

ENGAGEMENT BOARD (COVID-19)

MINUTES OF MEETING Wednesday, 30 September 2020

PRESENT: Councillor Brett; Councillors Dearnley and Heakin;
D. Dawson, Dr C Duffy, Jones K. Bertram,

OFFICERS: G. Hopper (Director of Children's Services), A. Fallon (Director of Public Health), D. Brierley (Head of Communications), M. Garraway (Committee Services)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: A. Threlfall, L. Schofield and D. Gardner.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Blundell, Councillor Emsley and Councillor Rowbotham

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

2 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

Resolved

That Councillor Brett be appointed as Chair and Dr Chris Duffy be appointed vice Chair of the Engagement Board (Covid-19).

3 TERMS OF REFERENCE

Consideration was given to proposed terms of reference for the Engagement Board.

Resolved

That the terms of reference for the Engagement Board (Covid-19) be approved.

4 INTELLIGENCE UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Public Health which set out the current position in relation to Covid-19 within the Borough.

Evidence indicated that cases of Covid-19 had been increasing in some regions, following what had been a continual decline across all parts of the country. National lockdown restrictions had gradually been lifted, with many businesses re-opening and people able to see each other again. Following a rise in cases across the region and the announcement by the Government that additional local measures were being put in place in Greater Manchester, new laws prohibiting social gatherings of more than six people had come into force on Monday 14 September 2020.

The local information presented information relating to cases of Covid-19, including numbers of people in hospital with Covid-19, deaths in the Borough, care home outbreaks and the number of deaths in care homes. This had been

plotted against a timeline which illustrated the course of events in the Borough.

The presentation also included some detail on the limitations of data and what it would be helpful to monitor going forwards to understand how the situation is being managed.

Resolved

That the report be noted.

5 OUTBREAK PLAN

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Public Health setting out the Outbreak Plan for the Borough.

The Director of Public Health commented that the NHS Test and Trace Programme was just one strand of an overall approach to managing Covid-19 outbreaks. There was still a role for local authorities and partners to work jointly together to support the overall programme and ensure successful outbreak prevention and management in local areas.

One of the requirements for each local authority area with public health responsibilities was to produce an Outbreak Control Plan.

The overall aim of the Outbreak Control Plan was to provide a framework for the approach to preventing and controlling outbreaks of Covid-19 and reducing the spread of the virus.

Resolved

That the report be noted.

6 ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Public Health which set out key themes of engagement activity across the Borough in relation to the pandemic.

There had been an effort to share key public health messages and updates on the current situation in the Borough, working closely with partners to ensure consistent messaging, including the public health actions taken by partners and public health.

Resolved

That the report be noted.