

REPORT FOR DECISION



DECISION OF:	Emergency Powers Group
DATE:	29th June, 2020
SUBJECT:	Covid-19 Local Outbreak Plan
REPORT FROM:	Lesley Jones, Director of Public Health
CONTACT OFFICER:	Lesley Jones, Director of Public Health
TYPE OF DECISION:	KEY DECISION
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/STATUS:	This paper is within the public domain
SUMMARY:	<p>All upper tier authorities are required to publish COVID-19 Local Outbreak Plans by 30th June, 2020. These plans are to be led by a Covid-19 Health Protection Board chaired by the Director of Public Health and overseen by a member led board. In Bury, this will be the Council Cabinet.</p> <p>The attached Covid-19 Outbreak Plan has been developed in accordance with national guidance and outlines our local approach to preventing and managing outbreaks in the borough as part of the National Test, Trace, Contain and Enable Programme.</p>
OPTIONS & RECOMMENDED OPTION	To approve the Bury Covid-19 Local Outbreak Plan for publication on 30th June 2020.
IMPLICATIONS:	
Corporate Aims/Policy Framework:	Do the proposals accord with the Policy Framework? Yes
Statement by the S151 Officer: Financial Implications and Risk Considerations:	Bury Council has received a funding allocation of £1.080m for the purposes outlined in this paper. Proposals for how to

	prioritise and allocate that funding over the next 12 months are being developed and will go through appropriate governance routes. On the basis that costs will be contained within the £1.080m envelope for the next 12 months, these plans can be supported from a finance perspective				
Equality/Diversity implications:	Covid-19 has had a disproportionate effect on older people, those with long term conditions, those in certain occupational groups and those from BAME communities. The Local Outbreak Plan identifies cohorts and settings at higher risk of outbreaks and sets out targeted proactive and reactive measures to mitigate inequalities.				
Considered by Monitoring Officer:	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Yes</th> <th>Comments</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>This is an urgent decision as the Council si required to produce a local Covid 19 Outbreak Plan by 30 June 2020 given the significance and scale of the issue. Rule 18 of the Access To Information Rules governs decision which have to be taken without the normal 28 days or 5 days' notice (if urgent) of the Decision in the Forward Plan. Rule 18 allows for special urgency (less than 5 days' notice) provided the Scrutiny Chair agrees that taking of the Decision cannot be reasonable deferred and the opposition group leaders have been consulted.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Yes	Comments		This is an urgent decision as the Council si required to produce a local Covid 19 Outbreak Plan by 30 June 2020 given the significance and scale of the issue. Rule 18 of the Access To Information Rules governs decision which have to be taken without the normal 28 days or 5 days' notice (if urgent) of the Decision in the Forward Plan. Rule 18 allows for special urgency (less than 5 days' notice) provided the Scrutiny Chair agrees that taking of the Decision cannot be reasonable deferred and the opposition group leaders have been consulted.
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Wards Affected:	All, although areas of higher deprivation and with a higher proportion BAME population have been identified as higher potential risk				
Scrutiny Interest:	Scheduled for consideration by Health Scrutiny 02.07.20				

1.0 BACKGROUND

On 22 May 2020 Government announced that as part of its national strategy to reduce infection from SARS-CoV-2 it would expect every area in England to create a local Outbreak Plan.

Government expects that by 30th June local plans, led by the Director of Public Health, will be produced. The aim of the plans should be specifically to prevent and manage local outbreaks of infection.

The announcement states:

"Building on the foundation of the statutory role of Directors of Public Health at the upper tier local authority level, and working with Public Health England's local health protection teams, local government will build on existing health protection plans to put in place measures to identify and contain outbreaks and protect the public's health. Local Directors of Public Health will be responsible

for defining these measures and producing the plans, working through Covid-19 Health Protection Boards. They will be supported by and work in collaboration with Gold command emergency planning forums (SCG) and a public-facing Board led by council members to communicate openly with the public.

Cross-party and cross-sector working will be strongly encouraged, and all tiers of Government will be engaged in a joint endeavour to contain the virus....”

These plans build on the Health Protection functions outlined in the Government Guidance *Health Protection in Local Government*, combining locality health protection functions with others sitting in Public Health England. To that extent, locality health protection arrangements already exist, but specific and additional arrangements for addressing COVID-19 Outbreaks need to be stood up within the context of existing multi-agency partnership working.

Local Outbreak Plans make up part of the National Test, Trace, Contain, and Enable Programme which is key to controlling the spread of infection as lockdown measures are eased.

2.0 ISSUES

The government announcement of 22 May 2020 sets out seven themes for the Outbreak Plans.

Theme		Broad Actions
1.	Preventing Infection	Ensuring appropriate measures are in place to prevent the spread of infection (e.g. social distancing, hygiene, PPE, enhanced cleaning etc) across all settings
2.	Identification of High-Risk Settings	Settings, places and communities which would be problematic if outbreaks were to occur
	2a. Care Homes	While identified by government as a separate theme these are clearly a very high priority part of Theme 2 and builds on pre-existing plans.
	2b. Schools	While identified by government as a separate theme these clearly are a specific set of settings within Theme 2
3.	Vulnerable People	Ensuring prevention of infection from reaching vulnerable people and extension of shielding support to those self-isolating
4.	Planning and utilisation of local testing capacity	The ability to direct local testing capacity to prevent and manage outbreaks
5.	Contact Tracing	The local role in the national contact tracing system
6.	Data Integration for a)	The ability to integrate data flows

	epidemiology and surveillance and b) response and action	from national and local for functions ranging from contact tracing and self-isolation to proactively identifying outbreaks in development and provide dynamic early warning
7.	Governance	Governance, Oversight and Assurance
8.	Deployment	Arrangements for deployment and delivery of actions and capabilities. This will include enforcement measures (enforcement of premises closure or self-isolation for example)

The Bury COVID-19 Outbreak Control Plan addresses all seven themes. It is a living document with two functions:

1. It is a **reference document** for people involved in COVID-19 outbreak management. It describes control measures, roles and responsibilities, guidance, and processes to support both reactive outbreak management and proactive support to key sectors; and
2. It is the **programme plan** for the Bury COVID-19 Health Protection Board. It describes the main actions to be taken, and by whom, to improve the capacity and capability across Bury to manage COVID-19 outbreaks. Detailed actions & risks will be captured in a separate action plan and risk register. It also describes the resources needed to support COVID-19 outbreak response. An allocation of £1,080,413 has been made to Bury Council to support implementation of the plan.

As well as COVID-19 Outbreak Control Plan Bury also has a generic Outbreak Control Plan. This document describes how Bury manages outbreaks of a wide range of infectious diseases. There is also a Greater Manchester COVID-19 Outbreak Control Plan, which describes how the Greater Manchester part of the system will work. The intention is for the local and Greater Manchester responses to form a single seamless system for managing COVID-19 cases and outbreaks.

3.0 CONCLUSION

Bury's Local Outbreak Plan in conjunction with the GM Outbreak Plan and the National Test and Trace service provide the main vehicle by which we will manage local transmission of SARS-CoV-2 and minimise the impact of COVID-19 in Bury as lockdown measures are eased. Effective management of cases and control of outbreaks are vital to reducing the risk of a second wave of the epidemic and enabling economic recovery.

List of Background Papers:-

1. Bury Covid-19 Local Outbreak Plan

Contact Details:-

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