



## North Yorkshire Outbreak Management Advisory Board

Notes of a discussion held remotely, via Skype, on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2020

### THOSE WHO JOINED THE DISCUSSION:

#### North Yorkshire County Council Representatives

Councillor Carl Les, Leader of North Yorkshire County Council (Chair)  
 Councillor Caroline Dickinson, Executive Member, Public Health, Prevention, Supported Housing  
 Councillor Michael Harrison, Executive Member for Health and Adult Services  
 Richard Flinton, Chief Executive, North Yorkshire County Council  
 Barry Khan, Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)  
 Lincoln Sargeant, Director of Public Health  
 Richard Webb, Corporate Director, Health and Adult Services

#### District Council Representatives

Councillor Keane Duncan, Leader, Ryedale District Council  
 Councillor Richard Foster, Leader, Craven District Council  
 Councillor Richard Musgrave (substitute for Councillor Mark Crane), Selby District Council  
 Councillor Ann Myatt, Harrogate Borough Council  
 Councillor Stephen Watson, Portfolio Holder for Environmental Health, Waste and Recycling, Hambleton District Council

#### Other Partners' Representatives

David Dickson, Vice-Chair, North Yorkshire and York Local Enterprise Partnership (substitute for David Kerfoot)  
 Ashley Green, Chief Executive Officer, Healthwatch, North Yorkshire  
 Julia Mulligan, Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner  
 Susan Peckitt (substitute for Amanda Bloor), North Yorkshire Clinical Commissioning Group  
 Leah Swain, Chief Executive, Community First Yorkshire  
 Sally Tyrer, Chair, North Yorkshire Local Medical Committee  
 Ian Yapp, Head Teacher, Riverside Primary School  
 Lisa Winward, Chief Constable

#### In attendance (all from North Yorkshire County Council, unless stated)

Ray Busby, Principal Democratic Services Officer  
 Patrick Duffy, Senior Democratic Services Officer (Clerk)  
 Fazila Dingmar (substitute for Phil Mettam)  
 Lisa Dixon, Director, Scarborough Borough Council  
 Faye Hutton, Marketing and Customer Communications Officer  
 John Kelly, Head of Data and Intelligence  
 Guy Kendrew, Data Intelligence Specialist  
 Katie Needham, Public Health Consultant  
 Victoria Ononeze, Public Health Consultant  
 Victoria Turner, Public Health Consultant

#### Apologies received from

Amanda Bloor, Accountable Officer, North Yorkshire Clinical Commissioning Group  
 Councillor Mark Crane, Leader, Selby District Council  
 David Kerfoot, Chair, North Yorkshire and York Local Enterprise Partnership  
 Councillor Stuart Parsons, Leader of the Independent Group, North Yorkshire County Council  
 Councillor Steve Siddons, Leader, Scarborough Borough Council

NO.	ITEM	ACTION
46	<p data-bbox="300 275 1206 309"><b>WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION BY THE CHAIR</b></p> <p data-bbox="300 342 1206 510">County Councillor Carl Les welcomed Members of the Board and any members of the public or media viewing the meeting. He also welcomed Ashley Green, Chief Executive Officer, Healthwatch North Yorkshire, who was now their representative in place of Judith Bromfield.</p> <p data-bbox="300 544 1206 611">He advised that he is the Leader of North Yorkshire County Council and the Chair of this Board and that:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="308 645 1206 779">- the main role of this Board is to support the effective communication of the test, trace and contain plan for the county and to ensure that the public and local businesses are effectively communicated with;</li> <li data-bbox="308 813 1206 947">- decisions of the Board are purely advisory and its recommendations will be considered through the governance arrangements of the bodies represented, which retain their decision making sovereignty;</li> <li data-bbox="308 981 1206 1048">- the papers for this meeting had been published in advance on the County Council's website;</li> <li data-bbox="308 1081 1206 1686">- the Board comprises:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="363 1149 1206 1216">• Three other County Councillors – Caroline Dickinson, Michael Harrison and Stuart Parsons</li> <li data-bbox="363 1249 1206 1317">• Representatives – usually the Leaders – of each of the 7 District Councils in North Yorkshire</li> <li data-bbox="363 1350 1206 1417">• The Chief Executive, Director of Public Health and Director of Health and Adult Services for North Yorkshire</li> <li data-bbox="363 1451 1206 1485">• The Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner</li> <li data-bbox="363 1518 1206 1552">• The Chief Constable</li> <li data-bbox="363 1585 1206 1686">• Representatives of Business; the Care Sector; Healthwatch; the NHS: Public Health England; Schools; and the Voluntary and Community Sector</li> </ul> </li> <li data-bbox="308 1720 1206 1787">- people can see the names of everyone on the Board and the organisations they represent on the Council's website.</li> </ul>	
47	<p data-bbox="300 1816 1206 1850"><b>APOLOGIES</b></p> <p data-bbox="300 1872 951 1906">As stated in the attendance on the previous page.</p>	
48	<p data-bbox="300 1939 1206 1973"><b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b></p> <p data-bbox="300 1995 807 2029">There were no declarations of interest.</p>	

49	<p><b>NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON 18<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2020</b></p> <p><b>AGREED</b> that these were an accurate reflection of the discussion. (There were no matters arising.)</p>	
50	<p><b>UPDATE ON THE CURRENT POSITION IN NORTH YORKSHIRE</b></p> <p>Slides had been circulated with the Agenda containing data internationally; for the UK; North Yorkshire and by District; and information on Theme 2 of the Outbreak Management Plan – High Risk Locations.</p> <p>Some of the data had been updated from the version sent out with the Agenda, to reflect the rapidly changing situation.</p> <p>Lincoln Sargeant advised that:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This is a global phenomenon. The escalation since January has been astounding; 27 million people infected and almost 900,000 deaths, with virtually every country affected</li> <li>- In the UK, as reflected in North Yorkshire, there has been an increase in the number of cases among younger people. Thankfully, the death rate remains quite low</li> <li>- We have seen a steep increase in the number of cases in the last few weeks - 20 plus cases each day, up from one or two a day in July</li> <li>- The situation differs by District. Although we have seen an increase in infections, we still have much lower rates than the areas that are in the Top Ten nationally</li> </ul> <p>Slides had also been circulated that contained information on Theme 1B of the Outbreak Management Plan – Education Settings. Victoria Ononeze, who leads this Theme, talked through this aspect.</p> <p>Education Settings are wide ranging - from early years through to out of school settings and Universities/Colleges. Schools are understandably anxious about what reopening means in terms of Covid-19.</p> <p>There have been several achievements to date, including the establishment of a dedicated Public Health and Children and Young People’s Service Team to support settings, building on established communication channels; proactive support to prevent infections and transmissions; and robust processes to support identification and management of cases.</p> <p>There are two outbreaks currently. The schools are being supported, with the aim of maintaining continuity, enabling children to continue their education and wellbeing.</p> <p>Next steps include helping schools to navigate Covid-Secure Guidance, which changes regularly, and proactive communications for children and young people. A Pack will be going out to schools shortly.</p> <p>Ian Yapp asked about face coverings. It is going to be easier for Schools if they can articulate their position on the basis of health</p>	

	<p>advice. Victoria Ononeze advised that information about this will be going to schools shortly.</p> <p>Finally, as part of this Item, Katie Needham presented slides that had been circulated on Events.</p> <p>Katie's presentation outlined:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The national position, including the recently introduced "Rule of Six"</li> <li>• The local approach</li> <li>• The ten principles</li> <li>• Update on events</li> </ul> <p>We are liaising with colleagues to assess risk of events in terms of potential to facilitate transmission of the virus. This depends on several factors, such as the size and type of event and infection rates.</p> <p>In terms of the local approach, the Council and partners are working with the Local Resilience Forum to develop a set of key principles for event organisers, which they are expected to adhere to.</p> <p>The principles include effective management of crowd density; demonstrating enhanced cleaning, hand wash and hygiene procedures for everyone involved in the event; and the ability to identify, report and respond to confirmed Covid-19 cases.</p> <p>A number of events have taken place around the county where advice and support has been given to event organisers. Most of the organisers have been receptive to the advice provided. There are circumstances where permission can be refused or organisers requested to cancel the event.</p> <p>A Protocol is being developed on the approach to events to ensure a consistent and co-ordinated approach across partners.</p> <p>NOTED.</p>	
51	<p><b>DATA REPORTING: OUTBREAK CLUSTER INSIGHT PRODUCT - DEMONSTRATION</b></p> <p>John Kelly demonstrated this product.</p> <p>The tool has been developed wholly by Technology &amp; Change as they continue to work to support Public Health Teams, and uses data science techniques to provide critical insight.</p> <p>The tool provides an overview of the data by particular areas, with current rates and cases on day-by-day basis. This helps colleagues understand what may need to be an area of focus.</p> <p>It is possible to view information by test positivity and test cases by age group, gender and locality, down to postcode level.</p> <p>The really helpful element of the product is that it can understand cases relevant to each other in terms of time and geography, which indicates cases may be related, as a pointer to further investigation.</p>	

	<p>The tool shows how different cases of outbreaks within areas have grown and receded over time. This helps us understand how cases might transmit and, with a new cluster, helps us to understand how this might develop.</p> <p>The tool has been built because Public Health England provide a lot of data but it is in raw form. To make decisions around response, it is important, particularly in an area as widespread as North Yorkshire, that the data is timely, to help facilitate prompt decisions.</p>	
52	<p><b>TESTING AND CONTACT TRACING</b></p> <p>Victoria Turner provided a verbal update and mentioned the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- People are experiencing difficulty in accessing a swab test. The capacity issue is around the national laboratories, not our local capacity to actually do the testing. Therefore, we have no control over this, although we continue to lobby for improvements.</li> <li>- From a North Yorkshire perspective, we have fought hard to make sure that we still have our Mobile Testing Units going to the expected locations across the county. We have been successful so far. Their portability gives us flexibility i.e. they can be moved to areas where they are most required.</li> <li>- If it helps people trying to book a test, we have noted that additional slots tend to be released at around 8.00 a.m. and 8.00 p.m.</li> <li>- We understand the frustration of people trying to get these slots and are doing everything we can to support that, although, as mentioned, this is a national issue</li> <li>- The Government is working to increase capacity, although it will take until early October, we understand.</li> </ul>	
53	<p><b>COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE</b></p> <p>Faye Hutton updated verbally as follows: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Digital Ad Vans are being used throughout the county with key messages on preventative measures, together with newspapers/on line adverts.</li> <li>- A lot of work is being targeted to younger people. A two step approach: secondary schools and young people aged 18 plus.</li> <li>- Behavioural insights are being used as young people tend to be heavily influenced by these.</li> <li>- Messages are being deployed via a number of mediums, such as video footage; working with Youth Council Groups, Schools and Colleges; and stickers for pub windows and mirrors containing key messages.</li> <li>- Working on a number of matters including a case study for people with disabilities and an understanding piece on why some people may be exempt from wearing face coverings and may not understand social distancing.</li> </ul>	

	<p>Richard Webb advised that some communications will be going out today to reinforce the points that the Board has made today – urging everyone to work together and show restraint to prevent further lockdown and to thank people for what they have done so far.</p> <p>He added that, on testing, a video was posted on the Council's social media on 14<sup>th</sup> September explaining that this is a national issue and that this may mean there will be fewer appointments available and tests may take longer to process. We will re-emphasise this.</p>	
54	<p><b>PARTNER UPDATES</b></p> <p><u>Ashley Green, Healthwatch, North Yorkshire:</u> Not an update as such, but Ashley said he was pleased to join the Board.</p> <p><u>Sue Peckitt, NHS North Yorkshire Clinical Commissioning Group:</u> In response to the increase in numbers of cases in the community, this is not currently being reflected in Hospital admissions, although we are seeing a slight increase in the number of people presenting to Hospitals. The Hospitals are managing within their allotted beds. We are keeping a check on it and working closely with partners.</p> <p><u>David Dickson, Business Sector:</u> Both the Growth Hub and the Economic Departments within the Authorities have increased the number of people working there, because we are now looking at survival for small and micro business.</p> <p>Finance is key, so there will be a big push between now and 4<sup>th</sup> November, when the Business Bounce back initiative ends, on increasing liquidity and cash within small and micro businesses.</p> <p>NOTED.</p>	
55	<p><b>NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 12 noon.</p>	ALL TO NOTE
56	<p><b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b></p> <p>Richard Webb said if there were any significant developments, advice would be sought as to whether a meeting will be required before 19<sup>th</sup> October.</p>	

The meeting concluded at 3.00 p.m.

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