingency measures enacted as required.
30. Since the announcement of the third national lockdown, the following steps have been taken to support learners with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their families:
- All families with a child or young person who has an EHCP have received a letter from the Integrated Children's Disability Service (ICDS) providing information about access to learning during the lockdown and who to go to for support.
  - Locality vulnerable learners' co-ordination groups have been established to ensure that vulnerable learners are able to access learning whether face-to-face or remotely. Appropriate services in Children and Families will meet weekly during the period of the lockdown, and fortnightly at the end of any lockdown to manage transitions back into learning.
  - The offer to families who are unable to utilise their short break allocation to purchase equipment in lieu of the allocated hours has been extended until the end of February 2021.
31. Teams continue to innovate and adapt working practices to meet local and national restrictions during the third national lockdown, to ensure that vulnerable children and families are

supported. Twice weekly service coordination meetings have continued to take place with colleagues from other children's services and educational settings. These meetings provide an opportunity to discuss those children, young people and families most at risk and establish a coordinated response.

## **Community Support and Resilience**

### **Community Support Hub**

32. As reported to Policy Committee on 13 May 2020, the Nottinghamshire Coronavirus Community Support Hub went live on 23 March and is accessible over the phone, via the Council website or the My Notts app. The Hub provides a real-time online database, accessible to all partners, which enables residents in need of support to input their postcode and requirements and be 'served up' with a list of local groups and organisations able to meet those needs.
33. The number of hits to the Hub website reduced gradually over the summer from a peak of around 1,000 a day down to as low as about 40 a day by mid-September. More recently, this figure has been rising. In the week commencing 4 January 2021 there were over two hundred hits a day to the Hub website. Meanwhile, the content on the national lockdown is being viewed about 4,500 times a week - making it the fourth most visited page on the Council's website. COVID-19 related information is the second most visited content on the MyNotts application.
34. As at 13 January 2021, 1,379 requests for support had been received since launching the second phase of the Hub, with the numbers of requests having reduced significantly over the summer and starting to increase again from early November. There are currently 284 voluntary groups, 127 individual volunteers, 87 charity organisations, 20 online community groups and 241 businesses offering support which represents a reduction in previous numbers mainly driven by a reduction in the number of individual volunteers.
35. The Customer Services Centre have been a key component of the Local Resilience Forum (LRF) response and had significant volumes of activity between April and October, handling 23,219 incoming call relating to COVID-19 with 6,663 of these relating directly to the Community Hub. Since November, the volumes have reduced and currently the work to support CEVs is at low and manageable levels.

### **Third National Lockdown**

36. The Hub continues to provide support to those in need and although the numbers of people seeking support has reduced, there has been a small increase since the third national lockdown was initiated on 4 January 2021.
37. Because of the sharp increase in the number of infections and the re-introduction of the lockdown the Council has initiated a review, with Local Resilience Forum (LRF) partner organisations, of the various groups of people requiring support to re-affirm that we have identified and put support in place for all identified need.

### **Winter Planning**

38. Another focus of planning has been on the various scenarios that may be faced over the winter months.

39. To support winter planning, the Council has worked with colleagues from a number of areas to develop a mapping tool that contains the details of flood risk areas, gritting routes and the geographical location of the clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) people that the Council has supported over the last year. This is available to LRF partners to allow partners to analyse and quantify the impact of a situation and respond accordingly. The Hub now has additional functionality that captures and provides an analysis of the current situation for the network of food banks and other food-related organisations across the County.

#### Backpack testing

40. Work has been undertaken with Public Health to establish and operationalise a backpack testing capacity that will enable people with symptoms who are unable to travel to receive a test kit. This work is being supported by residents of Nottinghamshire who have volunteered through the Hub and who will be trained by colleagues working for the Red Cross.

#### Nottinghamshire Community Fund

41. Nottinghamshire Community Fund was launched on 31 March 2020. The fund, managed by the Council's Communities Team, is available to local charities and community organisations that are delivering essential services to vulnerable residents impacted by COVID-19, including access to food, medicines and support with well-being. By 22 October 2020, 260 awards had been made with a total value of £695,201.

42. The fund re-opened in November, with an opening balance of £305,000 and this had reduced to £257,000 when it was closed on 31 December 2020.

43. In response to the third lockdown being introduced, the fund was re-opened in January and will remain open until the end of March.

#### Local Authority Emergency Assistance Grant for Food and Essential Supplies

44. On 10 July the County Council was allocated £858,285 by the Government, in order to support people struggling to afford food and other essentials due to COVID-19. As at 12 January 2021, 57 awards to voluntary/community organisations and district/borough council partners have been made, with a value of £524k. Further work to assess funding applications and distribute funding continues.

#### Corporate Resilience

##### Workforce

45. The Corporate Leadership Team continues to engage with the workforce on a range of issues through planned, virtual question and answer sessions. This builds on the information provided in the employee survey in June 2020 and continues to inform the Workforce Resilience and Recovery Strategy and Action Plan approved by Personnel Committee in November 2020.

46. The Workforce Resilience and Recovery Group, led by the Service Director Customers, Governance and Employees continues to meet regularly and has prioritised a number of workstreams focussing on overarching internal communication and engagement, employee health and well-being, reward and recognition and smarter working. These strands of work will enable the council to be prepared for whatever the future of work becomes.

47. Work is underway to rollout the vaccination programme and Council employees have been invited to volunteer to support this process in a variety of roles. The Council is also now facilitating our priority workers to receive the vaccine as the programme is rolled out. All members of the workforce are strongly encouraged to take up the offer to be vaccinated when they are contacted to do so as the best means of mitigating the ongoing risk presented.
48. Regular discussions continue with the recognised trade unions and the self-managed groups to provide a forum to raise issues and share information relating to the pandemic. Recent discussions have focussed on the need to regularly review and refresh risk assessments; maintaining COVID-secure workplaces and the revised information for the clinically extremely vulnerable. All the Frequently Asked Questions for managers and employees were reviewed and refreshed at the beginning of December and continue to be considered as the advice from the Government changes.
49. The work undertaken early in the pandemic on emergency redeployment is also being refreshed to ensure all roles are filled as effectively as possible. There are issues arising from the capacity in schools with many working parents having to home school once again. We continue to support these colleagues undertaking their work roles and educating their children and the Council's flexible working approach is a key enabler in this respect.

#### Council Premises

50. The Property and Premises Recovery Group continues to meet weekly. The group includes officers from across the Council looking to guide and support the safe use of Council premises during restrictions, both the central office estate and the operational portfolio. This group is overseeing the response to the third national lockdown to ensure buildings are operating in line with restrictions or close where necessary.
51. Council offices have remained open for staff who cannot work from home. During the third national lockdown, managers are working with staff to ensure that wherever possible those that can work from home do so.

#### Disruption to Services

52. In order to adhere to government guidance on social distancing and release Council resources to support COVID-19 priorities, many public-facing service areas have faced disruption or closure. The current status of these services during the third national lockdown, is outlined in the table below.

Service	Status
Youth Services	<p>Open access Youth Work provision is not operating during the third national lockdown. As our Youth Work offer is regulated, and classed as an essential service to support young people and to provide a safety net for those most in need, the service continues to deliver youth work to young people most in need through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online Youth Work and virtual youth offer</li> <li>• Outreach and Youth Work Intervention within local communities</li> <li>• 1:1 youth work intervention</li> <li>• Youth work from our Young People's Centres to support groups of young people. This will be for a bubble of up to 15 young people plus staff, and will be for specific groups of young people who have been invited and booked into the youth work session.</li> </ul>

Library Services	From 4 January 2021 libraries have been closed in line with national regulations. Click and collect, home delivery and mobile library services are continuing. Access to computers for essential purposes is being provided by appointment at seven sites.
Outdoor Education Services	<p>Outdoor education residential centres are currently closed for overnight stays and day visits for schools. The Department for Education will be reviewing this guidance for school visits at the end of February 2021 for an anticipated Easter opening.</p> <p>Virtual School Adventures are being offered to schools. These contain short videos - featuring the team- of Robin Hood, Viking and WWII Themed days which are shared with a school, then followed up with live question and answer sessions with the school pupils via Microsoft Teams. With the current lockdown in place, the Virtual Outdoor Learning Teaching Support (VOLTs) will be offered to schools for activities that will support teaching children of critical workers.</p>
School Swimming	<p>At present the service is unable to operate as both leisure centres and schools are temporarily closed during the third national lockdown. Once this lockdown period ends, the service will resume following the procedures and protocols put in place in the autumn term and in line with Government guidance.</p> <p>Contact is being maintained with schools and partners and the Council continues to develop and provide schools with a range of in-school packages.</p>
Day Services	During the third national lockdown Day Services continue to offer a transitional service which is a blend of building based services, outreach services and virtual support. This service is providing vital respite for carers and opportunities for adults to engage in activity outside the home.
Country Parks and green spaces	Country Parks and their car parks remain open, with limited facilities, for local exercise purposes only. In line with Government Guidance, to help prevent the spread of coronavirus cases, Nottinghamshire residents are being encouraged not to travel outside of their immediate local area, i.e. their town, village or part of the city in which they live, to visit any green space sites or public attractions, including Country Parks
Children's Centres	<p>All 17 main Children's Centre sites remain open Monday to Friday and satellite sites open to host targeted face to face appointments and support groups. Only prearranged appointments and group sessions are provided on site with activities also being undertaken outdoors and in family homes where it is safe to do so.</p> <p>All buildings are now COVID secure and this has enabled external partners to also provide clinics and targeted services on site including midwifery clinics, health screens and assessments and social care contact work.</p>
Recycling Centres	All 12 of our recycling centres for household waste currently remain open. However, during the third national lockdown residents are encouraged to only visit if it is essential.
Registration Services	Main Registration Offices remain open to the public for essential functions. In-person registration of birth and notice of marriage appointments are available on a limited basis under COVID-safe conditions. The registrations of still births and deaths continues to be permitted by



	telephone using easements under the Coronavirus Act 2020. Marriage and civil partnership ceremonies are only permitted under exceptional circumstance such as in cases of imminent terminal illness.
Music Teaching	Services continue to operate in agreement with individual schools.
Inspire learning study programmes	Young people continue to be supported to complete vocational courses remotely, with onsite provision for vulnerable young people.
Inspire learning adult education programme	A range of online programmes are currently being provided. Face to face teaching is suspended during the third national lockdown.
Archives	Online enquiry, research and reprographic services remain available. Visit to archives are currently suspended during the third national lock down.

## Other Options Considered

53. The nature of the Coronavirus emergency is such that the Council has reviewed its priorities and use of resources to address the most critical needs of Nottinghamshire's residents. The Council must also comply with relevant Government guidance and meet its statutory duties as required during the emergency.

## Reason for Recommendations

54. To update members on the Council's ongoing response to the Coronavirus emergency.

## Statutory and Policy Implications

55. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

## Financial Implications

56. All Local Authorities are required by the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government to report their forecast financial impact of the COVID-19 emergency on a monthly basis. The most recent DELTA 8 submission from Nottinghamshire County Council identified a total estimated spending pressure of £78m (gross of additional specific grants) in the current financial year. The next submission, DELTA 9, is due at the end of January 2021.

57. The additional pressures on the 2020/21 budget are offset by the main COVID-19 grant allocations received from Central Government, and a range of additional specific grants and allocations to offset lost income. Details of the impact on the 2021/22 budget will be included in reports to Finance and Major Contracts Management Committee and Full Council in February 2021.

58. All of the additional costs, lost income and grant funding, together with ongoing pressures and savings options, have been incorporated into an updated Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) which was presented to Finance and Major Contracts Management Committee on 30 November 2020 as part of a Budget Update Report.

59. Monthly reports setting out the latest forecast position, including the impact of COVID 19 on income and additional costs, are reported to Finance and Major Contract Management Committee on a monthly basis.

### **Safeguarding of Children and Adults at Risk Implications**

60. The safeguarding of vulnerable children and adults is at the centre of decision making around operating models and reopening of services in Children's and Adults services and services continue to operate with the same standards of care.

### **Implications for Service Users**

61. While there continues to be some disruptions to services through the Council's response to COVID-19, the aim has been to maintain the welfare and safety of all services users at all times.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1) That Members approve and endorse the continuing efforts of services to ensure effective service provision during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- 2) That Members consider whether they require any further actions in relation to the issues contained within the report.
- 3) That Members agree to receive further updates at subsequent meetings.

**Derek Higton**  
**Service Director, Place and Communities**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:** Derek Higton, Service Director, Place and Communities, T: 0115 9773498

### **Constitutional Comments (AK 13/1/2020)**

62. This report falls within the remit of the COVID 19 Resilience, Recovery and Renewal Committee by virtue of its terms of reference.

### **Financial Comments (KRP 17/12/2020)**

63. As noted in the report the full financial implications of COVID 19 are reported to Finance and Major Contracts Management Committee on a monthly basis.

### **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- None

**Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

- All



**25 January 2021****Agenda Item: 8****REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR, PLACE****PROGRESS ON THE COVID-19 CRISIS ECONOMIC RECOVERY ACTION PLAN  
(JANUARY 2021)****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is twofold, to:
  - a) provide an update on the work the Council and its partners are undertaking in relation to the COVID-19 crisis Economic Recovery Action Plan 2020-2022.
  - b) introduce members to the Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Local Enterprise Partnership (D2N2 LEP) vision for recovery and growth.

**Information**

2. An ambitious economic recovery action plan to get the economy of Nottinghamshire back on its feet in the wake of COVID-19 and which feeds in to the Government's national recovery plan, was launched in September 2020. Nottinghamshire County Council recognised its role in helping repair the immediate economic and social damage brought about by the coronavirus pandemic. As a result of swift and decisive on-the-ground action undertaken by the Council, post-COVID-19 Nottinghamshire will be more digital, greener, resilient and prepared for the current and forthcoming challenges.
3. The COVID-19 crisis Economic Recovery Action Plan contains an unprecedented package of measures to be delivered by partners locally and nationally to get businesses up and trading again, restore business, consumer and community confidence, and support for those who do lose their jobs. One size does not fit all, and the COVID-19 crisis Economic Recovery Action Plan reflects local circumstances and priorities in different areas.
4. The Council recognises that getting the economy back on its feet will not be achieved by one partner alone or by one strand of investment or actions. The economy is most successful when different organisations, partners and stakeholders work together for the benefit of the people who live, learn, work and visit in Nottinghamshire.
5. Nottinghamshire County Council continues to make rapid progress. As confirmed in the following paragraph, since the launch of the COVID-19 crisis Economic Recovery Action Plan, over £11,403,000 of new money has been secured to help stimulate the economy and directly impact the residential and business community of Nottinghamshire. A progress update, based on the five themes of people, business, visitor economy, infrastructure and place, and which covers the ensuing 83 days since last reported to Members, is provided at **Appendix A**.

## Action the Council and its partners are undertaking

6. Work has continued at pace in terms of the actions outlined in the COVID-19 crisis Economic Recovery Action Plan. Key highlights since the last update include:
- 98.4% of residential and business premises can access superfast internet speeds of above 24 megabits per second (24Mbps). This is compared to 96.6% superfast coverage for the United Kingdom. 17.11% of premises can now switch to gigabit speeds of up to 1000Mbps (a 3.15% increase since the last report). Early foresight by Nottinghamshire County Council to invest in high-speed digital infrastructure has meant that completing schoolwork at home and home working during the COVID-19 outbreak, has been a reality for most of the County's population that need to do so. Nottinghamshire remains in the top three most-digitally connected counties in the country and continues to exceed Government targets
  - The £4.3M Warm Homes Hub programme is now being rolled out across the County. The fund is split into three broad categories: new gas heating systems for urban homes and communities, non-gas solutions for rural homes and communities, and specific energy efficient/health related solutions. Whilst COVID-19 restrictions have resulted in project delivery being behind target, progress nevertheless is being made. To date, there has been eight new gas heating system installations with a further 25 households going through the process. In addition, E.ON are planning delivery to a site of 72 Flats - designs are being drawn up for 72 individual gas central heating systems, alongside a complete district heating network. A further 837 households have been supported against the 1,000 households target. Encouragingly, this support has achieved 60% of its target level of savings for residents
  - An extra £1M (serving an additional 100+ homes at least) was secured from Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) through the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Scheme to retrofit homes
  - A bid is currently under consideration by Government for an additional £2.3M to facilitate insulation or low carbon heating measures to more communities under the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Phase 1B. This means the residents of Nottinghamshire will have help to pay for insulation, double glazing and more. If successful, not only will Nottinghamshire boast more energy efficient homes, some of the most vulnerable residents in the County will save on their heating bills too
  - The employment and skills portal was launched to bring together information to help people access support whether they were working, furloughed or looking for a job. Since launching, there have been 631 unique users of the portal
  - The transfer of Council Levy funds to its Apprenticeship Training Agency to support the employment of further apprenticeships, with a focus on supporting Looked After Children, Care Leavers and other vulnerable groups of young people and adults. Approved to date are 22 apprenticeships ranging from lead adult care worker (Level two) to senior leader's master's degree (level seven) with a levy transfer value of £323,000 (i.e. 15.% increase since last reported to Members)
  - The Council's Business Advisers have continued to engage with Nottinghamshire businesses. Over 1,400 Nottinghamshire businesses have been provided with direct one-to-one support, alongside webinar-based advice

- Work is underway with Minor 2 Major partners to put in place a range of opportunities for traineeships, apprenticeships and Kickstart roles. Work is underway to offer heritage skills training for Inspire 16 – 19 construction students
- The Department for Transport (DfT) has recently announced that it has allocated £2.18m towards the County Council's Active Travel Fund Tranche 2 proposals
- £3.6M investment as part of the Government's 'Getting Building Fund' on the new 5G Enabled Digital Centre in North Nottinghamshire and the Lindhurst Development, Mansfield

#### The Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Local Enterprise Partnership (D2N2 LEP) Vision for Recovery and Growth

7. The D2N2 LEP plays a central role in deciding local economic priorities and undertaking activities to drive economic growth and create local jobs. The D2N2 LEP has recently set out its vision for Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire's future development, focusing on a green recovery and growth.
8. Looking ahead at future opportunities, the ambition is to unlock the expertise, creativity and political backing to make a move to zero-carbon a reality based on three guiding principles: clean growth, productivity and connectivity. The plan is to lead the most ambitious carbon economy turn-around in the country.
9. The D2N2 LEP's recovery and growth strategy, which sets out the organisation's vision and ambition for the future is available to view online at:  
[https://d2n2lep.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Recovery-Strategy-2020-V9\\_FINAL\\_Min.pdf](https://d2n2lep.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Recovery-Strategy-2020-V9_FINAL_Min.pdf)

#### **Other Options Considered**

10. Routine progress updates were requested to be presented to this Committee. In so doing, they provide the opportunity for Members to identify and suggest areas for priority or future activities. Therefore the 'do nothing' option was discounted.

#### **Reason for Recommendations**

11. The Council recognises the need to be agile in its approach, to enable a switch from recovery to response mode in the event of further lockdowns or to respond to potential issues caused by the ending of Government support packages. The COVID-19 crisis Economic Recovery Action Plan is a 'live plan' with the Council responding to changing circumstance and the latest business intelligence. It is important that Members continue to monitor the situation and adapt as necessary as Nottinghamshire moves towards a new normal.

#### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

12. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

## **Financial Implications**

13. There are no financial implications arising as a result of this report.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

14. In recognising that Nottinghamshire County Council acted swiftly and decisively in launching its COVID-19 crisis Economic Recovery Action Plan, it is recommended that the COVID-19 Resilience, Recovery and Renewal Committee:

- 1) Celebrates the fact that in excess of £11.4 million pounds of new money has been secured over a two-month period, towards leading the way out of the crisis and laying the foundations for a modern and more sustainable county.
- 2) Considers whether there are further actions required in relation to the progress on the COVID-19 crisis Economic Recovery Plan.

**Adrian Smith**  
**Corporate Director, Place**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:** Nicola M<sup>c</sup>Coy-Brown, Growth and Economic Development ext. 72580

## **Constitutional Comments (CEH 18/12/2020)**

15. This report falls within the remit of the COVID-19 Resilience, Recovery and Renewal Committee.

## **Financial Comments (SES 18/12/2020)**

16. There are no specific financial implications arising directly from this report.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.


- *Update on the economy and progress with the economic recovery action plan 2020-2022*, Report to COVID-19 Resilience, Recovery and Renewal Committee, published on 3 November 2020 <https://cutt.ly/KjkdSrO>

## **Electoral Divisions and Members Affected**

- All

# COVID-19 RESILIENCE, RENEWAL AND RECOVERY COMMITTEE: ECONOMIC RECOVERY UPDATE

Status:	
Not yet started	<input type="checkbox"/>
Active	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Active but paused	<input type="checkbox"/>
Completed	<input type="checkbox"/>





Theme	Timeline	Business Goal	Specific actions	January 2021 Update
	Between now and March 2021	Job creation programme	Support the hardest-hit sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Measures aimed at supporting a green recovery:</b> in response to the economic impacts of COVID-19, the Council continues to offer creative improvements to the housing stock, reinforcing Nottinghamshire as a great place to live, work, visit and relax. Recent approvals will help some of Nottinghamshire's more vulnerable fuel-poor households living in poorly insulated homes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The <b>£4.3M Warm Homes Hub</b> two-year partnership with EoN and local authority partners means eligible homeowners and tenants (+ 500 houses) will be able to improve the warmth and comfort of their home and benefit from free services such as grid connection and first-time central heating. While halted initially due to COVID-19, the programme is now being rolled out across the County. To date, there has been eight new gas heating system installations with a further 25 households going through the process. In addition, E.ON are planning delivery to a site of 72 Flats - designs are being drawn up for 72 individual gas central heating systems, alongside a complete district heating network. A further 837 households have been supported against the 1,000 households target. An extra £1M (serving an additional 100+ homes at least) was secured for additional measures.</li> <li>- A bid is currently under consideration by Government for an additional £2.3M to facilitate additional energy efficiency measures to more communities under the <b>Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Phase 1B</b>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Online Micro Provider event</b> took place on 20 January 2021 for those who are looking to set up a social care business or looking for ways to grow their business.</li> </ul> <p><b>STATUS: ACTIVE</b></p>
			Job creation and training guarantees to tackle youth unemployment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Employment and skills portal</b> to bring together information to help people access support whether they are working, furloughed or looking for a job was launched: <a href="https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/jobs-and-working/employment-and-skills-portal">https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/jobs-and-working/employment-and-skills-portal</a></li> <li>• <b>D2N2 Recruiting Talent workshops</b> are being supported and promoted by the Council, with the aim of educating attendees about the current landscape of employment in the county, advocating the benefits of inclusive recruitment, and offering advice on how to find hidden pools of talent. Current Recruiting Talent Workshops are planned on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 17 February 2021 - Mansfield/Ashfield</li> <li>- 17 March 2021 – Bassetlaw</li> <li>- 21 April 2021 – Rushcliffe</li> </ul> For further information and to book go to the <a href="https://bbo-d2n2.org.uk/resources/recruiting_talent_in_nottinghamshire_events/">Recruiting Talent Eventbrite: https://bbo-d2n2.org.uk/resources/recruiting_talent_in_nottinghamshire_events/</a></li> <li>• Collaboration continues with the <b>Department for Work and Pensions</b> on the creation of 'Youth Hubs' with a trailblazer in Mansfield and other areas to follow.</li> <li>• The three-year <b>D2N2 Skills Access Hub</b> (running until 30 September 2023) is now live and offers businesses free impartial advice from experienced Skills Advisors to help local businesses identify and address the skills gaps in their workforce. So far: two Nottinghamshire SMEs have enrolled, with 14 participants identified to be upskilled and develop new skills</li> </ul> <p><b>STATUS: ACTIVE</b></p>
		Nottinghamshire workforce development	Accelerate take-up of Nottinghamshire County Council's Apprenticeship Levy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Futures:</b> An agreement was reached in September 2020 to transfer Council Levy funds to its Apprenticeship Training Agency in order to support the employment of further apprenticeships through this mechanism (which removes barriers to small to medium-sized enterprises (SME) engagement). The focus will primarily be to support Looked After Children, Care Leavers and other vulnerable groups of young people and adults to progress into an Apprenticeship; Futures are currently working to source apprenticeship opportunities for the first cohort of 8 learners who meet these criteria.</li> </ul>




# COVID-19 RESILIENCE, RENEWAL AND RECOVERY COMMITTEE: ECONOMIC RECOVERY UPDATE

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are plans afoot to recruit another Regulatory Compliance Officer apprentice. The recruitment process started this month.</li> </ul> <div>STATUS: ACTIVE</div>
			Optimise outcomes from the Council's investment in the Festival of Science and Curiosity (FOSAC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A range of introductions have been made to support partnership development to link the Festival with other activity and extend the reach into Nottinghamshire. Careers events will begin in schools from Jan; 7 primary schools already involved in curiosity projects. Most Festival events will now take place online 8 – 17 February, and schools work will continue for the rest of the academic year. Public events currently in development involving County areas in Ashfield, Mansfield, Broxtowe, Newark and Sherwood, Gedling, Bassetlaw and Rushcliffe. Details are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Wollaton Watch filming: Wollaton Watch will feature footage from nature around Nottinghamshire as well as contributions from young people, schools and wildlife volunteers celebrating and protecting the environment in our county.</li> <li>✓ Already underway - Newstead &amp; Annesley Country Park, Strawberry Hill Heath, Rainworth Heath, Sherwood Forest with young RSPB volunteer, Newstead Abbey, Attenborough Nature Reserve</li> <li>✓ Planned for January - Bestwood Country Park, The Oakham/The Meden Trail, Rushcliffe Country Park,</li> <li>✓ Open Dome event with Sherwood Observatory on Sat 11 Feb, window display in Idlewells centre with Sherwood Observatory,</li> <li>✓ Contact being made with Vision West Notts, Southwell Minster, Blidworth Art Club, Farnsfield Beavers, Oasis Community Centre in Worksop</li> <li>✓ 100 science busking packs available for free collection from Mansfield, Sutton and Kirkby libraries - to take part in Make-A-Long session in FOSAC</li> <li>✓ Microscopy Image trail in Newark and Southwell</li> <li>✓ Sustainability Panel Online to include Martin Rigley and Hockerton Housing Project event</li> <li>✓ Piece by artist Stacey Moon to be exhibited in Mansfield library</li> <li>✓ Museum of Timekeeping, Upton to write piece for article and share videos</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <div>STATUS: ACTIVE</div>
			Bolster the D2N2 LEP Redeployment Triage Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Futures:</b> The Futures' Employment &amp; Redundancy Support team have, since April, worked with 19 County employers looking to support their employees through the redundancy process, providing support sessions and skills training to all employees affected. Employment support has been provided to 2,332 Nottinghamshire residents since January 2020, of which 1,124 have progressed into a job or a learning outcome.</li> <li><b>Futures:</b> are leading an £8M European Social Fund (ESF) project 'Well for Work' (in which the Council is also a delivery partner), which will see a dedicated team of employment advisers and business engagement managers working alongside Council public health teams to support unemployed residents with health conditions into sustainable employment.</li> <li><b>Futures:</b> have recently secured additional funding from the National Careers Service to provide employability and skills support to those made redundant, seeking work and retraining. Over the course of the next 17 months, this intervention is expected to support a further 956 Nottinghamshire residents into work.</li> </ul> <div>STATUS: ACTIVE</div>
Between March 2020 and October 2022	Employment and Skills	Stronger links between schools and employers through work shadowing programmes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Inspire:</b> Sector Based Work Academy Programme and expansion of Study Programme provision. Inspire is building links with local employers and the DWP to provide vocational training and guaranteed job interviews in sectors like Health and Social Care. Inspire is expanding its Study Programme Provision to 16 to 24 year olds in response to the crisis. In particular new courses in Health and Social Care and construction have been developed to give young people the skills to gain employment in expanding local employment sectors.</li> <li><b>Futures:</b> employ Council/Careers and Enterprise Company (CEC)-funded School Enterprise Coordinators who are now working with 49 schools and have sourced 45 Enterprise Advisers (employer representatives) to work with them directly. The 2 relevant "Gatsby" benchmarks these schools are working towards are numbers 5 ('Encounters with employers') and 6 ('Experience of workplaces'); 61% of schools have now achieved the former (with 32% working towards it) and 52% the latter (with 43% working towards it).</li> </ul>

# COVID-19 RESILIENCE, RENEWAL AND RECOVERY COMMITTEE: ECONOMIC RECOVERY UPDATE








				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Futures:</b> are leading a £3M ESF project 'Unlocking Potential Hub' (in which the Council is also a delivery partner), which will expand the work of the CEC Enterprise Coordinators and provide an online portal to link Nottinghamshire schools, colleges and youth services with local employers and support the careers and employability agenda amongst young people transitioning from full-time education to the world of work. Delivery commences in February 2021.</li> <li>• <b>Futures:</b> have secured ESF funding to support young people that are NEET (i.e. a person who is unemployed and not receiving an education or vocational training) and have additional support needs in D2N2 through a new project to called 'Skills for the Future'. This project is worth £500,000 and will help vulnerable young people into further education and employment, with delivery commencing in early 2021.</li> </ul> <div>  <b>STATUS: ACTIVE</b> </div>
	Between now and March 2021	Investment programme	Enhanced business support programme tailored to business needs in light of new restrictions announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An overview of the approach to support Nottinghamshire small to medium sized enterprises (SMEs) impacted by coronavirus (COVID-19) and availability of funds was taken to the Policy Committee on 13 January 2020.</li> <li>• The Council's Business Advisers have continued to engage with Nottinghamshire businesses. Since March 2020, over 1,400 Nottinghamshire businesses have been provided with direct one-to-one support, alongside webinar-based advice, being a mix of COVID-19 related support and supporting broader growth inquiries.</li> <li>• The Council continues to influence provision through its partnership with the D2N2 Growth Hub and review the emerging and changing needs in the context of evolving Government financial support and any new announcements.</li> <li>• Whilst Trading Standards has not received many complaints from businesses regarding COVID-scams, the <i>Business Against Scams</i> online training session and web page which was launched by National Trading Standards at the beginning of the pandemic through comms and our partners has been publicised: <a href="https://www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk/BAS">https://www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk/BAS</a></li> <li>• Trading Standards will be building upon links with the D2N2 Growth Hub and Better Business for All (BBfA) to promote take up of Primary Authority partnerships and business advice. This will support existing businesses to diversify and flourish, as well as support new start-up businesses. the service continues support to Primary Authority and other businesses in relation to interpretation and implementation of rapidly changing Coronavirus business restrictions legislation.</li> <li>• The Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) focus on key issues surrounding Government measures to protect the public during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Their recommended model will be deployed to connect Nottinghamshire businesses into Trading Standards business support.</li> <li>• Extensive public relations campaign underway to ensure the Nottinghamshire food and drink sector business support toolkit reached as large an audience as possible</li> </ul> <div>  <b>STATUS: ACTIVE</b> </div>
			Inward Investment Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Via East Midlands are in the process of forming a partnership with Cheesecake Energy Ltd</b> to demonstrate a world first energy storage system at Bilsthorpe Depot. Cheesecake Energy, a spin-out from the University of Nottingham and backed by Shell and Highways England, has developed a state-of-the-art energy storage system that could have a profound impact on the UK's transition to a greener future. The system is expected to be up and running in Spring 2021 and will be used to store solar energy, generated at the depot to charge Via's first few electric vehicles. It will also be used to charge the County Council's electric bus fleet, purchased through the low emission bus scheme and maintained by Via at Bilsthorpe Depot.</li> <li>• A review of the <b>options for supporting new investment</b> from local, UK and foreign based investors is on-going, exploring how best the Council can maximise the opportunities for expansion and inward investment, alongside the relationship between established investment agencies and the new Development Corporation.</li> </ul> <div>  <b>STATUS: ACTIVE</b> </div>

# COVID-19 RESILIENCE, RENEWAL AND RECOVERY COMMITTEE: ECONOMIC RECOVERY UPDATE


			Align support with opportunities available via commercial developers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The above review expands on the already positive relationship with several commercial developers bringing forward employment sites and premises. This will be linked with a review of employment land for the Local Planning process, being facilitated by Lichfields, a planning consultancy and with the Infrastructure Plan currently under development.</li> </ul> <div>STATUS: ACTIVE</div>
			Actions coming out of Council commissioned report into sustainable low carbon opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two commissions are being undertaken with <u>Localis</u> (a) facilitating a set of stakeholder sessions this month on supporting the Council explore a green recovery and to offer best practice ideas, linked with other Council developments and aligned with the Environmental Strategy (b) developing a toolkit to help businesses adopt low carbon / energy efficiency initiatives that help minimise costs and harmful emissions. This is now being reviewed with University of Nottingham and a joint approach is being explored.</li> </ul> <div>STATUS: ACTIVE</div>
	Between March 2020 and October 2022	Use of digital technologies to improve business productivity	Promote 5G Turbine Digital Hub	<p>Following the funding and kick-off announcement on 2 December, to account for the installation of the new fibre connectivity, the next external announcement is scheduled for mid-February.</p> <div>STATUS: ACTIVE</div>
			Promote Growth Hub scale-up and innovation programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In addition to the <b>Scale-Up initiative</b> <a href="https://www.d2n2growthhub.co.uk/grow/scale-up-support/">https://www.d2n2growthhub.co.uk/grow/scale-up-support/</a> and related sector and university-based support, the Business Advisers work with Nottinghamshire companies supporting their growth ambitions with applications to the <b>Business Investment Fund</b>. The Council's Business Advisers support businesses in drafting their applications and advise on the criteria. Over the first two quarters of 2020, 43 Nottinghamshire businesses benefitted from its investment: <a href="https://www.d2n2growthhub.co.uk/grow/managing-finance/funding-for-your-business/access-to-local-finance/d2n2-business-investment-fund/">https://www.d2n2growthhub.co.uk/grow/managing-finance/funding-for-your-business/access-to-local-finance/d2n2-business-investment-fund/</a></li> </ul> <div>STATUS: ACTIVE</div>
	Between now and March 2021	Develop and promote a refreshed marketable brand for Nottinghamshire	A high-quality year-round programme that links to the Visitor Economy Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Learning how Nottinghamshire is connected to the voyage of the Mayflower 400 years ago:</b> A Pilgrim Adventure is an exciting new augmented reality activity book aimed at children that allows them to discover the fascinating story of how William Brewster, a boy from Nottinghamshire, helped to change the world.</li> <li>A digital version of A Pilgrim Adventure is available for download at: <a href="https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/2885813/apilgrimadventure.pdf">https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/2885813/apilgrimadventure.pdf</a></li> </ul> <div>STATUS: ACTIVE</div>
			Support Visitor Economy hubs with partners to generate additional income	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Holme Pierrepont:</b> selected leisure services have been re-opened in line with Tier 3 restrictions. The Country Park continues to be very popular, with a significant increase in footfall recorded during the pandemic. Work has been ongoing to support the preparations for the return of the site's extensive programme of sport events and camps later in 2021, as COVID-19 recovery progresses locally and nationally.</li> <li><b>Sherwood:</b> have recently been successful in acquiring a license to sell Robin Hood and Maid Marion marketed alcoholic beverages from local producers. Throughout the pandemic, to maximise visitor experience in a COVID-secure environment, Sherwood have also invested in adapting the site and its facilities, such as improving hot food storage to broaden the takeaway offer available to visitors. Events have also been and continue to be adapted, with lessons from the success of the Halloween Trail being incorporated into plans for this year's Christmas Trail. Good practice from the pandemic will continue to be considered in future planning.</li> <li><b>Rufford:</b> a bid has been submitted for Rural Development Programme funding to extend the Adventure Play Area and put in some toilet facilities; this would deliver additional income through increased secondary spend. Part of the Undercroft has now reopened to visitors after being closed for several months. Significantly increased footfall and demand during the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the great and continuing importance of Rufford as a heritage location and green space critical to the mental and physical wellbeing of residents and visitors.</li> </ul> <div>STATUS: ACTIVE</div>
			Programme of arts and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work underway with the Captivate Cultural Education Partnership (part of Inspire Youth Arts) for Ashfield and Mansfield through a seat on the</li> </ul>






# COVID-19 RESILIENCE, RENEWAL AND RECOVERY COMMITTEE: ECONOMIC RECOVERY UPDATE

Between March 2020 and October 2022	Preservation, development and use of our assets	in libraries through Inspire	<p>Captivate Board and development of the <b>Get This project</b>. <i>Get This</i> provides arts and cultural opportunities specifically for Looked After Children aged 8 to 19 years to boost confidence, support mental health and wellbeing, and give them an opportunity to produce, shape and take part in the arts</p> <p> <b>STATUS: ACTIVE</b></p>
		Network of local cycling infrastructure to link visitor attractions, including well signed trails and circular routes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Miner2Major Connecting Trails project</b> – survey methodology created, some trails related online engagement delivered but training and survey work remains on hold until it is safe to carry out with volunteers.</li> </ul> <p> <b>STATUS: ACTIVE BUT PAUSED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Expression of interest submitted to D2N2 LEP</b> for funding to restore the Calverton former mineral line and provide a safe, off-road bridleway/ cycle route from Bestwood to Calverton, linking through to Sherwood Forest and attractions such as Papplewick Pumping Station. Working with VIA to undertake feasibility study.</li> </ul> <p> <b>STATUS: ACTIVE</b></p>
		Work with partners to develop tourism cycling opportunities across D2N2 area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Following determination of the <b>Council's priorities for cycling investment</b> at 3 September 2020 Communities and Place Committee, design work has been commissioned on several potential routes for future investment.</li> <li>The <b>Transforming Cities Fund programme</b> is scheduled to be considered at a future Policy Committee meeting.</li> </ul> <p> <b>STATUS: ACTIVE</b></p>
		Capital investment in Phase 3 of the Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre to create a well-signed visitor entry point and tourism route via the A614 road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In 2018, the Secretary of Transport announced that £18m of funding would be allocated to the Council for a major scheme to improve the road network along the A614 and A6097 corridor between Ollerton and Lowdham. A <b>dedicated webpage on the A614 development</b> has been created on the Council's website: <a href="https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/roads/a614">https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/roads/a614</a></li> <li>Building upon last summer's six consultation events, from 2-22 November 2020, residents were able to have their say on the new design. Restrictions due to COVID-19 meant that <b>public consultation events</b> were replaced with two virtual consultation rooms where residents could view the revised proposals and scheme drawings before having their say. The virtual consultation rooms were accessed by visiting: <a href="https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/roads/a614">https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/roads/a614</a></li> </ul> <p> <b>STATUS: ACTIVE</b></p>
		Business case for investing in a visitor friendly bus route from Nottingham city to Sherwood Forest using existing services and Sherwood livery buses	<p> <b>STATUS: NOT YET STARTED</b></p>
		Develop and deliver heritage-led regeneration projects and training programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Miner2Major</b> - Work underway with M2M partners to put in place a range of opportunities for traineeships, apprenticeships and Kickstart roles. Heritage building surveys currently paused in line with Covid-19 restrictions but could begin in the Spring. In the interim, content being created for online heritage skills training. Work underway to offer heritage skills training for Inspire 16 – 19 construction students. An on-line training programme is now being delivered, following stakeholder needs survey of heritage tourism partners. <a href="https://miner2major.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/">https://miner2major.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/</a></li> <li><b>Townscape Heritage Initiative programme for Mansfield</b> - specialist input and financial support continues for the Mansfield District Council-led project (Market Place and Leeming Street).</li> </ul> <p> <b>STATUS: ACTIVE</b></p>
		Maximise benefits of the 5G Connected Forest project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exploratory meetings continue around <b>testing semi-autonomous vehicles to transport visitors</b>, particularly those with mobility issues to Sherwood Forest.</li> </ul>



# COVID-19 RESILIENCE, RENEWAL AND RECOVERY COMMITTEE: ECONOMIC RECOVERY UPDATE

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Augmented reality (AR) projects at Rufford and Sherwood</b> - heritage input has been provided to the content development to support script writing and filming.</li> </ul> <div>STATUS: ACTIVE</div>
	Between now and March 2021	Prioritise investment and the development of post COVID-19 infrastructure in Nottinghamshire	Submit appropriate projects to the D2N2 LEP reserve list of future propositions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work continues with the D2N2 LEP to <b>identify and secure funding needed to support County projects</b> for economic growth and recovery. This includes aligning the vision of the Council with the emerging <b>UK Shared Prosperity Fund</b> (the funding to replace European Structural Funds) and the new £4 billion <b>Levelling Up Fund</b>.</li> </ul> <div>STATUS: ACTIVE</div>
			Publish a Nottinghamshire Infrastructure Plan covering: energy efficient and SMART homes; employment and skills; digital, public transport and road connectivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work almost complete on a geographic information system (GIS) to gather, manage, and analyse data. As is a <b>Strategic Infrastructure Plan</b> which will set out Nottinghamshire's high-level infrastructure priorities for the next 10 years.</li> </ul> <div>STATUS: ACTIVE</div>
			Launch a gigabit broadband voucher scheme in early September 2020, running until March 2021 to increase our current county coverage of 13.66%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social media campaign launched around the <b>Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme</b>.</li> <li>39 individual group schemes with over 2,000 premises in Nottinghamshire have been assisted and currently discussing options with their chosen internet service suppliers.</li> <li>Gigabit coverage continues to rise and is currently <b>17.11%</b> (i.e. up 3.15% since 3 November 2020 update). Virgin media's cable network currently covers 71.72%.</li> </ul> <div>STATUS: COMPLETED</div>
			Commence delivery of the £3.6m investment as part of the Government's Getting Building Fund on two key projects for the county: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The new 5G Enabled Digital Centre</li> <li>Lindhurst Development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>The new Digital Innovation Centre</b> showcasing the latest in augmented and virtual reality and 5G-related innovations will be created at Nottinghamshire County Council's Worksop Turbine Centre. The Centre will benefit from £592,000 from the Getting Building Fund which will be used to comprehensively upgrade the existing digital IT infrastructure of the centre, boosting the productivity of the more than 40 businesses already on site, and creating new high-skilled jobs. The programme of investment is being used to improve digital infrastructure; support skills and career opportunities; and the transition to a low carbon economy to drive economic growth following the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. With funding secured, work has now started to refurbish the building and create the space to showcase the county's latest innovations in augmented and virtual reality as well as providing businesses with space to trial and develop their own innovations using 5G related technologies. Working with local schools and colleges the Digital Innovation Centre will also provide access to the latest technology to inspire the next generation of local innovators.</li> <li><b>Lindhurst Development, Mansfield:</b> With phase one of the project progressing well and due to deliver the first 530 housing units to the site, the £3 million Getting Building Fund monies will go towards phase two of the development involving the construction of a spine road to serve the wider development and the surrounding area. The spine road will unlock space for 475 homes plus a local centre including shops, a health centre, care homes, and a new primary school and nursery. Local bus links and green routes will also be established to support as many as 4000 new jobs. Work on phase two is due to begin this month and be completed by March 2022.</li> </ul> <div>STATUS: ACTIVE</div>
	Between March 2020 and October 2022	Future mobility plans to be better prepared for growth	In close collaboration with stakeholder, develop pathways to foster exchanges of experience,	<div>STATUS: NOT YET STARTED</div>

# COVID-19 RESILIENCE, RENEWAL AND RECOVERY COMMITTEE: ECONOMIC RECOVERY UPDATE

			ideas and proposals	
	Between now and March 2021	Develop an economic opportunity programme	Develop an approach to town centre identify, branding and a shared vision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council has engaged with partners under the Local Resilience Forum (LRF) Public Realm Group and the Economy Cell to support co-ordination on <b>safely re-opening the high street</b>. This work is now evolving into a review of measures that could be taken to support the longer-term sustainability of the high street and of retail and service-related businesses. This work is being steered through the LRF Economy Cell. This aligns with the engagement with the respective Town Deal partners in developing their respective strategies and potential project input, focusing on pedestrian / highways access and connectivity.</li> <li>The N2 Town Centre programme continues to bring forward projects for development, influenced and accounting for the impact of COVID-19. A further two approvals at Chapel Lane Bingham and at Carlton Square in Gedling have been approved, with three remaining to be considered.</li> </ul> <p> <b>STATUS: ACTIVE</b></p>
			Develop a partnership strategy to harness the economic opportunities resulting from the decommissioning of power stations sites at Cottam, Ratcliffe on Soar and West Burton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Decommissioning of the stations at Cottam and West Burton by 2025</b> - active exploratory discussions underway with EDF Energy in relation to plans.</li> </ul> <p> <b>STATUS: ACTIVE</b></p>
	Between March 2020 and October 2022	Innovative active travel solutions for short trips to improve health	Promote and enable increased active travel to our town centres to access employment and services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Active Travel Fund Tranche 2 funding</b> - The Department for Transport (DfT) has recently announced that it has allocated £2.18m towards the County Council's Active Travel Fund Tranche 2 proposals. The Council's bid included the following schemes, which met the government's eligibility and delivery deadline criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>A6191 Chesterfield Road North/South, Mansfield</b> – improvements to the existing on-road cycle lane from north of Rosemary Street to south of Debdale Lane junction to provide a fully segregated cycle track</li> <li><b>Beeston cycling improvements</b> – A point closure to through traffic on Dovecote Lane to provide a quiet route for cyclists; and additional secure cycling hubs at the nearby rail station</li> <li><b>High Pavement, Sutton in Ashfield</b> – conversion of existing traffic lanes and removal of short-stay on-street parking to create a new lightly segregated cycleway (e.g. by using traffic wands); along with improvements to the High Pavement/Station Road/Forest Street junction traffic signals (to provide crossing facilities for cyclists and to improve capacity for other vehicles)</li> <li><b>Randall Way, Retford</b> – a new fully segregated cycleway/footway adjacent to the existing carriageway between Hallcroft Road and the A638 North Road</li> <li><b>Regatta Way, Gamston</b> – upgrade of the existing shared use footway to create a new fully segregated cycleway between Adbolton Lane and the A6011 Radcliffe Road</li> <li><b>Victoria Street/Portland Street, Newark</b> – creation of a new lightly segregated cycleway on Victoria Street/Portland Street following the introduction of a new one-way traffic system on Victoria Street/Portland Street/Albert Street</li> <li>A behaviour change support package specifically targeted along the Tranche 1 and proposed Tranche 2 infrastructure improvements, as well as in the locations/town centres to which these routes improve access.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Our ambitious Tranche 2 bid proposals, totalled over £3m, exceeding the Council's funding allocation. A finalised programme to fit the £2.18m allocation, prioritising the schemes that will be delivered as part of the Tranche 2 programme, will be determined by Councillors through the appropriate Committee. Further information on the delivery of the Active Travel Fund Tranche 2 programme will be published on the Council's dedicated webpage once Councillors have determined the schemes that will be delivered as part of the programme: <a href="https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/active-travel-fund">https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/active-travel-fund</a></li> </ul>

# COVID-19 RESILIENCE, RENEWAL AND RECOVERY COMMITTEE: ECONOMIC RECOVERY UPDATE

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each scheme that is included in the programme is still subject to detailed investigation, design and safety audit, as well as consultation and equality impact assessments.</li> </ul> <div>  <b>STATUS: ACTIVE</b> </div>
			Adoption of a strategic masterplan for the Toton and Chetwynd site by Summer 2021 (connectivity an integral part of this)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The first part of a <b>local connectivity study for the High Speed 2 (HS2)</b> Hub was completed in Autumn 2019.</li> <li>This work, alongside a parallel <b>masterplanning commission</b>, resulted in a series of formal “asks” being submitted to Department for Transport (DfT) and HS2 Ltd in relation to the station design and connectivity requirements. The second phase of work has focussed on developing a strategic masterplan for the Toton and Chetwynd site, in partnership with Broxtowe Borough Council.</li> <li>An initial <b>six-week consultation on Toton and Chetwynd strategic masterplan proposals</b> closed on 22 November 2020. The responses are now being analysed and a consultation report will be presented to the Toton Delivery Board in February 2021.</li> <li>A later <b>formal consultation on the proposals will be held in Spring 2021</b>.</li> </ul> <div>  <b>STATUS: ACTIVE</b> </div>



**25 January 2021****Agenda Item: 9****REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR, CUSTOMERS, GOVERNANCE AND  
EMPLOYEES****WORK PROGRAMME****Purpose of the Report**

1. To consider the Committee's work programme.

**Information**

2. The County Council requires each committee to maintain a work programme. The work programme will assist the management of the committee's agenda, the scheduling of the committee's business and forward planning. The work programme will be updated and reviewed at each pre-agenda meeting and committee meeting. Any member of the committee is able to suggest items for possible inclusion.
3. The attached work programme has been drafted in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chairs and includes items which can be anticipated at the present time. Other items will be added to the programme as they are identified. The meeting dates and agenda items are subject to review in light of the ongoing COVID-19 period.
4. As part of the transparency introduced by the revised committee arrangements in 2012, committees are expected to review day to day operational decisions made by officers using their delegated powers. It is anticipated that the committee will wish to commission periodic reports on such decisions. The committee is therefore requested to identify activities on which it would like to receive reports for inclusion in the work programme.

**Other Options Considered**

5. None.

**Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

6. To assist the committee in preparing its work programme.

**Statutory and Policy Implications**

7. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human

rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

That the committee considers whether any amendments are required to the work programme.

**Marjorie Toward**

**Service Director, Customers, Governance & Employees**

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Jo Toomey – [jo.toomey@nottscg.gov.uk](mailto:jo.toomey@nottscg.gov.uk)

### **Constitutional Comments (HD)**

8. The Committee has authority to consider the matters set out in this report by virtue of its terms of reference.

### **Financial Comments (NS)**

9. There are no direct financial implications arising from the contents of this report. Any future reports to Committee on operational activities and officer working groups, will contain relevant financial information and comments.

### **Background Papers and Published Documents**

- None

### **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

- All

**COVID 19 RESILIENCE, RECOVERY AND RENEWAL COMMITTEE – WORK PROGRAMME 2020-21 (AS AT 14 JANUARY 2021)**

Report Title	Brief Summary of Agenda Item	Lead Officer	Report Author
<b>16 March 2021</b>			
COVID 19 Update report	To update Members on the impact of the Coronavirus crisis on the work of Nottinghamshire County Council, and the Council's response and recovery planning.	Adrian Smith	Derek Higon
COVID 19 Situation Update	A regular update from the Director of Public Health	Jonathan Gribbin	William Brealy
Update on Youth Employment Support in Nottinghamshire	To update Members on the cost of procurement of an online platform for career management and transition and how success will be measured.	Adrian Smith	Matthew Neal
<b>28 June 2021</b>			
COVID 19 Update report	To update Members on the impact of the Coronavirus crisis on the work of Nottinghamshire County Council, and the Council's response and recovery planning.	Adrian Smith	Derek Higon
COVID 19 Situation Update	A regular update from the Director of Public Health	Jonathan Gribbin	William Brealy
Economic Recovery Plan update report	To update members on progress with the Economic Recovery plan	Adrian Smith	Nicola McCoy-Brown



