



Committee report

Committee	CABINET
Date	9 JULY 2020
Title	ISLE OF WIGHT OUTBREAK CONTROL PLAN
Report of	DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

REASONS FOR URGENCY

1. The chairman of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee has been consulted in regard to the need for urgency and approved the paper going on the forward plan immediately.
2. To comply with the need for an COVID19 Outbreak Control Plan for the IOW this paper was added less than the 28-day notice for items for the July Cabinet agenda.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

3. The purpose of this report is to update and seek the Cabinet's endorsement for the steps taken by the council to put in place a Local Outbreak Control Plan for the Isle of Wight.
4. This report recommends the establishment of a Local Outbreak Engagement Board, as a sub-committee of Cabinet chaired by the leader of the council, to provide political oversight of the local delivery of the Test and Trace Service, to lead the engagement with local communities and to be the public face of the council's response in the event of any local outbreaks of COVID-19.
5. This report also recommends the establishment of a Covid-19 Health Protection Board chaired by the Director of Public Health to manage the COVID-19 pandemic for the Isle of Wight and delegates to the Director of Public Health authority to allocate the funding provided.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

6. The Government has recently launched the Test and Trace service, which is a central part of the government's Covid-19 Recovery Strategy. The primary objectives of the Test and Trace service are to control the Covid-19 rate of reproduction, reduce the spread of infection and save lives, and in doing so help to return life to normal as

soon as possible, for as many people as possible, in a way that is safe, protects our health and care systems and releases the economy.

7. Achieving these objectives will require a co-ordinated effort from local and national government, the NHS, Public Health England, businesses and employers, voluntary organisations and other community partners, and the public. Local planning and response are an essential part of the Test and Trace service, and the council has a central role to play in the identification and management of infection as the authority with responsibility for public health through the statutory Director of Public Health.
8. Building on the foundation of the role of the Director of Public Health at the council, and working with Public Health England's local health protection teams, the council will build on existing health protection plans to put in place measures to identify and contain outbreaks and protect the public's health. The response will be delivered at different levels and by different organisations, however these will need to be brought together at upper tier local authority level under the leadership of the Director of Public Health to optimise place-based planning, monitoring and response.
9. The Director of Public Health is responsible for defining these measures and producing the Local Outbreak Management Plan, working through the newly established Covid-19 Health Protection Board. The Director of Public Health will be supported by and work in collaboration with Gold Command of the Isle of Wight council, Local Resilience Forum and the Isle of Wight Local Outbreak Engagement Board. The Local Outbreak Engagement Board, led by the leader of the council, will provide political ownership and public-facing engagement and communication relating to outbreak response.
10. Government Guidance has indicated that Local Outbreak Control Plans should be centred around seven themes:

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

High risk Places, locations and communities - identifying and planning how to manage other high-risk places, locations and communities of interest including sheltered housing, dormitories for migrant workers, transport access points (e.g., ports, airports), detained settings, rough sleepers etc (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. This could include delivering tests to isolated individuals, establishing local pop-up sites or hosting mobile testing units at high-risk locations (e.g. defining how to prioritise and manage deployment)

Contact tracing in complex settings - assessing local and regional contact tracing and infection control capability in complex settings (e.g. Tier 1b) and the need for mutual aid (e.g. identifying specific local complex communities of interest and settings, developing assumptions to estimate demand, developing options to scale capacity if needed)

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

Vulnerable People - supporting vulnerable local people to get help to self-isolate (e.g. encouraging neighbours to offer support, identifying relevant community groups, planning how to co-ordinate and deploy) and ensuring services meet the needs of diverse communities

Local Boards - establishing governance structures led by a Covid-19 Health Protection Board and supported by existing Gold command forums and a new member-led Board to communicate with the public

The Local Outbreak Control Plan

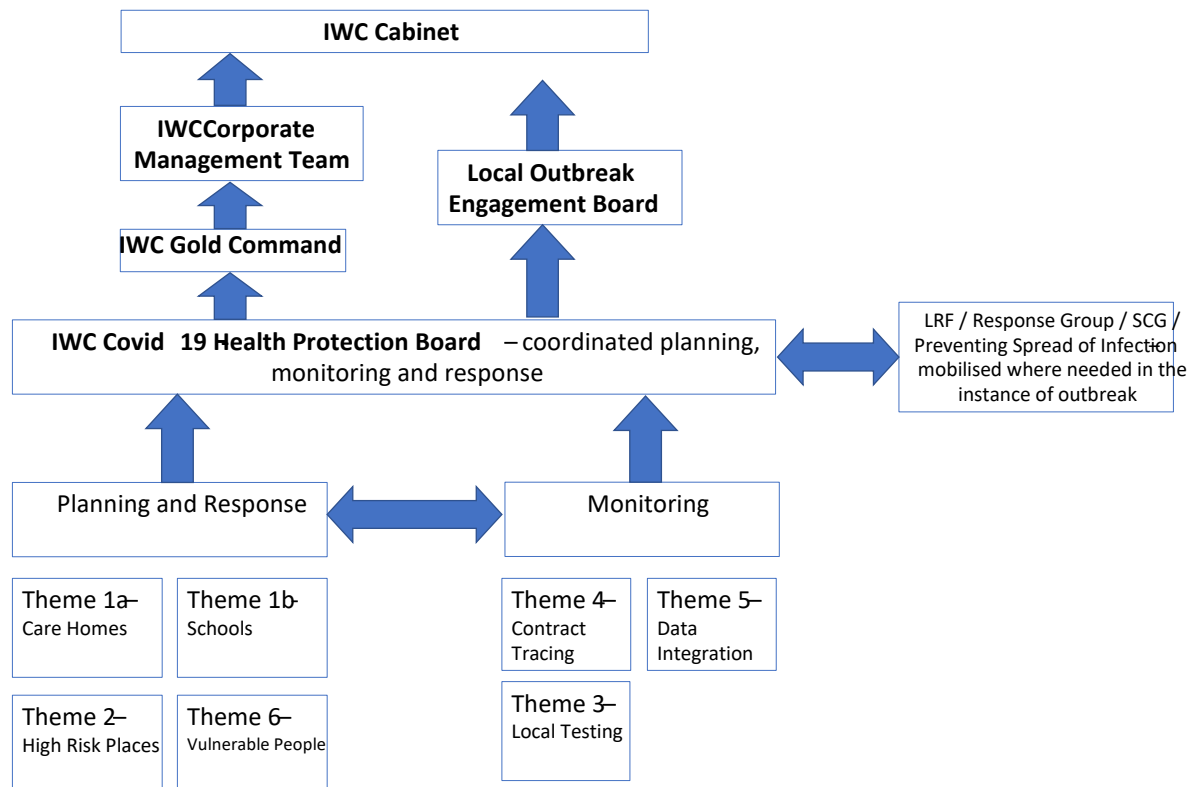
11. The Plan has been developed based on the work of 11 early adopter Local Authorities and also in partnership with key agencies including thematic leads.
12. The rapid development of the Plan has been undertaken with a theme lead working to develop action cards to identify key processes and guidance for each setting. These action cards are informed by Standard Operating Procedures for local outbreak control alongside the specific application to the setting and national and local learnings so far in Covid-19 response. The outline Plan is attached at Appendix A.
13. Testing, contact tracing and data integration are key strands in monitoring the incidents, informing decisive and timely local response and ultimately stopping the spread of the virus. The Plan will bring together these cross-cutting aspects to ensure an efficient, informed and joined up approach. This aspect will be in collaboration with other relevant Partners.
14. Given the fast-changing nature and on-going learning of Covid-19 incidents, it is imperative that the Plan is dynamic and regularly updated under the oversight of the Covid-19 Health Protection Board.
15. Access to national data has been given to the Director of Public Health and the Chief Executive through a secure web-based portal, and protocols are already established for holding and sharing this data. Where additional personally identifiable data will need to be shared between organisations for purposes of outbreak response, it is anticipated that this will be performed under existing data sharing arrangements and powers. If new arrangements are required as part of the development of outbreak control plans these will be subject to Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIA).

Governance Structure

16. As detailed in the diagram below, the governance has been built on the key thematic areas identified in the Local Outbreak Control Plan, recognising the importance of coordinating planning and response and ensuring the alignment of testing, contract tracing and wider data integration. Each theme has a nominated lead, who will be

responsible for aligning requirements to existing governance structures and standard operating procedures for outbreak control.

17. The thematic leads will report into the Covid-19 Health Protection Board, which will draw on additional response groups, such as the Local Resilience Forum (LRF), as necessary and in accordance with triggers set out in the Local Outbreak Control Plan.
18. The Covid-19 Health Protection Board will then be accountable to the IOW Gold Command and the Local Outbreak Engagement Board.



The Local Outbreak Engagement Board

19. The Local Outbreak Engagement Board will provide political oversight of the local delivery of the Test and Trace Service, lead engagement with local communities and be the public face of the council’s response in the event of an outbreak of COVID-19. The terms of reference for the Board are included in Appendix B.
20. The Board will be formally constituted as a council cabinet sub-committee and will be chaired by the leader of the council. The Council members will be the leader of the council, The Executive Member for Adult Services and Public Health, The Executive Lead Member for Children’s Services and Young People and the Executive Member.
21. The board is not a formal decision-making committee and is to act as an advisory board only. The board is there to assist in determining the required action should an outbreak occur. Any necessary decisions will be made under delegated authority of the Director of Public Health or Chief Executive or referred to Cabinet or Cabinet Member for decision.

22. Members listed are: Leader Deputy Leader Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Digital Transformation
23. The Terms of Reference for the LOEB can be found in Appendix B to this report.

The Covid-19 Health Protection Board

24. The Covid-19 Health Protection Board is responsible for strategic oversight of health protection regarding Covid-19 for the Isle of Wight including prevention, surveillance, planning and response, to ensure the needs of the population are met. The Terms of Reference for the Board are included in Appendix B, and the Board will support local delivery of the primary objectives of the Government strategy to:
 - control the Covid-19 reproduction number (R)
 - reduce the spread of infection
 - lower the incidence of cases and save lives; and
 - in so doing help return life to as normal as possible, for as many people as possible, in a way that is safe, protects our health and care systems and our economy.
25. Under the leadership of the Director of Public Health the Board will be responsible for the on-going development and delivery of the Local Outbreak Control Plan, including the specific thematic areas. The Board will comprise of officer representatives from the NHS and Public Health England to ensure a collaborative oversight and engagement.

CONSULTATION

26. Consultation has been undertaken with partner agencies.

FINANCIAL / BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

27. The Council has been awarded £700,230 under the Local Authority Covid-19 Test and Trace Service Support Grant.
28. The purpose of the grant is to provide support to local authorities in England towards expenditure lawfully incurred or to be incurred in relation to the mitigation against and management of local outbreaks of COVID-19. The Director of Public Health will be responsible for utilising and allocating this funding in accordance with the Local Authority Covid-19 Test and Trace Service Support Grant Determination, and it will be administered within the Council's existing financial regulations, the Constitution and departmental schemes of delegation.
29. The Chief Executive and Chief Internal Auditor will be required to sign and return to the Department for Health and Social Care a declaration, with timings in line with normal MHCLG reporting processes to confirm the conditions of the grant are complied with.

30. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

31. Generally, there is no need to compel people to take action to protect their own and other people's health. Occasionally, however, voluntary measures are insufficient and legal powers are needed to deal with infections or contamination that present a significant risk to human health. The powers now available to local authorities include powers that can be exercised without judicial oversight and other powers that involve an application to a magistrate for a Part 2A Order. The measures are contained in the Public Health (Control of Disease) Act 1984 (as amended) together with the Health Protection (Local Authority Powers) Regulations 2010 and the Health Protection (Part 2A Orders) Regulations 2010.
32. The powers will usually be exercised in consultation with other organisations, such as the Health Protection Agency, the NHS or the emergency services and are detailed in the Outbreak Control Plan, including the criteria and assessment of the potential for significant harm to human health, risk of spread to others and necessity for action to be taken in order to reduce or remove that risk.

RECOMMENDATION – That Cabinet;

33. Endorses the steps taken so far to establish a Local Outbreak Control Plan. This plan will be subject to regular update and review under the direction of the Director of Public Health and the Isle of Wight Covid-19 Health Protection Board.
34. Approves the establishment of a Local Outbreak Engagement Board for the Isle of Wight and the proposed Terms of Reference.
35. Approves the establishment of a Covid-19 Health Protection Board and the proposed Terms of Reference
36. Delegates to the Director of Public Health the authority to allocate the funding allocated to the Council in accordance with the Local Authority Covid-19 Test and Trace Service Support Grant Determination, and the Council's existing financial regulations, the Constitution and departmental scheme of delegation, including consultation with the Chief Executive where appropriate.

37. APPENDICES ATTACHED

[Appendix A](#) - Outbreak Control Plan

[Appendix B](#) – Local Outbreak Engagement Board and COVID19 Health Protection Board Terms of Reference

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