

## Nottinghamshire County COVID-19 Outbreak Control Engagement Board Notes and actions

**Meeting date:** Tuesday 28 July 2020 (1.30pm).

**Location:** This meeting was held remotely via Microsoft Teams.

### **Members:**

Councillor Kay Cutts MBE	Leader of Nottinghamshire County Council
Councillor Reg Adair	Deputy Leader of Nottinghamshire County Council
Councillor Tony Harper (A)	Chairman of the Adult Social Care & Public Health Committee
Councillor John Knight	Chairman of the COVID-19 Resilience, Recovery & Renewal Committee
Anthony May	Chief Executive of Nottinghamshire County Council
Jonathan Gribbin	Director of Public Health at Nottinghamshire County Council
Councillor Simon Greaves	Leader of Bassetlaw District Council
Mayor Andy Abrahams	Executive Mayor of Mansfield District Council
Kate Meynell	Assistant Chief Constable of Nottinghamshire Police
Dr Andy Haynes (A)	Managing Director of Nottingham & Nottinghamshire Integrated Care System
Idris Griffiths	Chief Officer of NHS Bassetlaw Clinical Commissioning Group
Luke Barrett	Group Manager: Communications & Marketing, Nottinghamshire County Council

### **Other participants:**

Councillor Francis Purdue-Horan	County Councillor, Nottinghamshire County Council
Councillor Richard Butler	County Councillor, Nottinghamshire County Council
Rebecca Larder	Programme Director, Nottingham & Nottinghamshire Integrated Care System
Edward Shaw	Public Health & Commissioning Manager, Nottinghamshire County Council
Carl Bilbey	Conservative Group Research Officer, Nottinghamshire County Council

### **Item 1. Apologies for absence**

Councillor Kay Cutts welcomed members to the third meeting of the Nottinghamshire County COVID-19 Outbreak Control Engagement Board.

Councillor Francis Purdue-Horan deputised for Councillor Tony Harper. Rebecca Larder deputised for Dr Andy Haynes.

## **Item 2. Notes and actions of the previous meeting**

During the discussion the following points and actions were raised:

No.	Point / action	Action owner	By when
1.	The notes of the previous meeting were agreed as an accurate record.		
2.	Jonathan Gribbin noted that public health analysts are developing an age-sex breakdown of COVID-19 victims for Nottinghamshire. This will be shared with Board members. It is anticipated that the situation in Nottinghamshire will be similar to the national trend.	JG / ES	
3.	Jonathan Gribbin has obtained a summary of the Health & Safety Executive's findings from a recent site visit at a food production facility. This will be shared with Board members.	JG / ES	
4.	The first <a href="#">Weekly COVID-19 Surveillance Report for Nottinghamshire County</a> was published on 16 July (including data up to 12 July). The second report was published on 23 July (including data up to 19 July).		
5.	In addition to the weekly COVID-19 surveillance report, links to other information have also been published on the County Council's <a href="#">website</a> . These include a daily 'Coronavirus in the UK' dashboard; daily national figures for COVID-19 tests, cases and deaths; weekly national figures for the NHS Test & Trace service; and weekly national COVID-19 surveillance reports.		
6.	It was noted that any information published on Nottinghamshire County Council's website will also be available on the MyNotts app.		

## **Item 3. COVID-19 in Nottinghamshire: situation update**

Jonathan Gribbin provided a summary of the latest situation in Nottinghamshire. The Board reviewed the data presented in the [Weekly COVID-19 Surveillance Report for Nottinghamshire County](#) and discussed the measures that had been implemented for various areas.

During the discussion the following points and actions were raised:

No.	Point / action	Action owner	By when
7.	Jonathan Gribbin provided examples of areas identified by the Outbreak Control Cell that needed further investigation and / or action. Many of the outbreak control measures that have been put in place appear to be making a difference. Further work is taking place to identify if action is required in some other areas. It is hoped these examples can reassure Board members that suitable processes are in place to identify and respond to local outbreaks.		

8.	It was noted the Government's 'contain' watchlist provides a useful method of identifying those parts of the country with a high prevalence of COVID-19 cases. This will continue to be monitored regularly, with a particular focus on areas bordering Nottinghamshire.		
9.	Assistant Chief Constable Meynell noted the number of pop-up parties seem to be increasing following the relaxation of social distancing measures. Nottinghamshire Police will continue to monitor this and take appropriate action as required.		

#### **Item 4. COVID-19 contain framework: a guide for local decision-makers**

Anthony May provided a summary of the Government's [COVID-19 contain framework](#).

During the discussion the following points and actions were raised:

No.	Point / action	Action owner	By when
10.	Anthony May noted that Nottinghamshire County Council has been given powers under <a href="#">The Health Protection (No. 3) Regulations 2020</a> to give a Direction which imposes prohibitions, requirements or restrictions in relation to individual premises, events and public outdoor places. The powers also allow Nottinghamshire County Council to direct the district / borough council(s) to exercise any of their functions in a specified way (but only in relation to COVID-19). These powers came into force after midnight on 18 July.		
11.	The Regulations are accompanied by <a href="#">statutory guidance</a> which states these powers should only be used sparingly and proportionately, and only for the purpose of limiting transmission. It is hoped a similar approach to the police (e.g. educate, promote and inform) will be sufficient to respond to most local outbreaks, but the powers are available if required.		
12.	Anthony May noted a task & finish group will be established to develop the necessary operational arrangements. Legal Services colleagues in Nottinghamshire County Council are drafting templates. These need to be carefully worded to ensure they are 'watertight', but also not unduly punitive. Directions must also satisfy certain tests to ensure they are not used unnecessarily. It was noted that people will have the right to appeal to a magistrate's court.		
13.	The powers can currently be implemented through the Chief Executive's urgency powers, but it is proposed these will be formally delegated to the Chief Executive in a forthcoming report to Nottinghamshire County Council's Adult Social Care & Public Health Committee.		
14.	An update on the Health Protection (No 3) Regulations 2020 will be provided at the next meeting of the Engagement Board.	AM / JG	

## **Item 5. Engagement & communication strategy**

Luke Barrett provided an overview of Nottinghamshire County Council's engagement & communication strategy. The principle objective of the strategy is to prevent outbreaks and contain them where necessary.

During the discussion the following points and actions were raised:

No.	Point / action	Action owner	By when
15.	It was agreed that multi-agency co-ordination is fundamental to the success of the strategy. Close collaboration with district / borough councils has taken place in response to local outbreaks and will continue to do so.		
16.	An important part of the strategy is to encourage people to follow the appropriate measures (e.g. frequent and rigorous hand-washing; maintenance of social distancing; Catch it, Bin it, Kill it) and explain that collective behaviour change by the public and businesses can reduce outbreaks. The latest guidance is available on Nottinghamshire County Council's <a href="#">website</a> and <a href="http://www.gov.uk">www.gov.uk</a> .		
17.	It was noted that mobile testing units will continue to move location. Deployment of testing is increasingly becoming under greater local control so there should be opportunity to better influence future locations. NHS 111 and the NHS Test & Trace Service (119) provide the reliable source of current and up-to-date information on testing, including the location of mobile testing units.		
18.	Luke Barrett will confirm that the communications approach adequately promotes NHS 111 and the NHS Test & Trace Service (119).	LB	

## **Item 6. Arrangements for future meetings**

Members of the Board agreed that subsequent meetings should take place monthly, with the proviso that additional meetings can be held if necessary. A meeting is to be set during the week commencing Monday 7 September, and thereafter to follow a monthly pattern.