Lancashire County Council

Cabinet

Thursday, 11th June, 2020 at 2.00 pm to be held as a Virtual Skype Meeting

Supplementary Agenda

We are now able to enclose, for consideration at the next meeting of the Cabinet to be held on Thursday, 11th June, 2020, the following information which was unavailable when the agenda was despatched

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

No.	**Item**
10.	**Urgent Business**

An item of urgent business may only be considered under this heading where, by reason of special circumstances to be recorded in the Minutes, the Chair of the meeting is of the opinion that the item should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency. Wherever possible, the Chief Executive should be given advance warning of any Member's intention to raise a matter under this heading.

(b)   Lancashire Outbreak Control Plan   (Pages 1 - 10)

Angie Ridgwell
Chief Executive and Director of Resources

County Hall
Preston

Lancashire
County
Council

Report to the Cabinet
Meeting to be held on Thursday, 11 June 2020

Report of the Director of Public Health

Part I

Electoral Division affected: None;

Lancashire Outbreak Control Plan
(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:
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Executive Summary

In order for Lancashire to move towards resuming normal life as safely as possible it is necessary to reduce the spread of Covid-19 infection, thereby saving lives, protecting health and care systems and re-booting the local economy. Local government will play a crucial role in leading this, alongside its Lancashire Resilience Forum (LRF) partners. A key foundation is the development of a robust and effective Outbreak Control Plan.

This report sets out the scope of an Outbreak Control Plan, how it will be developed with the involvement of partners and stakeholders, and the structures which must be in place to ensure its effectiveness.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to:
  i.   Approve the principles set out in the report for the development of the Lancashire Outbreak Control Plan;
  ii. Approve that the Director of Public Health be authorised to approve the final plan, in consultation with the Director of Corporate Services, the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing;
  iii. Approve that expenditure required under the plan be approved by the relevant officers in accordance with the delegation provided by the Leader of the Council in relation to urgent Covid-19 related matters, following consultation with the Leader of the Council; and
  iv. Note the requirement for a Local Outbreak Engagement Board, and support the proposal that the Health and Wellbeing Board be empowered to make the necessary arrangements.

Lancashire
County Council

This decision should be implemented immediately for the purpose of Standing Order C29 as any delay could adversely affect the execution of the County Council's responsibilities. The reason for this is that the plan must be in place as soon as possible to ensure Lancashire is well positioned to continue to tackle Covid-19.

Background and Advice

The Director of Public Health has a statutory role, in partnership with Public Health England, to identify and contain outbreaks of disease and to protect the health of the public.

As each area faces slightly different issues in relation to the Covid-19 outbreak, the onus is on each Director of Public Health to define what measures are necessary within his or her jurisdiction, including within specific localities. In an area as large, complex and diverse as the Lancashire County Council area, this will undoubtedly require the Outbreak Control Plan to address issues at both a county wide and district level.

The Outbreak Control Plan

All Upper Tier Local Authorities are now required to develop a Local Outbreak Control Plan, centred on seven themes (see Appendix A).

- **Care homes and schools**
  Planning for local outbreaks in care homes and schools (e.g. defining monitoring arrangements, potential scenarios and planning the required response).

- **High risk places, locations and communities**
  Identifying and planning how to manage high risk places, locations and communities of interest (e.g. defining preventative measures and outbreak management strategies).

- **Local testing capacity**
  Identifying methods for local testing to ensure a swift response that is accessible to the entire population (e.g. defining how to prioritise and manage testing capacity such as NHS and pop-up testing etc).

- **Contact tracing in complex settings**
  Assessing local and regional contact tracing capability in complex settings (e.g. identifying specific local complex communities, developing assumptions to estimate demand and options to scale capacity).

- **Data integration**
  Integrating national and local data and scenario planning through the Joint Biosecurity Centre (e.g., data management planning, including data security and NHS data linkages)

- **Vulnerable people**
  Supporting vulnerable local people to get help to self-isolate (e.g. facilitating NHS and local support, identifying relevant community groups etc.) and ensuring services meet the needs of diverse communities.

- **Local Boards**
  Establishing governance structures, including establishment of a new Member-led Board to communicate with the general public.

All Upper Tier Local Authorities are required to develop and submit their Local Outbreak Control Plan to government by the end of June 2020. Lancashire County Council is proposing to learn from best practice, working with the eleven areas in the UK which are receiving supplementary support.

Lancashire Resilience Forum has produced guidance to assist the development of the plans across Lancashire, focusing on:

a. Prevention of outbreaks
b. Reduction of suffering
c. Structures that will support rebuilding the economy
d. Provision of reassurance to the public

The Lancashire Resilience Forum will continue to play an important role in the test and trace process and will provide a point of contact for regional and national liaison, including with government. However, the delivery of the Outbreak Control Plan will be led by the Director of Public Health alongside NHS and district council partners.

The Outbreak Control Plan will address:

PREVENTION - with appropriate prioritisation on key groups and settings such as care homes and schools and ensuring monitoring arrangements are in place.

PROTECTION - focussing on pro-active infection prevention control measures and ensuring that this work goes hand in hand with a robust information campaign. An effective case-finding strategy is also crucial to establish appropriate data flow between partner agencies.

RESPONSE - the practical work, utilising a risk based approach following positive test results, must necessarily be done at a local level so that multi-agency teams can be deployed to manage local outbreaks. These teams will include professionals from public health, social care, the NHS and district councils and will include a range of professionals plus administrative support.

It is clear that significant additional resources will be required to ensure the sustainability of the system, including workforce and investment in ITC systems to enable different partners to work effectively together. However it is currently too early to give a realistic estimate of the likely extent of the additional resources required and therefore how they compare to the funding that has been made available to the council for the purposes outlined within the report.

Local Outbreak Engagement Board

The government guidance requires the establishment of a Local Outbreak Engagement Board to "provide political ownership and public facing engagement and communication for outbreak response". Aside from this, there is very limited guidance available on the arrangements that are expected for these bodies.

It is proposed that responsibility for these arrangements be given to the Health and Wellbeing Board, for the board to develop the structures and objectives in line with any further guidance.

As the Health and Wellbeing Board is a committee of the Full Council, Cabinet are asked to support the proposal, although approval will be done through a separate report through the appropriate Full Council urgent decision-making arrangements.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Legal

As set out in the main body of the report.

Finance

Expenditure incurred in implementing the plan will be captured to meet any national reporting requirements and reported to future cabinet meetings during the year as part of the quarterly money matters updates.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel

None

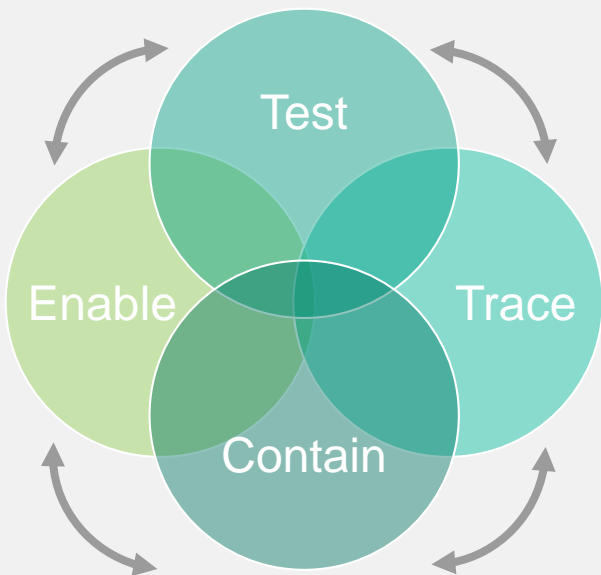Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A

Local Outbreak Control Plans

22 May

We will shortly be launching the Test & Trace service

An integrated and world-class Covid-19 Test and Trace service, designed to control the virus and enable people to live a safer and more normal life

Test — Rapid testing, at scale, to control the virus and identify its spread

Trace — Integrated tracing to identify, alert and support those who need to self isolate

Contain — Using data to target approaches to flare ups, at a local and national level

Enable — Improving knowledge of the virus to inform decisions on social and economic restrictions

Continuous data capture and information loop at each stage that flows through Joint Biosecurity Centre to recommend actions

Underpinned by a huge public engagement exercise to build trust and participation

Note: Test, Trace, Contain, Enable diagram is illustrative only

Department of Health & Social Care

Local planning and response will be key to success

Local government has a significant role to play in the identification and management of infection

Improve speed of response

- Put local government at the centre of outbreak response
- Plan thoroughly to quickly deploy resources to the most critical areas

Build on local knowledge

- Led by Directors of Public Health, working with PHE local health protection teams and incorporating existing public health planning and statutory responsibilities
- Draw on expertise from across local government, incl. Gold command partners, Local Resilience Forums, NHS Integrated Care Systems and Mayoral Combined Authorities

Improve co-ordination

- Help to co-ordinate efforts between local and national governments, the NHS, private and community sectors and the general public
- Connect local and national policy via the Joint Biosecurity Centre (JBC)

£300m will be provided to local authorities in England to develop and action plans to reduce the spread of the virus

Local Outbreak Control Plans will centre on 7 themes

1 **Care homes and schools**

Planning for local outbreaks in care homes and schools (e.g. defining monitoring arrangements, potential scenarios and planning the required response)

2 **High risk places, locations and communities**

Identifying and planning how to manage high risk places, locations and communities of interest (e.g. defining preventative measures and outbreak management strategies)

3 **Local testing capacity**

Identifying methods for local testing to ensure a swift response that is accessible to the entire population (e.g. defining how to prioritise and manage deployment, examples may include NHS, pop-up etc).

4 **Contact tracing in complex settings**

Assessing local and regional contact tracing capability in complex settings (e.g. identifying specific local complex communities, developing assumptions to estimate demand and options to scale capacity)

5 **Data integration**

Integrating national and local data and scenario planning through the Joint Biosecurity Centre Playbook (e.g., data management planning, including data security, NHS data linkages)

6 **Vulnerable people**

Supporting vulnerable local people to get help to self-isolate (e.g. facilitating NHS and local support, identifying relevant community groups etc) and ensuring services meet the needs of diverse communities

7 **Local Boards**

Establishing governance structures led by existing Covid-19 Health Protection Boards in conjunction with local NHS and supported by existing Gold command forums and a new member-led Board to communicate with the general public

National, regional and local policy integrated in a local plan – key links

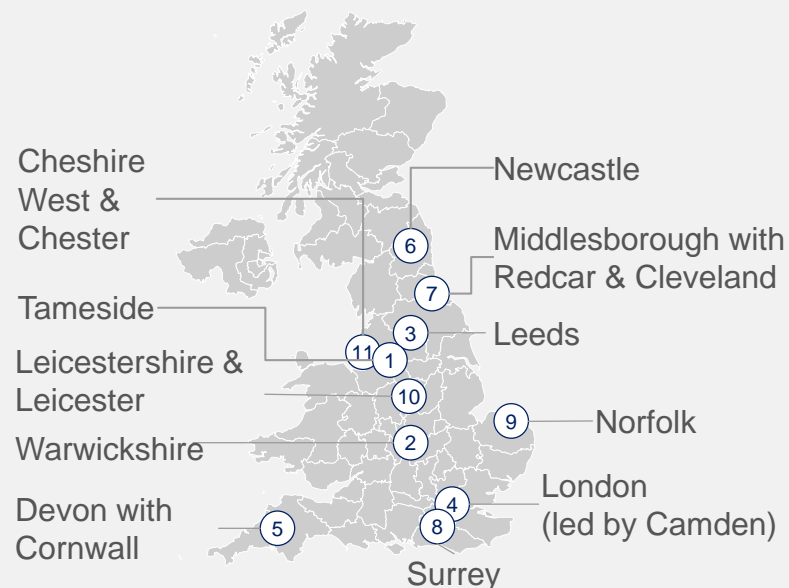|	Group	Role
Local	COVID-19 Health Protection Board	Responsible for the development of local outbreak control plans by Directors of Public Health
	Strategic Co-ordinating Group	Gold emergency planning group to support, co-ordinate and partner with broad local groups to support delivery of outbreak plans (e.g., Police, SIRE, NHS etc)
☆	Local Outbreak Engagement Board	Provide political ownership and public-facing engagement and communication for outbreak response
Regional	Local Resilience Forum	Coordinate public and emergency services to respond to regional emergencies
	Integrated Care System	Develop and deliver regional health strategy
National	Test and Trace Programme	Develop national test and trace strategy
	Joint Biosecurity Centre	Provide data and analytics relating to management of regional infection rates building on PHE's surveillance data systems

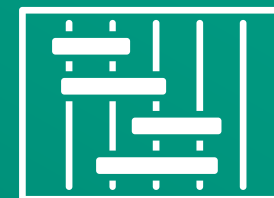☆ To be formed

Initially, we will work intensively with 11 areas

Areas

Cheshire West & Chester

Newcastle

Middlesborough with Redcar & Cleveland

Tameside

Leeds

Leicestershire & Leicester

Warwickshire

Norfolk

Devon with Cornwall

London (led by Camden)

Surrey

Objectives

• Rapidly develop and test outbreak control plans at a local level

• Identify common themes, and share best practices

• Innovate to develop faster approaches to testing and tracing

• Identify opportunities to scale the programme rapidly

All upper tier local authorities will develop outbreak plans in June

Local councils outside these areas will be invited to participate in regular engagement and best-practice sharing sessions that will commence in May