



To: Coventry Health and Wellbeing Board

Date: 27th July 2020

From: Liz Gaulton, Director of Public Health & Well-being

Title: Establishing the Coventry Health & Well-being Test & Trace Sub Group

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To ask the Health & Well-being Board to endorse the establishment of the Coventry Health & Well-being Test and Trace Sub Group.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Health & Well-being Board is asked to:
- a) Endorse the setting up of the Health & Well-being Test and Trace Sub Group to provide a strategic steer to the Covid-19 Health Protection Board
 - b) Endorse the membership of Sub Group, as outlined in Appendix 1

3 Information/Background

- 3.1 The next phase of the response to COVID is critical. To avoid a second peak and to enable the gradual and phased return to a more normal way of life, it is key that we maintain social distancing, measures such as hand washing, that cases are rapidly identified and people take the right steps to self-isolate and that any emerging outbreaks are managed quickly.
- 3.2 Local government is at the heart of the outbreak management programme, and, as such, Local Authorities are leading on developing local COVID-19 outbreak control plans. Local Outbreak Control Plans outline measures that local partnerships will take to identify and contain outbreaks and protect the public's health within geographic areas. Local Directors of Public Health (DsPH) are responsible for defining these measures and producing the plans.
- 3.3 The Department of Health and Social Care has announced funding from a new ring fenced funding package of £300 million to local authorities in England, to enable local authorities to work with local NHS and other stakeholders to develop tailored outbreak control plans. This will support local contact tracing/infection control as well as potentially providing support for those who are vulnerable and have to self-isolate. We are expecting details of how this will be allocated imminently.
- 3.4 Local Directors of Public Health will be responsible for building on existing health protection plans to put in place measures to identify and contain outbreaks and protect the public's health, working through Covid-19 Health Protection Boards and with Public Health

England's local health protection teams. They will be supported by, and work in collaboration with, NHS Gold command emergency planning forums and a public-facing Board led by council members to communicate with the public.

- 3.5 Eleven Local Authorities areas have been selected as Beacons to work with national leaders to rapidly develop and test outbreak control plans at a local level; identify common themes, and share best practice; as well as innovating to develop faster approaches to testing and tracing and identifying opportunities to scale the programme rapidly. Warwickshire has been selected as the lead authority for a pilot with Solihull and Coventry, which will also work with the NHS, Public Health England and the West Midlands Combined Authority.

4 Coventry Health & Well-being Test and Trace Sub Group

- 4.1 As part of the governance arrangements to oversee Coventry's Local Outbreak Plan, it was proposed that a Test and Trace Subgroup of the Coventry Health and Wellbeing Board be established to provide strategic steer to the COVID-19 Health Protection Board. The purpose of the Test and Trace Sub Group is to provide an oversight of the Coventry Test and Trace programme, provide local ownership and public-facing engagement and communication for outbreak responses to Covid 19 in Coventry (see appendix 1 for more details). The Sub Group will be monitored by, and accountable to, the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 4.2 It is proposed that this be a public facing Board and chaired by the Health and Wellbeing Board Chair, the Cabinet Member for Public Health and Sport. The proposed membership of the group (appendix 1), reflects that of the Health and Wellbeing Board with flexibility to extend the membership to community members to reflect the BAME communities and emphasis placed on inequalities within Coventry, aligned to its Marmot City status.
- 4.3 Dates have already been set for the Health & Well-being Test and Trace Sub Group for the rest of the municipal year.

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Appendices

Appendix 1: Terms of Reference for the Health & Well-being Test and Trace Sub Group