

## Report to Engagement Board



Date of Meeting	23 September 2020
Portfolio	Councillor Rowbotham (Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing)
Report Author	Andrea Fallon (Director of Public Health)
Public/Private Document	Public

### Establishment of Sub-Committee

#### Executive Summary

1. In June 2020 local government and directors of public health were identified as critical in managing the next phase of the COVID-19 pandemic: testing, contact tracing and outbreak management. Local Authorities have been requested by Government to:
  - establish a member-led Local Outbreak Control Board.
  - establish a director of public health-led Health Protection Board (leading on Covid-19).
  - develop a Local Outbreak Control Plan.

The Board will be a formally constituted sub-committee of the Strategic Place Board which will appoint the Membership, appoint the Chair and approve terms of reference.

#### Recommendation

2. That the draft Terms of Reference be approved.

#### Reason for Recommendation

3. The Board will oversee the local delivery of the objectives of the strategy to reduce the spread of infection and save lives.

#### Key Points for Consideration

4. The NHS Test and Trace service is part of the Government's COVID-19 recovery strategy. It is aimed at controlling the COVID-19 rate of reproduction (R), reducing the spread of infection and saving lives.
- 4.1 The strategy requires local authorities to work with partners to build on existing health protection plans to put in place measures to identify and contain outbreaks and protect the public's health.

- 4.2 The strategy requires a public-facing board led by Council Members to communicate openly with the public in relation to the outbreak control plan.
- 4.3 The sub-committee will focus on assuring that we have robust community engagement and that we are identifying and containing potential outbreaks in such places as schools, care homes and workplaces, and will work closely with the NHS, Public Health England and other local partners to achieve this.
- 4.4 The Strategic Place Board is established in accordance with the requirements of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and it holds delegated authority to undertake statutory health and wellbeing functions on behalf of the Council.
- 4.5 The sub-committee will be subject to scrutiny by the Health, Schools and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- 4.6 A Vice-Chairman will be nominated at the first public meeting.

**Board Support**

- 4.7 Rochdale Borough Council Governance Services are responsible for the distribution of the agenda and reports, recording minutes, maintaining the actions tracker and the organisation of the meetings.
- 4.8 Rochdale Borough Council Public Health team are responsible for the Board forward plan, developing the agenda and support for Board members to fulfil their role.

**Alternatives Considered**

- 4.9 The Council is required to establish a body as part of the national Test and Trace Service, designed to control the rate of reproduction of Covid-19 by reducing the spread of the infection.

<b>Costs and Budget Summary</b>
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- 5. There are no costs associated with the establishment of the sub-committee

<b>Risk and Policy Implications</b>
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- 6. The risk of not having a robust local response in the context of national policies and guidance is the potential for increased spread of the virus and the impact of that on the health, wellbeing and wider impacts on individuals, communities and the Borough

<b>Consultation</b>
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- 7. Consultation undertaken with Local Authorities, Executive Members, Partner Organisations.

<b>Background Papers</b>	<b>Place of Inspection</b>
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8. <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/containing-and-managing-local-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreaks/covid-19-contain-framework-a-guide-for-local-decision-makers#local-outbreak">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/containing-and-managing-local-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreaks/covid-19-contain-framework-a-guide-for-local-decision-makers#local-outbreak</a>	None applicable
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