

Wiltshire Council

Health and Wellbeing Board

23 July 2020

Subject: A Local Outbreak Management Plan for Wiltshire

Executive Summary

The Local Outbreak Management Plan (LOMP) is a framework document outlining the role of the Local Authority in the management of the COVID-19 outbreaks in Wiltshire. The framework provides a consistent set of principles and approaches by which Wiltshire will manage what is a very dynamic situation.

The LOMP is required to be published by all Local Authority Directors of Public Health (DPH) on or before 1st July 2020.

Proposal(s)

It is recommended that the Board:

- i) Approve the Local Outbreak Management Plan attached at Appendix One and recommend to Council that it be adopted.
- ii) Authorise the Director of Public Health in consultation with the Covid-19 Wiltshire Health Protection Board and the Cabinet Member for Adults and Health, to amend and update the Plan to reflect the change of science and evidence-based working on the prevention and management of Covid-19 related outbreaks

Reason for Proposal

This report seeks the Health and Wellbeing Board's approval of the

- i) Local Outbreak Management Plan (LOMP) for Wiltshire in response to the Covid-19 response, which is attached at appendix one and;
- ii) The public facing Local Outbreak Management Plan, attached as appendix two.

Kate Blackburn
Interim Director for Public Health
Wiltshire Council

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Purpose of Report

1. This report seeks the Health and Wellbeing Board's approval of the:
 - i) Local Outbreak Management Plan (LOMP) for Wiltshire in response to the Covid-19 response, which is attached at appendix one and;
 - ii) The public facing Local Outbreak Management Plan, attached as appendix two.

Relevance to the Health and Wellbeing Strategy

2. The Health and Wellbeing Strategy is a shared strategy, which aims to improve the health and wellbeing of the local population, reduce inequalities and promote the integration of services.

A Wiltshire Outbreak Engagement Board will play a critical role in ensuring residents and other key stakeholders across the public, private and community sector all understand and support the necessity to comply with the rules and principles designed to prevent viral transmission.

Background

3. Local Authorities have a significant role to play in the identification and management of COVID-19 outbreaks. Our plan will give clarity on how local government works with the NHS Test and Trace Service to ensure a whole system approach to managing local outbreaks. Directors of Public Health have a crucial system leadership role to play ensuring that through the LOMP they have the necessary capacity and capability to quickly deploy resources to the most critical areas. Response to local outbreaks, while led by DsPH, need to be a co-ordinated effort working with PHE local health protection teams, local and national government, NHS, private and community/voluntary sector and the general public.
4. At a Local Authority level, we have put in place a Local Outbreak Management Plan (LOMP) to allow improved speed of response, thorough planning and deployment of resources, building on local expertise led by the Chief Executive Officer and Director of Public Health working with the regional PHE health protection team.

The principles to our approach are as follows:

- Our LOMP will build on existing health protection processes, not duplicate
- Our LOMP will ensure testing takes place quickly and tracing contacts of those who have tested positive occurs at pace, advising them to self-isolate
- Our overarching aim is to keep the virus under control through improved co-ordination whilst maintain community engagement
- The governance arrangements associated with our LOMP will provide the structure and responsibility to enable a place-based approach and impact
- Our assurance role will ensure we build on local knowledge and real time data flow between local and national systems
- We will ensure a robust evidence base and local knowledge steer a consistent approach to our decision making
- We will work with neighbouring Local Authorities and key partners such as health and the LRF as required to ensure consistency of decision-making and public messaging.

5. **Priority workstreams**

The Director of Public Health is responsible for the LOMP as part of the statutory role for the improvement and protection of health across the County. The LOMP will comprise of the following priority work streams coordinated in conjunction with the Covid-19 Wiltshire Health Protection Board.

Care homes and schools. We will ensure a co-ordinated approach is taken to prevent, plan for and manage local outbreaks in schools and care homes. We will do so by building on existing standard operating procedures and activity driven by the local authority and key partners/providers. We will further develop this work to increase coherence and improve communications with the public.

Identify high risk settings, communities, places. We will identify high risk settings, communities and places. We will define preventative measures and outbreak management strategies in-line with the current evidence. We will ensure national and regional data flow to inform local surveillance alongside our local level intelligence to clearly define high risk settings, communities and places to enable targeted decision making, community support and action.

Local testing capacity. We will ensure access to testing is provided at pace, with clear processes in place to enable prioritisation and use of a range of provision such as mobile facilities. We will build on existing work within the LRF and the Swindon and Wiltshire Testing Cell, aligning our action to existing process and data flows.

Contact tracing. We will build on existing close working arrangements with PHE in order to provide contact tracing capability to respond to outbreaks and complex community issues. We will deploy mutual aid processes working closely with the PHE health protection service.

Data integration. We will ensure that we assess local, regional and nationally available data to understand our local situation against the national COVID-19 alert system.

Vulnerable people. We will ensure any decisions taken prioritise support for vulnerable local people, including those currently shielding. We will enable those who are required to self-isolate to have access to NHS and local community support. We will build on the successful processes in place to support those on the Shielding lists.

Governance. We will build on existing health protection governance arrangements whilst enhancing the COVID-19 element in relation to assurance and partnership working as well as Member and community engagement. We will use the role of the DPH and a new Covid-19 Health Protection Board to inform the Wiltshire Health and Wellbeing Board and local authority Chief Executive, as well as wider reporting into the Local Resilience Forum (LRF). The Wiltshire Covid-19 Health Protection Board will develop a COVID-19 function and business as usual function. The COVID-19 function will ensure membership from Local Authority, Public Health England, NHS CCG and PHE and wider partners.

Main Considerations

6. The LOMP and the proposed governance are based on the requirements as set out by the government in their letter to Council Leaders (23 May 2020).

7. Legal implications:

The LOMP is aimed to prevent the transmission of Covid-19 throughout the County and quickly identify and manage outbreaks. The DPH has a statutory responsibility to improve and protect the health of the population they service under the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

8. Resource implications:

Local Authority public health / health protection teams working in conjunction with PHE health protection teams would have the capacity needed typically to manage outbreak scenarios. For example, within care homes and school. However, in an escalated scenario (for example, multiple outbreaks across the County) we would rapidly become overwhelmed (within 3-7 days) unless we deployed additional local resources which would require approximately 50% more capacity.

The table below is an indication of the type of resource that may be required:

Capacity	Resource
Local Authority Public Health	1.5 WTE PH consultants 2.0 WTE Public Health Specialist/Environmental Health Officer 1.0 WTE Advanced Public Health Practitioner/PH Registrar 1.0 WTE administration support 1.0 WTE data capture and analysis (Intelligence staff)
Local Authority Other capacity	1.5 WTE Communications Managers 2.0 WTE Adults Social Care 2.0 WTE Children's Services 1.0 WTE Health and Safety Manager Plus, CCG and NHSE working on their commissioned services
CCG capacity	1.0 WTE Infection Prevention and Control
NHS/mobile units	Testing capacity and its administration

9. Given that the scientific knowledge of this infection is increasing as well as evidence of new risk or best practice emerging, both at a rapid pace, the Board is invited to seek authority from Council to delegate authority to the Director of Public Health in consultation with the Covid-19 Wiltshire Health Protection Board to amend and update the LOMP.

10. Appendix 1 – Wiltshire Local Outbreak Management Plan



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(3).pdf

11. Appendix 2 – Public facing Local Outbreak Management Plan



LOMP
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