DECISION-MAKER:			Local Outbreak Engagement Board						
SUBJECT:			Update from the Director of Public Health						
DATE OF DECISION:			29 th March 2021						
REPORT OF:			Director of Public Health						
CONTACT DETAILS									
AUTHOR:		Name:	Debbie Chase, Director of Public Health	Tel:	023 80833694				
E-mail:		E-mail:	debbie.chase@southampton.gov.uk						
Director		Name:	Director of Public Health	Ith Tel: 023 80833694					
E-n		E-mail:	debbie.chase@southampton.gov.uk						
STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY									
N/A									
BRIEF SUMMARY									
Partners are invited to provide updates on work undertaken across the city to help prevent and reduce the spread of Covid-19. The updates will take into account what we have learnt, what has gone well and challenges over the past year in dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic, and the mental health impact of Covid-19 and recovery approach. Partner updates will cover symptom-free testing, Covid-19 Marshalls, Covid-19									
Champions, Covid Innovation Projects, the roll out of vaccinations in the city, and the impacts of the pandemic and mental health and wellbeing.									
RECOMMENDATIONS:									
	(i) To note the work undertaken by partners across the city.								
	(ii) To receive verbal feedback from partner members of the Board on the COVID-19 situation.								
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS									
	1. To ensure that the Local Outbreak Engagement Board is aware of the scope of work being undertaken by Southampton City Council and partners relating to the coronavirus (COVID-19) over the past year.								
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED									
2. I	N/A								
DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)									
	Symptom free testing								
3	On 6th March Southampton City Council launched a symptom-free community testing programme targeted at workers that need to leave home to attend work, and people that have sustained contact with early years and schools children, such as members of households, childcare or support bubbles of early years and school pupils and staff. The key objectives of the targeted community testing programme are to:								
	Reduce community transmission of COVID-19 by identifying asymptomatic carriage within the Southampton population, and								

- ensuring positive cases and their close contacts self-isolate to avoid passing the virus onto others.
- 2. **Inform surveillance** by contributing to a more accurate picture of incidence, prevalence and trends of COVID-19 in the Southampton population.

A presentation will be given to update the Board on the roll out of symptom free testing across Southampton.

4. Covid-19 Marshalls

The Southampton Covid-19 marshals were deployed from the beginning of December 2020 and have since patrolled the city centre and district centres and visited businesses to monitor and support Covid-19 safety measures. A presentation will be given to update the Board on the Covid-19 marshals activity over the last four months.

5. **Covid-19 Champions**

There are over 400 champions in the programme. A presentation will be given to the Board on recent survey feedback, and what is being done to further build relationships with Champions.

6. Covid-19 Innovation Projects

The COVID-19 Innovation Fund has been supporting community initiatives with the aim of promoting awareness, engagement and compliance with key COVID-19 public health measures. The Fund has sought to support projects that target groups in which prevalence of COVID-19 is highest or may increase, and groups which otherwise might not be reached. There has been an emphasis on 'locally informed' communications, to complement national messaging. LifeLab at the University of Southampton, and colleagues at University Hospital Southampton, have worked with those of school and college age to develop communications intended for young people – such as videos promoting the 'hands face space' message for distribution via social media. Separately, videos about COVID-19 have also been produced with the aim of reaching residents whose first language is not English. A presentation will be given to the Board on these projects that the Innovation Fund has supported.

7. Vaccinations

The NHS in Hampshire and Isle of Wight is continuing to vaccinate patients against coronavirus during the biggest immunisation programme in history. Across the county NHS teams, supported by a network of volunteers, are engaged in the huge effort to vaccinate priority groups in line with the target dates outlined by the government's Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JVCI). An update on the current status of the vaccination roll out across the City will be presented to the Board.

8. **Mental Health & Wellbeing**

A presentation will be given to the Board on mental health and wellbeing campaigns during the pandemic. These include:

- World Mental Health Day (led by Time to Change Hub)
- Time to Talk Day (led by Time to Change Hub)

- o 5 ways of wellbeing campaign (SCC)
- Other social media work:
 - Ongoing Time to Change Hub work
 - o 'Lockdown' tips a video and social media campaign
 - Collaboration with No Limits

There will also be an update on the services supporting mental health and wellbeing.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Capital/Revenue

9. On 22 September 2020 the Prime Minister announced that £60 million will be made available across the police and local authorities for compliance and enforcement activities. Of this £30 million has been allocated to local authorities and the remainder has been allocated to police forces. This funding is ringfenced for Covid-secure compliance and enforcement. Southampton's funding allocation is £153,929 and Hampshire Constabulary has been awarded £778,166. Funding has been provided for four months, with an assumption that the funding will be used before March 2021.

Property/Other

10. n/a

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:

11. All actions taken are in accordance with the Coronavirus Act 2020, subordinate legislation and/or existing public health law.

Other Legal Implications:

- 12. The COVID-19 framework sets out responsibilities for a Local Outbreak Engagement Board to provide public engagement and community leadership.
- The framework notes "Local DPH teams and PHE will have good situational awareness and are best placed to monitor and identify potential issues in their area." <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#data

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

14. COVID-19 risks are being managed in line with the council's risk management framework.

POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS

15. N/A

KEY DECISION? No.

WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED: All

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices

1. None

Documents In Members' Rooms

1.	None						
Equality Impact Assessment							
Do the Safety	No						
Data Protection Impact Assessment							
Do the Impact	No						
Other Background Documents Other Background documents available for inspection at:							
Title of Background Paper(s)		Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)					
1.	None	•					