Local Outbreak Management Plan: Update March 2021

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COVID-19 TEST

Haringey
LONDON

Contents

Introduction

Across the UK, Covid-19 has had a huge impact on our lives. In Haringey, in line with the rest of the UK, we have seen large numbers of cases and, unfortunately, over 370 deaths. Covid-19 has disproportionately affected those experiencing higher levels of deprivation, both in the number of cases and economically.

This Local Outbreak Management Plan has been created to set out Haringey's approach to managing outbreaks of Covid-19. We want to protect the health and wellbeing of our communities and the best way to do this is to prevent outbreaks of Covid-19 and reduce the impact of outbreaks where they arise.

We need everyone in Haringey to work together to stop the spread of Covid-19 and keep our communities safe, to protect lives and to support our local economy.

This Local Outbreak Management Plan is a draft version, approved by Haringey's Director for Public Health and prepared for regional submission to the Department of Health & Social Care (DHSC). It will be circulated for further community and partner engagement as part of it's development.

What is a local outbreak management plan

This plan is an outline of our local priorities in Haringey for preventing and managing local outbreaks of Covid-19.

All local authorities were asked to produce a Local Outbreak Management Plan in June 2020, which Haringey completed at that time. We are now being asked to update this plan reflecting how much has changed since June 2020 – from vaccinations to improved testing and contact tracing.

We will outline how Haringey will work with our communities, our partners, the NHS, Public Health England, and the Government to prevent a rise in local infections and prevent and manage local outbreaks of Covid-19.

We will highlight how we are working to protect our most vulnerable residents, for example those in care homes or experiencing homelessness.

Summary of our outbreak plan and objectives

Our approach to outbreak management is:

→ To work with Public Health England to closely monitor clusters and outbreaks of Covid-19 in the borough.

→ To rapidly respond to any local outbreaks that develop.

→ To work closely with the community and settings classified as 'higher risk', in order to support them in preventing and managing outbreaks.

→ To link in to related national, regional and local programmes and activities.

Our overarching objectives:

→ To make testing as easy and as widely available as possible to all of our residents.

→ To target our interventions to reduce inequalities.

→ To be flexible to need and demand.

→ To engage with our communities to ensure we fully understand the issues they face and can offer flexible and appropriate support.
To work with our partners to ensure we all play a role

in reducing cases of Covid-19 in Haringey.
To understand the impact of Covid-19 on our local communities (both short and long term) and respond to this.
To encourage all of our residents to get vaccinated when they are invited to do so.

The role of the Local Authority

Haringey Council as a Local Authority has a lead role in protecting and improving the health of its population. The council has a Public Health service with a Director of Public Health, which is separate to but works closely with Public Health England. The Director of Public Health has a leadership role for the council's contribution to health protection matters, including preparing for and responding to incidents that present a threat to public health. This Local Outbreak Management Plan is a key part of the council's response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The wider role for Haringey as the Local Authority is to:

→ Support the London Coronavirus Response Cell (LCRC) in their initial response and investigation in order to allow an accurate risk assessment to be undertaken to inform actions that may be necessary.

→ Convene a local authority Incident Management Team (IMT) if required.

→ Ensure appropriate Local Authority representation at IMT meetings if convened by LCRC and providing them with local public health insight/advice relevant to the outbreak, with regards to the vulnerability of the community, communication of risk locally and levels of media interest.

→ Deliver Covid-19 prevention work and respond to Covid-19 related enquiries.

→ Work with our partners to ensure a co-ordinated response, including through our Health Protection Board which incorporates local NHS and voluntary partners.

→ Work with wider local and regional partners as required, including community representatives, business forums, regional DHSC, GLA and Public Health England colleagues.

→ Ensuring that contracted providers deliver an appropriate clinical response to any incident that threatens the public's health.

→ Ensuring Business Continuity impacts are

monitored and that the council is able to continue to deliver on its priority services.
Consider the authorisation of variations to contractual obligations to respond to communicable disease outbreaks and incidents not covered by Major Incident clauses where necessary.

The council also has a statutory duty to investigate infectious disease linked to workplace settings, undertake inspections, regulate workplace risk assessment processes and exercise powers under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, where they are the Health and Safety enforcement authority. Further information on regulations around Covid-19 are set out below in 'Our Legal Powers'.

Types of outbreak

Local – outbreaks in individual settings such as care homes and workplaces, that are manageable at a local level.

Local/Cross borough – outbreaks that have spread to the local community and may need more support than is available locally. This can be accessed through Public Health England for London and DHSC London support structures.

National – outbreaks that are beyond the control of local actions and require a national response e.g. lockdown or restrictions on social distancing. We will work with national and regional teams to implement this response locally.

Outbreak response

An outbreak is defined as multiple linked cases where there is transmission beyond a single household.

Outbreaks of Covid-19 are identified by Public Health England, working the NHS Test and Trace, or through our own local intelligence, for example with schools and care homes.

There is information on management of outbreaks of Covid-19 in high-risk settings below.

When a significant community outbreak occurs the first step is usually to convene an Incident Management Team (IMT) meeting. This will be convened by Public Health England along with the local authority Director of Public Health (or multiple local authorities if the incident spans borough boundaries). Other people such as headteachers, care home managers or GPs might be invited to this meeting depending on the setting.

Whoever is required to successfully manage the outbreak would be invited and expected to attend.

The IMT meeting will:

→ Ensure information about the outbreak is correct and shared between organisations

→ Assess the risk of the outbreak to others and understand the source of the outbreak

→ Put control measures in place, including expanding testing, ensuring identification and isolation of people with COVID-19 and their close contacts, and any further control measures such as closures of schools or workplaces, discussed in conjunction with other relevant agencies and our enforcement team.

→ Ensure communication with the public as required

→ Continue to meet as necessary to monitor and respond to the outbreak

Key themes

Higher-risk settings, communities and locations

A setting is considered higher risk either because there is a risk of rapid spread of Covid-19, that an outbreak would have an impact on vulnerable people or a combination of both. High-risk settings in the borough include care homes, schools, homeless shelters and more. The council works with these settings in the following ways:

→ **Care homes and supported living providers (including both those for older people and those with other needs)**

- Regular meetings across the council and NHS to discuss and identify issues/support needed for these settings.

- Help procuring PPE.

- Enhanced help for any care home experiencing an outbreak, including twice weekly meetings with public health doctors, expand to Incident Management Team

- Weekly briefing letter containing an overview of any guidance/policy changes or new support available.

- Weekly provider forums for different care settings with updates on latest guidance and changes.

- Webinars in infection prevention and control and other relevant topics.

- Support to care homes to encourage vaccination of staff, including webinars and Q&A sessions.

→ **Schools/Early Years/SEN (Special Educational Needs) settings**

- Provision of dedicated council support staff for Covid-19

- Help with risk assessments/testing programmes/infection prevention.

- Support and advice to any school experiencing an outbreak of Covid-19.

→ **Any other high-risk setting**

- Provide infection prevention and control advice and support.

- Provide support for risk-assessments.

- Provide support and advice when cases are identified.

- In case of an outbreak, convene a multi-agency Incident Management Team if necessary.

- Engage with other high-risk settings in the borough so that they know how to access help if they need it.

We aim to further improve our support for these settings by engaging with these premises and with the wider community and working to identify further locations that may be considered high-risk. We will maintain an open dialogue in order to understand how we can best support their needs.

Vulnerable and underserved communities

Haringey is the 4th most deprived borough in London. We have one of the most ethnically diverse populations of any local authority in the country. There is evidence that there is a higher risk of serious illness and death from Covid-19 in some ethnic groups.

We have three streams of work around engagement with the community and sharing of health messages. These are in addition to the work of the Haringey Communications Team.

Community Protect: Community Protect is a partnership programme led by the Bridge Renewal Trust, together with Public Voice and Mind in Haringey. It has been commissioned by Public Health and Haringey Council to deliver community-based health messaging via the Voluntary and Community Sector to target specific demographic groups. The programme utilises a network of 'grassroots' community groups and organisations to deliver and reinforce public health messages through a variety of methods and channels – both traditional and modern. The overarching aim of Community Protect is to support those most adversely affected or at risk by the Covid-19 pandemic, and to ensure that key public health messages for example on stay home messages, getting tested, self-isolation etc are being received and understood across all Haringey's communities. This is due to run until Sept 2021.

Vaccinations: This is an extension to the Community Protect project to support the uptake of vaccinations amongst specific groups. This is due to run until July 2021.

FACTS/Community Newsroom: The aim of this project is to encourage discussion amongst community groups about the impact of health measures and to discuss concerns around the vaccine. It is funded by the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government and run by the Haringey Adult Learning Service, the libraries and the Public Health team. A group of volunteer residents have set up 'Information Station', a multi-media platform which encourages residents to generate Covid-19 and lockdown related content – blogs, news, vlogs and podcasts – to create a 'trusted community voice' for key public health

messages and information. Participants have received broadcast training from a BBC journalist and can enrol on HALS courses in Blogging, Podcasting and Video Documentary with partners including National Films School. Newsroom will also roll out two programmes of Community Outreach workshops: 'Digital Facts' and 'Health Facts'. This is due to run until September 2021.

We are texting all positive cases and contacts of positive cases in the borough reminding them of the help available in the borough and where to access further information. Text message has proved a popular way of distributing key information.

In the event of an outbreak we are able to use insight from Local Area Coordinators on the local communities i.e. languages spoken, key figures to speak to etc. We are also able to identify residents who may be more vulnerable i.e. those who are shielded or known to Adult Social Care to ensure messaging is targeted appropriately and any anxiety managed.

The following groups are being targeted by each stream:

	Community Protects	Vaccine	FACTS
Older age people	☑	☑	
People with learning disabilities	☑		
People with mental health difficulties	☑		☑
People who are homeless or sleeping rough	☑		☑
Young people who are not accessing education, employment, or training	☑		
Black, Asian and Minority			
Turkish and Kurdish	☑	☑	☑
Black African	☑	☑ (Somali and West African)	☑
Black Caribbean	☑	☑	☑
Asian	☑		
Latin American	☑		
Chinese	☑		
Eastern European	☑	☑	
Roma/Traveller	☑		☑
Orthodox Jewish	☑		☑

Compliance and enforcement

Our Enforcement Team will work in partnership with all external stakeholders including businesses, business forums, Business Improvement Districts, community groups, and members of the public to seek compliance with Covid-19 regulations. We use a range of methods such as providing up-to-date information on our website, business newsletters, engagement through Covid-19 Marshals or Enforcement Officers or direct support through our Covid-19 concerns mailbox – Covid-concerns@haringey.gov.uk .

Our COVID-Safe Business' campaign encourages businesses to ensure their premises are Covid-19 compliant
www.haringey.gov.uk/COVID-19-safe-business-campaign

To be recognised as a Covid-19 safe business the business must:

→ declare compliance to a range of measures including:

- undertaking a comprehensive Covid-19 risk assessment

- putting in place appropriate controls

- training staff so they adhere to Covid-19 control measures

- complying with government and industry guidance to operate safely

→ declare that they will keep up to date with that guidance and advice.

The business will then be sent a 'Covid-19 safe' poster to display in their premises and will be promoted in our list of Covid-19-safe businesses to help generate a culture of Covid-19 compliance in our business community and provide reassurance for customers using these businesses.

Our overall approach to Enforcement in Covid-19-management is to:

→ Initially seek compliance with Covid-19 law by education, encouragement and engagement with individuals and/or businesses.

→ Where other prevention measures have failed or there is deemed to be an imminent risk we will use our enforcement powers to prevent the spread of infection.

To prepare Enforcement's operational response to an outbreak:

→ We have already set up local procedures and rotas for our own Environmental Health and Public Health staff to prepare, if extra staff are needed to be mobilised in the case of a local outbreak.

→ We have regular meetings and/or operations with the Police or other Local Authorities and stakeholders.

→ We will create local scenario exercises to model our response to an outbreak in Haringey.

→ We need to work with national and regional agencies to further understand the powers that we have to impose local or regional measures to contain a significant local outbreak (e.g. school closures etc).

There is an agreement in London between the Metropolitan Police and Local Authorities on the enforcement for the law. The Police will lead and regulate on matters that directly involve restrictions on members of the Public and gatherings or wearing of face masks. The Local Authority will lead on restrictions of businesses and in rare occasions restriction on infected individuals on Health Protection regulations.

In general, the Police have the power to regulate and enforce all recent Covid-19 law. Local Authorities have a range of new powers relating to New Covid-19 Business Restrictions as well as existing powers in Health & Safety, Anti-Social Behaviour and Public Health law.

Our legal powers

The council has a range of legal powers which allow us to close, restrict and make improvements to business and venues for a specific reason and period as well as measures to prevent the spread of infections. We will use our enforcement powers if necessary, to ensure Covid-19 compliance.

These power change regularly and can be found on this website here: **https://www.legislation.gov.uk/coronavirus**

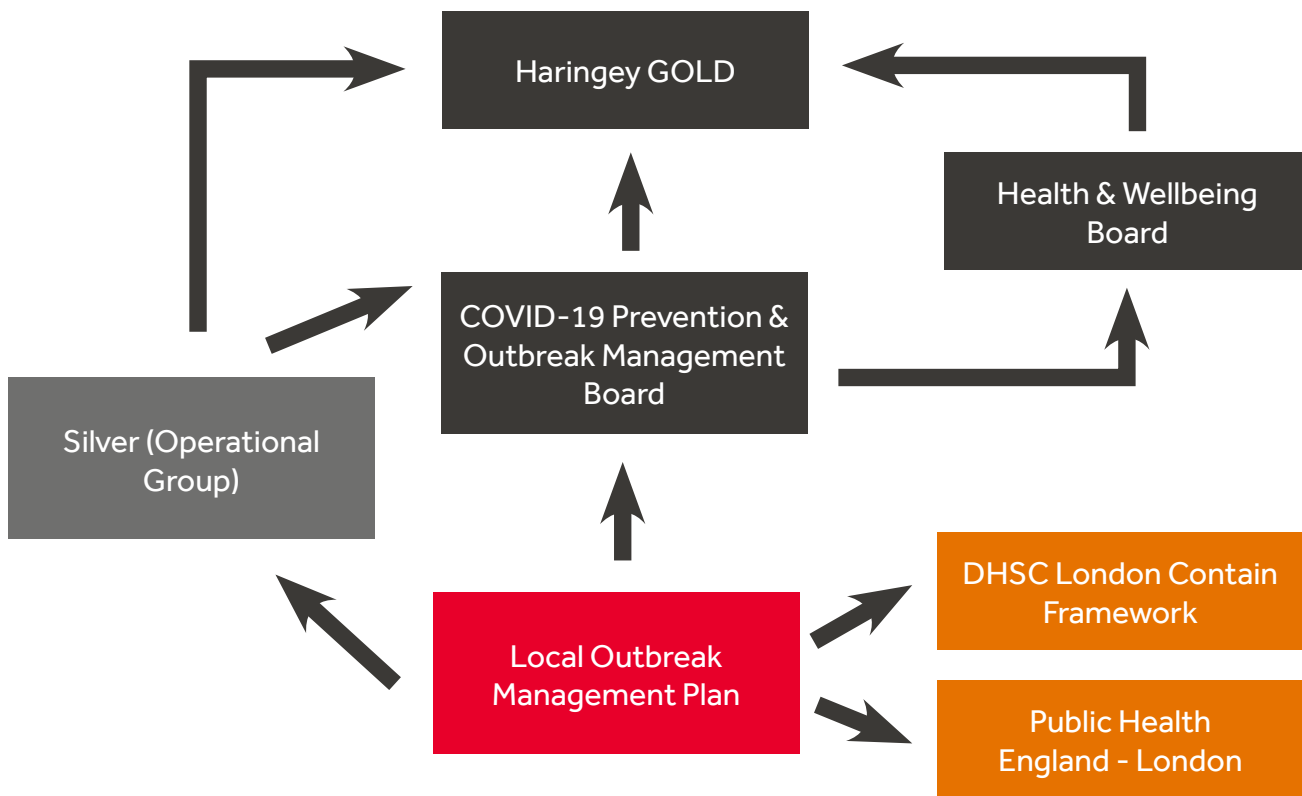There are six key health protection regulations that apply to everyone in England:

→ The Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel) (England) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/568)

→ The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (No. 3) (England) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/750)

→ The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Wearing of Face Coverings in a Relevant Place) (England) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/791)

→ The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Collection of Contact Details etc. and Related Requirements) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/1005)

→ The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (Self-Isolation) (England) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/1045)

→ The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (Local Authority Enforcement Powers) (England) Regulations 2020 (S.I 2020/1375)

In addition to the above powers, Local Authorities may also seek support from ministers to use powers under the Coronavirus Act 2020 to close schools or limit schools to set year groups attendance, to cancel or place restrictions on organised events or gatherings, or to close premises.

Governance

→ Haringey's Local Outbreak Plan is led by the Director of Public Health.

→ The Local Outbreak Plan is steered by the Covid-19 Prevention and Outbreak Management Board, chaired by Haringey's Director of Public Health. Attendance for this board includes key council and local NHS officers as well as voluntary sector and Healthwatch representatives.

→ This Local Outbreak Plan sits within the Government's Contact Framework which can be seen here: COVID-19 contain framework: a guide for local decision-makers - GOV.UK (**www.gov.uk**)

→ The Haringey Covid-19 Prevention and Outbreak Management Board reports to Haringey's Health and Wellbeing Board with regular updates and for engagement on the outbreak plan.

→ Any local outbreaks are managed through an Incident management team, with joint leadership (where appropriate) from PHE and any local authorities impacted, as well as other partners relevant to the situation (e.g. headteachers, GPs and care home managers).

→ Any aspects of the outbreak management plan or incidents which require additional input can be escalated to Haringey Council's GOLD emergency planning structure for our Covid-19 response. Haringey Council GOLD is a strategic meeting of senior managers in the council held as required in order to respond to local emergencies.

→ Our local structure has clear links to Public Health England for London and DHSC London. Their regional support colleagues are used as an escalation point where additional support is required for a significant incident.

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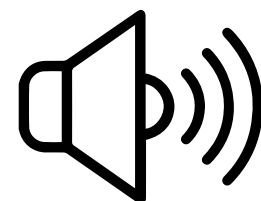
Resourcing

As local authorities have taken on additional responsibilities as the Covid-19 pandemic has progressed, additional resource has been mobilised in Haringey Council in areas such as local testing capacity, local public health response to support care homes and other settings, additional enforcement and communications support and contact tracing teams. As well as staff we have also needed to develop physical infrastructure such as testing sites, and to provide support to vulnerable groups e.g. rough sleepers to remain Covid-19 safe.

Funding been channelled through Haringey's Test and Trace Grant and Contain Outbreak Management Fund funding allocations with oversight from the Director of Public Health, Section 151 officer and Chief Executive.

Beyond March 2021 – we will require further Government Grant funding to maintain activities already in place that form part of our outbreak prevention and management approach. The Council has no business as usual budget capacity for significant outbreak management costs, and therefore any action we take or resources we utilise will have to be within a cost envelope of available government grant funding.

Communications and engagement

Our communications interventions for dealing with local outbreaks include:

→ We will continue to remind people of the Covid-19 risk and explain how they can help themselves and others.

→ We will share data that explains the risk.

→ We will provide reassurance that appropriate measures are in place.

→ We will support vulnerable residents and those most at risk from the virus, including providing information on the support available to them.

→ We will seek to understand the barriers to people playing their part and respond to these.

→ We will listen to the community to ensure the actions we take and the messages we use are effective.

→ We will work with regional and national Communications campaigns to ensure our messages are up to date and consistent with wider information sharing.

→ Further work with the community is set out in section 'Communications & Engagement including Community Resilience', page 14 below.

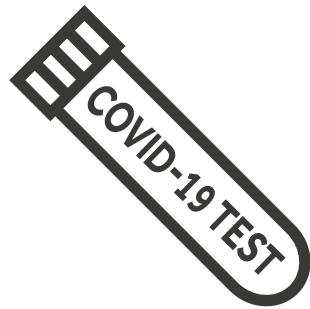# Surveillance, data integration and information sharing

In order to prevent and manage outbreaks of COVID-19 in Haringey, we will closely monitor local cases of Covid-19 infection and share data locally in the following ways:

→ Tracking numbers of people who test positive in the borough and analysing the trends in infection (including numbers, rates, age groups, ethnic groups, positivity of tests conducted).

→ Looking for clusters of cases or outbreaks in the community or settings such as care homes and schools.

→ Locally we review data daily as supplied by PHE, the NHS, Test and Trace, the Office for National Statistics and other local sources.

→ We collate and share information to provide relevant and appropriate updates for general Practitioners, Councillors, Schools, care providers, the wider council, the Clinical Commissioning Group and the residents of Haringey.

→ We continue to engage with our stakeholders and community to ensure our data products are useful and accessible to all those who need them.

Specific areas of focus

Testing

Aims and Purpose of testing

→ To find people who have the virus, trace their contacts and ensure both self-isolate to prevent onward spread

→ Surveillance, including identification for vaccine-evasive disease and new strains

→ To investigate and manage outbreaks

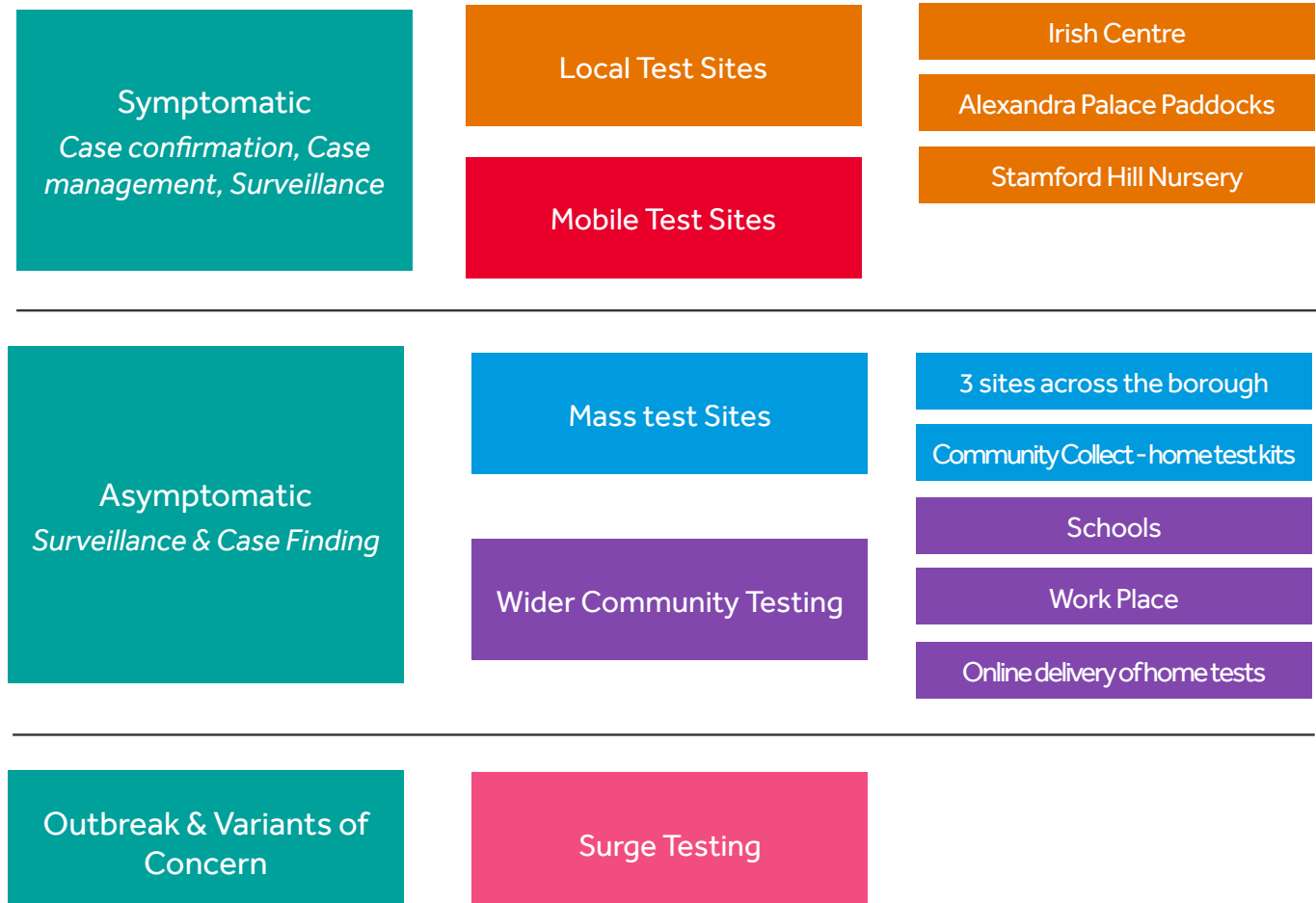→ To enable safer re-opening of the economy

Further information on our approach to testing

→ We will provide asymptomatic testing at scale using lateral flow tests at Community Testing Centres across the borough.

→ We will continue to work closely with DHSC to optimise our testing capacity in the borough, for example by adding Community Collect of home testing kits to our test sites.

→ We will review and adapt our testing offer to target hard to reach groups. Many of our testing staff are multi-lingual – each testing bay window includes a translated sign to indicate a testing operative who can help in another language.

→ The national platform allows people to book in symptomatic testing and we have four locations sites across the borough. The Mobile Testing unit is a flexible additional testing location that can be moved to a targeted area when needed to deal with increase of cases/local outbreaks.

Summary of symptomatic and asymptomatic testing in the borough:

Symptomatic *Case confirmation, Case management, Surveillance*	Local Test Sites	Irish Centre
		Alexandra Palace Paddocks
	Mobile Test Sites	Stamford Hill Nursery

Asymptomatic *Surveillance & Case Finding*	Mass test Sites	3 sites across the borough
		Community Collect - home test kits
	Wider Community Testing	Schools
		Work Place
		Online delivery of home tests

| Outbreak & Variants of Concern | Surge Testing | |

Mass testing

We will continue to provide Mass Testing Centres as we come out of lockdown and our social and economic lives begin to reopen, for as long as this is funded. Mass testing is a critical part of life returning to normal and is for people with no symptoms of the virus.

Quick, easy and free - results in 30 mins	Identifies the 1 in 3 people with Covid-19 who don't have symptoms
Available in different locations plus new collect options for home testing	Take regularly to ensure repeat negative result

Information on the opening times and location of our Mass Testing Centres is available at
www.haringey.gov.uk/covid-testing

Local contact tracing

→ Local Authorities were invited to set up their own contract tracing systems to follow-up local cases.

→ In Haringey, we launched our local contact tracing system on 4 January 2021.

→ Any Haringey residents who the National Test and Trace service are unable to contact after 24 hours are passed to our local team for further follow-up.

→ As well as self-isolation advice, we advise on a range of support services to help people who may have difficultly isolating effectively.

→ We are now successful contacting over 90% of our cases and their contacts.

→ Additionally, we send a text message to every confirmed case and contact of a case to offer them support from the council.

→ We offer a 'What Next' information leaflet at our testing sites to inform people of the help available.

Common exposure locations

→ Public Health England provides us with a daily list of locations which have been visited by people who have since tested positive for Covid-19 prior to becoming unwell.

→ The Public Health team review these locations and alert our Environmental Health Team to any which may require further investigation.

→ Haringey's Environmental Health Officers review the venues' risk assessments and any previous inspections, the safety measures they have in place and conduct a site visit if necessary.

Self-isolation

→ Residents can find out about our support schemes through our website, text messages sent to cases and contacts and leaflets at testing sites.

→ Our self-isolation (mandatory and discretionary) schemes will run up to 30th June 2021 (in line with government funding.)

→ Residents who are unable to work and have lost income as a result are eligible for a cash payment.

→ All residents are able to access support around accessing essentials (food, utilities, medication) and emotional and wellbeing support.

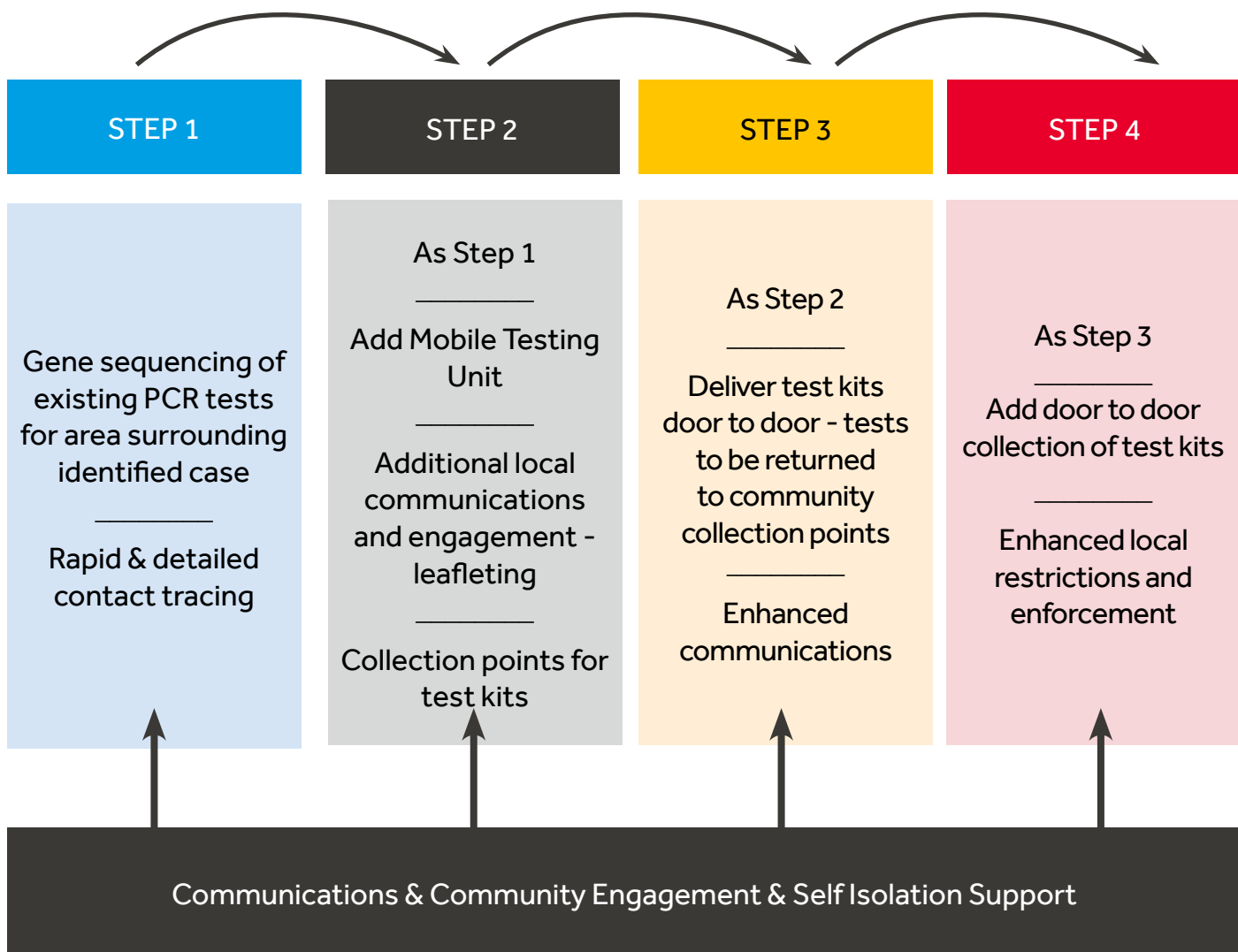→ Further support for employers is being developed.

Surveillance

→ We use data provided to us from various sources (including Public Health England, the NHS, Test and Trace, the Office for National Statistics and other local sources) to create specific data products for those who require them. These include:

  • A daily update of case numbers and rates for local GPs, Councillors, and relevant wider council staff.

  • A more in-depth weekly briefing including cases, hospitalisations, and deaths locally. This is published and available to all on the council's website.

  • Weekly briefings tailored specifically to schools and care homes/supported living providers.

  • Weekly slide sets available to the council and NHS partners.

  • In depth analysis of other Covid-19-related issues - for example, inequalities - done on a bespoke basis.

→ We work across the North Central London region to analyse data, share examples of good practice and support each other.

Outbreak management and VOC

→ Covid-19 Variants of Concern, are variants of the original Covid-19 virus that have undergone one or more mutations in their gene make up that have changed the properties of the virus to make it more transmissible or more severe or potentially less responsive to existing Covid-19 vaccines. A number of these variants of concern have already been identified, and more may emerge in time. More information about cases of variants is available on the government website here: Variants: distribution of cases data - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

→ It is important we have a response that understands the prevalence of variants of concern and prevents them from spreading in a way that causes additional harm to our population. Variants of Concern are identified by the National Variant Taskforce and Public Health England will investigate and notify the council. If there are no links between the case and travel, then an Incident Management Team will be convened to determine the appropriate action.

→ For variants of concern, our usual outbreak response approach described in this Plan still applies. Where we are notified of cases of Covid-19 which are variants of concern (VOC) we will work with Public Health England to conduct a joint risk assessment. This will include reviewing the number and location of cases, the context in which these have been identified, and the number of potential residents exposed.

→ We will work with the NHS and other local partners (including neighbouring boroughs) to assess the situation and agree on any local measures, which could include: enhanced surveillance and testing, communication with residents, engaging with our partners both nationally and locally, and enhanced contact tracing. Other local control measures, such as school closures or stay at home advice would be considered in partnership with Public Health England and Department of Health and Social Care.

The diagram below shows some of the steps we might take in responding to a local case or cluster of cases of a variant of concern depending on the risk assessment.

STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4
Gene sequencing of existing PCR tests for area surrounding identified case ——— Rapid & detailed contact tracing	As Step 1 ——— Add Mobile Testing Unit ——— Additional local communications and engagement - leafleting ——— Collection points for test kits	As Step 2 ——— Deliver test kits door to door - tests to be returned to community collection points ——— Enhanced communications	As Step 3 ——— Add door to door collection of test kits ——— Enhanced local restrictions and enforcement

Communications & Community Engagement & Self Isolation Support

Progression through the different steps would be dependent on levels of risk associated with the outbreak, as assessed in partnership with Public Health England and the Department of Health & Social Care. We will also work to develop an aligned response to variants of concern across London, including shared surveillance information and sharing of best practice.

Haringey has already tested its response to a Variant of Concern following an identified case of the South African variant during February 2021. To respond to this, and in agreement with Public Health England and the DHSC, we mobilised at speed a team to door knocking houses in the area surrounding the identified case, providing PCR test kits to residents. We also had these tests available for collection and drop off at local hubs and a Mobile Testing Unit in the area was provided. As part of this surge testing we provided over 4,000 PCR test kits to residents in a two week period.

Enduring transmission

In some Local Authorities, transmission rates have remained stubbornly high and above the national average for long periods of time. This can result in case rates enduring for many months. The Government's Joint Biosecurity Centre has been analysing this across the country to better understand why enduring transmission happens and how it can be addressed. They found that enduring transmission is linked to a number of key factors, which were: deprivation, employment, demographics and household composition, attitudes and behaviours, and delays in outbreak response (specifically a delay in a Local Authority being informed of a potential problem). The ways in which these key factors enable enduring transmission to occur are complex and inter-linked.

Haringey will continue to work to mitigate these issues in the following ways:

→ Follow closely the reports and recommendations produced by the Joint Biosecurity Centre on Enduring Transmission.

→ Review and implement measures they recommend locally.

→ Continue to closely monitor our case rates, looking for clusters, patterns of transmission and common exposures.

→ Continue to engage with our communities to better understand the specific issues they face.

→ If enduring transmission were to occur in one of our communities, we would work with them to understand their needs and offer advice and support.

→ In these situations, we would look at a range of intervention options appropriate for the setting, for example: enhanced testing, additional targeted communications, targeted vaccination drives, local enforcement options, additional support for residents.

→ Ensure any response is tailored to the needs of the setting.

Covid-safe

As set out in 'Testing' (Page 13) we will continue to provide a range of asymptomatic lateral flow testing sites in the borough, geographically spread to give local access to these sites. These will be supported by PCR testing sites for those with symptoms.
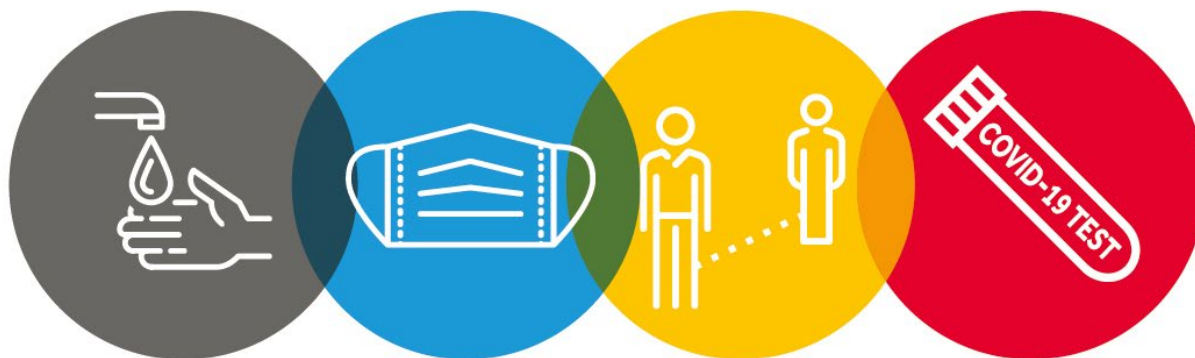
We will encourage twice weekly lateral flow testing in line with national guidance, to support the easing of lockdown restrictions and the re-opening of the economy. Everyone over 12 is invited to test regularly..

We will continue to provide public health messaging around non-pharmaceutical interventions such as 'hands, face, space' messaging.

Vaccination is also a key part of the re-opening of social and economic life in the borough. As set out in 'Vaccinations' we have a programme of interventions in place to encourage a wide take-up of the vaccination across different parts of our community.

We will continue to ensure there is appropriate provision of PPE to front line staff and we will extend to unpaid carers.

DO THE RIGHT THING

haringey.gov.uk/coronavirus

KEEP HARINGEY SAFE

NHS Test and Trace

Haringey LONDON

Communications and engagement, including community resilience

The Council's Communications Team is linking in with the Cabinet Office and the DHSC to keep up to date with emerging approved communications approaches and messaging. In addition, Haringey is linking in with the London Council's network where case studies and best practice are shared weekly. The team is also linked in with its neighbouring boroughs in the North Central London Clinical Commissioning Group to share knowledge and support engagement programmes across the sub region.

Ongoing COVID-19 support: Haringey's Communications Team is working on an ongoing basis to support public health messaging in relation to Covid-19 and to reiterate Government guidance in relation to following the rules, the roadmap towards easing of restrictions, the scaling up of lateral flow testing, home testing and the rollout of the vaccine programme.

This information is communicated regularly and clearly using the council's website and social media channels. We will continue to remind people of the Covid-19 risk and explain how they can help themselves and others.

Local outbreak: In the event of a local outbreak, the Communications team will work closely with the NHS and other local partners to support any agreed approach.

Council communication channels: We can mobilise our team to tailor key messaging and disseminate across the council's channels; website, social media and digital news bulletins as well as local media such as radio and press.

Hyperlocal communications:

→ In the event of an outbreak in a particular district, the council can get hyper-local messaging printed on outdoor materials such as banners and lamppost posters that can very quickly be distributed in a given area.

→ In addition, door to door leafleting can be used to target residents in a given area.

→ We can use the Next Door social media platform to target local residents as well as promoted posts on social media platforms, targeting a specific area as well as Facebook community groups.

→ We can provide information for schools, places of worship and local businesses to share with their communities in printed and digital formats.

→ We can work with our partners in the voluntary sector to inform harder to reach groups.

Haringey has a strong network of Community Link workers and through the Community Protect programme who can readily disseminate messages in community languages, using hyper-local channels such as WhatsApp, Facebook community groups and Next Door.

Residential groupings: Homes for Haringey and residents' associations.

Further work:

Community mapping: We continue to work on our community mapping and research into how we can best reach all groups across our diverse borough.

Research and feedback: It is important that we listen to the community to ensure the actions we take and the messages we use are effective. We will use every opportunity to hear back from our communities so that we can understand barriers to people playing their part and how best to address this.

The communications team is running a highly targeted, digital contextual survey, targeting local residents in their home language media sites. This is beginning to yield powerful insights into culturally-led attitudes and assessment of risk by our different communities which can help inform our communications.
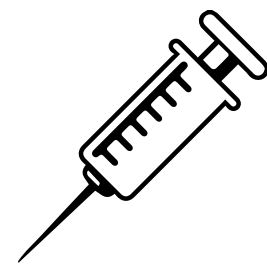
The council has held a number of live webinar events online, using the Facebook platform, givin residents an opportunity to ask questions of our Public Health experts, which were well received during lockdown.

We are collaborating with other London councils on community engagement events targeting specific communities e.g. Turkish language webinar held on 9 March, co-hosted by Enfield, Hackney and Haringey.

Vaccines

The NHS, the council and Voluntary and Community Sector partners are working together to increase uptake and equity of uptake of the Covid-19 vaccines in Haringey. Key features of the approach include:

→ A multi-agency Covid-19 Vaccine Strategic Group, providing oversight of vaccine uptake and equity

data, vaccine delivery and vaccine communications and engagement.

→ Regular analysis of NHS data on Covid-19 vaccine uptake and inequalities in uptake by eligible cohorts, including by age, gender, ethnicity, language, deprivation, and use of this data for planning action to reduce inequalities in vaccine uptake.

→ A multi-agency Vaccine Inequalities Group, coordinating operational delivery of action to reduce inequalities in uptake, focusing on groups with greater barriers to uptake, ranging from people who are homeless or rough sleeping, unpaid carers, to people in areas of higher deprivation and people from ethnic minority or language groups with lower uptake.

→ Digital campaigning, based on inequalities in uptake data, to communicate positive video messages promoting and normalising vaccination, from peers, community leaders and healthcare workers through online advertising and social media.

→ Link workers from communities with lower uptake recruited through voluntary sector partners, working to share information within community networks, identify questions and concerns about the vaccines, and create opportunities for dialogue between health professionals from the NHS and Council and members of communities.

→ Regular health professional-led engagement events with residents to answer questions and concerns about the vaccines, both borough wide and tailored for and delivered with local leaders from groups with lower uptake.

→ Satellite vaccination clinics to make vaccination more accessible for groups with lower uptake, for example through making vaccination available at faith settings.

→ Regular engagement events with care home and other frontline health and social care staff to answer any questions and concerns about the vaccines and promote high uptake.

Our local partnership approach is placing a high priority on increasing the equity of vaccine uptake. We are linking the promotion of vaccination to the data we have at local and national level about the communities most impacted by the pandemic. This aims to ensure that groups most negatively impacted by the pandemic so far have easy access to and high uptake of vaccination. The success of the vaccination program in coverage and equity will contribute to reducing the number and impact of further outbreaks on our local communities. We promote continued testing and adherence to all risk reduction measures (hands, face, space) following vaccination.

Resourcing

Additional resource has been mobilised in Haringey Council where needed in areas such as local testing capacity, local public health response to support care homes and other settings, additional enforcement and communications support and contact tracing teams. As well as staff we have also needed to develop physical infrastructure such as testing sites. Capacity has been aligned to service demand and resident need.

Given the scale of the Mass Testing operation and short timescales for delivery, we have used employment agencies to staff our Mass Testing site. We have targeted creating local employment through this route including working with local employment provider, Haringey Works.

The Council has no business as usual budget capacity for significant outbreak management costs, and therefore any action we take or resources we utilise will have to be within a cost envelope of available government grant funding.

In terms of physical resources, the Mass Testing Sites all have different and time limited availability so these locations may need to change over time in line with demand for testing, availability of sites, latest government requirements and continued funding provision for testing.

Next Steps

This draft Plan has prepared for regional submission to the Department for Health & Social Care (12 March 2021) and has been approved by Haringey's Director for Public Health.

We will use this draft Plan to engage with our communities and partners and we welcome your feedback.

If you have any comments or feedback on this Plan please contact Zoe Robertson, Head of Local Outbreak Plan Programmes, at zoe.robertson@haringey.gov.uk

To provide feedback or for questions about this Plan please contact Zoe Robertson – Head of Local Outbreak Plan Programmes at **zoe.robertson@haringey.gov.uk**