

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

**Meeting date:** Wednesday 09 December 2020 (2.00pm)

**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	Chairman of the Adult Social Care & Public Health Committee
Councillor Kevin Rostance	Chairman of the Health & Wellbeing Board
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	Managing Director of Nottingham & Nottinghamshire Integrated Care System
Luke Barrett	Group Manager: Communications & Marketing, Nottinghamshire County Council

### Other participants:

Elizabeth Winter	Public Health Commissioning Manager, Nottinghamshire County Council
Councillor Jason Zadrozny	Leader of Ashfield District Council
Carol Cooper-Smith	Chief Executive of Ashfield District Council
Neil Taylor	Chief Executive of Bassetlaw District Council
Councillor Milan Radulovic	Leader of Broxtowe Borough Council
Councillor Steve Carr	Deputy Leader of Broxtowe Borough Council
Kevin Powell	Strategic Director Broxtowe Borough Council
Councillor John Clarke	Leader of Gedling Borough Council
Mike Hill	Chief Executive of Gedling Borough Council
Hayley Barsby	Chief Executive of Mansfield District Council
Councillor David Lloyd	Leader of Newark and Sherwood District Council
John Robinson	Chief Executive of Newark and Sherwood District Council
Councillor Simon Robinson	Leader of Rushcliffe Borough Council
Dave Banks	Deputy Chief Executive of Rushcliffe Borough Council

Sally Spridgeon-Davison	Infection Prevention and Care Home Quality Lead Nurse, Bassetlaw CCG
Helen Marks	Senior Regional Coordinator, Department of Health and Social Care
Sarah Carter	Executive Incident Director COVID-19 and Executive SRO, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Testing Cell

### **Item 1. Welcome and apologies for absence**

Councillor Kay Cutts welcomed members to the seventh meeting of the Nottinghamshire County COVID-19 Outbreak Control Engagement Board. This meeting was extended to include all District and Borough Leaders and Chief Executives and superseded the board due to take place on 14 December 2020.

Apologies were received from Idris Griffiths (Chief Officer, Bassetlaw CCG), Ruth Hyde (Chief Executive of Broxtowe Borough Council) and Kath Marriott (Chief Executive of Rushcliffe Borough Council) and deputies were provided.

### **Item 2. COVID-19 in Nottinghamshire: situation overview**

Jonathan Gribbin provided a summary of the latest situation in Nottinghamshire. During the discussion the following points and actions were raised:

No.	Point / action	Action owner	By when
1.	Across Nottinghamshire, rates of COVID-19 have reduced in all districts. In the most recent complete 7-days, the rates in the 60s and over age group has plateaued. The all age case rates across the districts range from 255 per 100,000 in Bassetlaw to 105 per 100,000 in Rushcliffe. The higher rate in Bassetlaw is in part linked to two known outbreaks, which are being supported by the Local Authority Public Health Team.		
2.	Inpatient bed numbers for COVID-19 fell below 400 in the last week, but this decrease has since plateaued. National data indicates that hospital admission rates appear to be rising across the Country and modelling indicates Nottinghamshire may see an increase in admissions over the next two weeks.		
3.	In response to a query from Simon Greaves, Jonathan Gribbin provided an update on asymptomatic testing and use of lateral flow tests (LFTs). Nottinghamshire County Council are working with the regional coordinating team and neighbouring authorities to explore how LFTs can be used and targeted effectively. Sarah Carter also confirmed that Nottingham and Nottinghamshire are well served with regards to symptomatic testing, with 7 local testing sites in the City and 6 Countywide local testing sites in place, as well as two Mobile Testing Units that are rotated throughout the County as required.		

4.	In response to a query from Councillor Steve Carr regarding the phased return of universities, Anthony May confirmed the Local Authority is working closely with universities in Nottinghamshire and students are being tested before they return home for Christmas (with low levels of asymptomatic positive results being reported). National guidance on university return has been released. A phased return will occur over 5 weeks, starting with practical courses from the week commencing 04 January 2021. Other students will engage in online teaching until their return (between 25 January and 01 February 2021). All students will be offered two lateral flow tests upon their return.		
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### **Item 3. Review of tier arrangements**

Helen Marks provided an overview of the review process for tier arrangements. During the discussion the following points and actions were raised:

No.	Point / action	Action owner	By when
5.	National review of the existing tier arrangements is due to take place on 16 December 2020. Upper tier authority areas will be the building blocks for the review, taking in to account population mobility. Leaders and MPs will be briefed by Ministers on the review process.		
6.	Factors that will be taken in to account as part of the review process include case rates (both for all ages and over 60s), rates of change (the rate that cases are rising or falling), pressures on the National Health Service (NHS) and positivity rates. Epidemiological data up to 10 December will be considered in the review on 16 December 2020.		

### **Item 4. COVID-19 vaccine rollout**

Sarah Carter provided an update on the COVID-19 vaccine rollout in Nottinghamshire (including an overview of the system delivery model and the workforce plan). During the discussion the following points and actions were raised:

No.	Point / action	Action owner	By when
7.	The Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine has now been approved by the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) and Nottinghamshire is in the delivery phase of the vaccination programme. The first vaccinations have now been delivered in the hospital hubs (Kings Mill Hospital and Queens Medical Centre). Vaccines are currently being administered to priority individuals, including care home staff, the over 80s age group and the NHS workforce.		
8.	Two large vaccination centres are anticipated to be operational in the coming weeks, along with further community vaccination sites. The intention is also to move towards a roving system of vaccination delivery in care homes and to support those that are home bound.		

9.	The Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine has been submitted to the regulator for approval and 100 million doses have been pre-ordered for the Country. Delivery of the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine will be less complex than the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, due to the fact that it does not need to be stored at very low temperatures.		
10.	Recruitment to support the Vaccination programme in Nottinghamshire continues and those interested in joining the <a href="#">COVID-19 vaccine bank</a> are encouraged to apply. The importance of individuals waiting to be contacted by the NHS for their vaccination appointment was also emphasised.		

**Item 5. Arrangements for future meetings**

The next meeting will take place on Monday 11 January 2021.