

DECISION-MAKER:	Local Outbreak Engagement Board		
SUBJECT:	COVID-19 National Situation Report		
DATE OF DECISION:	8 th December 2020		
REPORT OF:	Interim Director of Public Health		
<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
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STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY			
Not applicable.			
BRIEF SUMMARY			
The Board will be updated on the latest Covid-19 related guidance and legislation.			
RECOMMENDATIONS:			
	(i)	To note the national situation in relation to the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic.	
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS			
1.	To ensure that the Local Outbreak Engagement Board is informed about the latest national guidance and legislation relating to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.		
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED			
2.	No alternative options considered.		
DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)			
3.	<p><u>Update on latest guidance and legislation</u></p> <p>A key function of the Board is to support the local delivery of the primary objectives of the Government's strategy to control the Covid-19 reproduction number (R), reduce the spread of infection and save lives, and in doing so help to 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 releases our economy. To achieve this aim it is important that the Board is aware of the latest guidance and legislation issued by central government.</p>		
4.	The UK entered a second national lockdown on 5 th November, until 2 nd December.		
5.	On 23 rd November 2020 the government set out its Covid-19 Winter Plan, announcing that the UK will return to a Tier system on 2 nd December.		
	The UK government has completed negotiations with biotech company Moderna to secure access to 5 million doses of its vaccine, enough for around 2.5 million people (announced by the Business Secretary on Monday 16 th November). If it meets robust standards of safety and effectiveness and approved by the medicines regulator, the vaccine could be delivered to the		

	UK and Europe as early as Spring 2021 with the potential for the government to procure more doses next year.
6.	New guidance has been published on visiting arrangements in care homes for the period of national restrictions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provider must formally take into account the advice of the local DPH • Maximum of 2 constant visitors per resident • Booking system should be in place • Outdoors where possible, with window visits or visiting pods an option • Indoor visits must use a 'substantial' screen
7.	The furlough scheme has been extended to end March 2021, with employees receiving 80% of their current salary for hours not worked.
8.	On 16 November, the Government launched a new pilot of regular COVID-19 testing for family members or friends of those living in care homes to enable more frequent visits. The pilot is initially taking place in around 20 homes in Hampshire, Cornwall, and Devon and will be rolled out more widely in December in time for Christmas.
9.	Winter support for children and families: On 8 November a new £170m Covid Winter Grant Scheme was announced by DWP. The funding will be ring-fenced, with at least 80% earmarked to support with food and bills, and will cover the period to the end of March 2021. Local Authorities will receive the funding at the beginning of December 2020.
10.	Summer exams 2021: On Monday 12 October the Government announced that those who will be sitting their AS, A levels and GCSEs in the summer of 2021 will have a three-week extension. The summer exam series will now start from 7 June and end on 2 July.
11.	On 9 November the government announced it would be rolling out lateral flow tests across England to directors of public health.
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Capital/Revenue</u>	
12.	None.
<u>Property/Other</u>	
13.	None.
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	
14.	Coronavirus Act 2020
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>	
15.	The COVID-19 contain framework sets out responsibilities for a Local Outbreak Engagement Board to provide public engagement and community leadership.
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS	
16.	COVID-19 risks are being managed in line with the council's risk management framework.

POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS	
17.	None.
KEY DECISION?	No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	All
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
Appendices	
1.	None
Documents In Members' Rooms	
1.	None
Equality Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out.	No
Data Protection Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out.	/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