

<b>DECISION-MAKER:</b>	Local Outbreak Engagement Board		
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Local Outbreak Management Plan: Prevention and Control		
<b>DATE OF DECISION:</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> June 2021		
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	Director of Public Health		
<b><u>CONTACT DETAILS</u></b>			
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<b>STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY</b>	
Not applicable	
<b>BRIEF SUMMARY</b>	
<p>Southampton City Council published their Covid-19 Outbreak Control Plan in June 2020 and refreshed it in February 2021. The Plan set out plans to identify and control outbreaks of Covid-19. Later in February the Department of Health and Social Care wrote to all Directors of Public Health to inform them of a new requirement to update and refresh these plans as Local Outbreak Management Plans, incorporating the learning from managing the pandemic to date into future plans.</p>	
<p>Southampton City Council recognised they been responding to Covid-19 infections and resulting pandemic for a year, so welcomed the review as a timely opportunity to learn from experiences to date. Given the strong partnership in the City and in recognition of the time, commitment and effort that so many partners had contributed to this response, Southampton City Council made a decision to undertake this review together with partners through our Health Protection Board to ensure it was meaningful. The updated Southampton Outbreak Management Plan: Prevention and Control is the result of this partnership review and sets out our plans for managing the pandemic.</p>	
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b>	
(i)	That Southampton Outbreak Engagement Board members note the updated Outbreak Management Plan; Prevention and Control (OMP) and the collaborative approach undertaken with partners to refresh it.
(ii)	<p>That Southampton Outbreak Engagement Board members note key changes to reflect the evolving nature of the pandemic and our response to it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change of title</li> <li>• New sections on Variants of Concern/ Variants Under Investigation and Enduring Transmission</li> <li>• Updated testing, vaccinations, outbreak identification and response, and community engagement sections</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Future planning</li> <li>• Strengthening the focus on those most vulnerable and the aim to prevent further exacerbation of health inequalities</li> </ul>
<b>REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	
1.	The purpose of the Southampton Outbreak Management Plan: Prevention and Control is to describe how we will work as a system in Southampton to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and local outbreaks of COVID-19. It has been refreshed in collaboration with our Health Protection Board, based on the experience and expertise of partners and their learning from managing the pandemic over the last year, alongside learning from colleagues in other Local Authorities. The plan includes additional sections as specified in the Government's updated COVID-19 contain outbreak management framework for local areas.
<b>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</b>	
2.	Not applicable
<b>DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)</b>	
3.	The <a href="#">Southampton COVID-19 Outbreak Control Plan</a> (OCP) was published in June 2020 in response to a requirement within the <a href="#">Contain</a> framework, published by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC). The OCP was the response of the City Council and its partners to the challenge posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. It described the measures needed to reduce risk, and the processes to ensure local outbreaks of COVID-19 are identified and controlled as quickly as possible. The plan was updated and published in February 2021.
4.	In late February 2021 The Department of Health and Social Care wrote to all Directors of Public Health to inform them of a new requirement to update and refresh Local Outbreak Management Plans. The stated purpose of the refresh was to <i>“incorporate the learning from the past nine months and to prepare for the year ahead; identifying what has worked well, what hasn't, what are the issues, risks and opportunities moving forward and further support required from the regional and national teams.”</i>
5.	Southampton saw it's first case of Covid-19 on 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2020, so had been responding to Covid-19 infections and the resulting pandemic for a year. Southampton City Council felt it was timely to take this opportunity for a review. Given the strong partnership in the City and in recognition of the time, commitment and effort that so many partners had contributed to the pandemic response, Southampton City Council made a decision to undertake this review with partners through our Health Protection Board to ensure it was meaningful and opportunities for learning maximised.
6.	The following approach was agreed to refresh the plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An audit of the OCP against specified criteria by Public Health England.</li> <li>• A workshop at Southampton Health Protection Board to focus on a lookback and reflection on management of the pandemic to date.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A follow up workshop at Southampton Health Protection Board to focus on looking forward and shaping the future Outbreak Control Plan.</li> <li>• A peer review exercise with a neighbouring Local Authority to review, challenge and support one another to improve our plans.</li> <li>• Presentation of the refreshed plan to system partners at the Health Protection Board.</li> </ul>
7.	The review identified many areas of good practice in Southampton including strong partnerships; community response; leadership; sharing of intelligence; opportunities for innovation, flexibility and responsiveness. It also identified gaps in the plan as the pandemic has evolved, and areas that could be strengthened.
8.	<p>The plan has been refreshed in line with the findings identified through the review process, specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change of title to reflect the focus on management of the pandemic, and prevention and to the structure</li> <li>• An additional section on Variants of Concern and Variants Under Investigation has been added, reflecting the need to plan for new Covid-19 variants</li> <li>• An additional section has been added on “Enduring Transmission”, reflecting learning from other parts of the country that have struggled to reduce Covid-19 infection rates, assessing our risk and plans for response in the event of enduring transmission</li> <li>• An update of the testing, vaccinations, outbreak identification and response, and community engagement sections, focusing on the changing systems, services and resources available, changing systems and a focus on enabling access to services and protecting the most vulnerable</li> <li>• Strengthening the focus on those most vulnerable and the aim to prevent further exacerbation of health inequalities throughout the plan in response to issues identified through the Equality and Safety Impact Assessment; learning about the differential impact of the pandemic within the community and areas of the country that have experienced enduring transmission</li> <li>• An additional section has been added on future planning, acknowledging that the plan is a live document, referring to the Government Roadmap and how it will adapt and reflecting the issues that we expect to need to consider as the pandemic evolves</li> </ul>
9.	Southampton Outbreak Engagement Board members are asked to note the updated Outbreak Management Plan; Prevention and Control (OMP) and the collaborative approach undertaken with partners to refresh it.
<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>	
<b><u>Capital/Revenue</u></b>	
<b><u>Property/Other</u></b>	
11.	Not applicable
<b>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</b>	

<b><u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u></b>	
12.	The Coronavirus Act 2020 provides the primary statutory framework for responding to COVID-19 outbreaks and is supported by a number of Regulations, Orders and statutory and non-statutory guidance on specific subject areas. The primary Regulations are the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) Regulations 2020, informally known as "the Lockdown Regulations". These were enacted and came to force on 26 March 2020. The Regulations expand on the Act and set out the detailed restrictions of what is and is not permitted, which when taken together impose the key elements of lockdown. Any easing of lockdown comes from amending or lifting these national Regulations. The powers of the Police to enforce lockdown also flow from these national Regulations and Orders and guidance made pursuant to them. 6. Using the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) (no.3) Regulations 2020.
13.	On 18th July 2020, legislation to grant local authorities new powers to respond to a serious and imminent threat to public health and to prevent COVID-19 ("coronavirus") transmission in a local authority's area took effect. The regulations include powers for local authorities to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• restrict access to, or close, individual premises</li> <li>• prohibit certain events (or types of event) from taking place</li> <li>• restrict access to, or close, public outdoor places (or types of outdoor public places).</li> </ul>
14.	For further details see section 'Legal context for managing outbreaks' on page 35 of the attached Southampton Outbreak Control Plan. 7. The DHSC guidance Local authority powers to impose restrictions: Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) (No.3) Regulations 2020 provides advice to local authorities on how to implement the Regulations and to support those impacted by any intervention made under them.
<b><u>Other Legal Implications:</u></b>	
15.	None
<b>RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS</b>	
16.	Not applicable. No decision being requested. For noting only.
<b>POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS</b>	
17.	In alignment with SCC plans.

<b>KEY DECISION?</b>	No
<b>WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:</b>	All
<b><u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u></b>	
<b>Appendices</b>	
1.	None

### **Documents In Members' Rooms**

1.	None	
<b>Equality Impact Assessment</b>		
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out.		Yes (completed)
<b>Data Protection Impact Assessment</b>		
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out.		No
<b>Other Background Documents</b>		
Other Background documents available for inspection at:		
<b>Title of Background Paper(s)</b>		<b>Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)</b>
1.	Not applicable	