

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD	AGENDA ITEM No. 6
7 DECEMBER 2020	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Wendi Ogle-Welbourn, Executive Director, People and Communities	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Cllr Irene Walsh, Cabinet Member for Communities	
Contact Officer(s):	Adrian Chapman, Service Director, Adults and Communities	07920 160441

PETERBOROUGH COMMUNITY RESILIENCE GROUP (CRG) HUB AND OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT UPDATE

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM: Executive Director, People and Communities	Deadline date: N/A
It is recommended that Health and Wellbeing Board members note and comment on the progress of the Peterborough Hub and Outbreak Management activity.	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 This report is submitted to the Health and Wellbeing Board following a request from Wendi Ogle-Welbourn, Executive Director, People and Communities.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

2.1 This report is being presented to update Health and Wellbeing Board members on key activity of the Peterborough Hub and Outbreak Management response.

2.2 This report is for the Health and Wellbeing board to consider under its Terms of Reference No.

2.8.2.1 To bring together the leaders of health and social care commissioners to develop common and shared approaches to improving the health and wellbeing of the community.

3. TIMESCALES

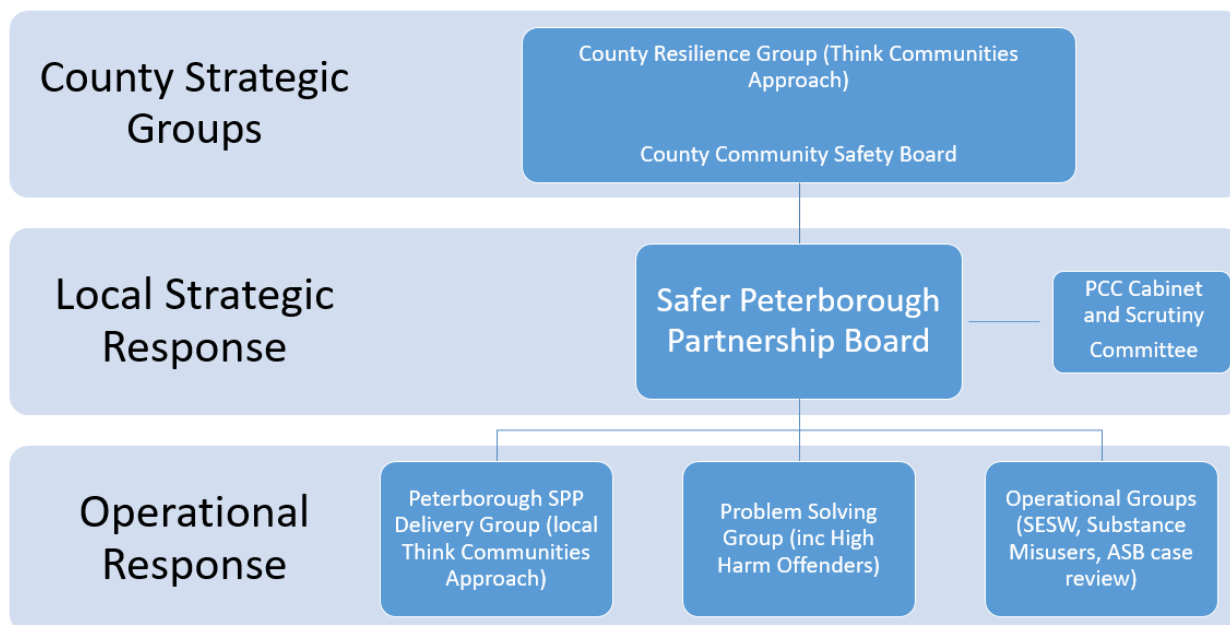
Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO
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4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

4.1 PETERBOROUGH COMMUNITY RESILIENCE GROUP (CRG) HUB

4.1.1 As part of the response to the COVID-19 emergency, the Government instructed every Local Resilience Forum (LRF) area to establish local hubs. Hubs are required to provide targeted support for those people who require support in dealing with COVID-19.

- 4.1.2 The Peterborough Local CRG, which coordinates the local hub, comprises representatives from the public, private, voluntary, independent and faith sectors involved in the response to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- 4.1.3 The Safer Peterborough Partnership (SPP) leads the community response to COVID-19 in Peterborough, supported by the SPP Delivery Group which drives delivery of support, advice, guidance and information. The governance structure is as follows:



- 4.1.4 The County CRG manages the county response to need, particularly in respect of supporting those identified as Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV), and leads overall on the community response to outbreak management.
- 4.1.5 The Peterborough Local CRG's responsibilities are to:
- Work closely with the COVID-19 Place co-ordinators
 - Work closely with the Countywide Community Resilience Group
 - Oversee implementation of actions arising from the County CRG
 - Ensure consistent community messaging
 - Support local community groups and social action, identifying further support where needed
 - Understand and respond to local demand at an individual and community level
 - Ensure that information provided to and within communities, as well as the response from communities, is properly co-ordinated
 - Ensure that we are making the best use possible of all available resources to minimise anxiety, to co-ordinate social action, and to ensure those most vulnerable are benefitting from appropriate community support
 - Identify community-based risks and concerns, and aim to resolve them locally or escalate to the county CRG
- 4.1.6 In practical terms, the work of the Peterborough CRG is delivered by the local Hub, which offers advice and information, and facilitates access to or directly delivers support such as:
- Food supplies/shopping and medication deliveries
 - Financial / debt advice
 - Low level support to domestic abuse victims
 - Family support
 - Befriending including friendly calls
 - Emotional wellbeing support
 - Support with house maintenance and domestic tasks
 - Economic hardship advice and information

- Transport to appointments
- Volunteer matching with local support organisations

- 4.1.7 Some of the key headlines to date from the work of the Peterborough Hub include the following:
- The Hub launched on 2 April 2020 and has received over 2,100 contacts to date
 - Supported by over 90 local voluntary and community organisations, parish councils, City Council services, Cross Keys Homes linking with other Registered Social Landlords, our faith communities, Light Project Peterborough, the City Leadership Forum, and City College Peterborough. This has resulted in a strong support offer to vulnerable residents
 - A digital celebration event was held in September to thank these organisations and volunteers for their support, and was attended by over 50 people
 - The Hub is currently preparing for an anticipated increase in demand throughout Winter and over the Christmas period, especially in relation to financial management / debt advice, access to the food bank / food parcels, self-isolation / loneliness and accessing supplies, e.g. medication
 - The Hub will also respond to any local support needed for those identified as Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) as well as managing applications to the hardship fund, which has been set up to support those low-income residents who have to self-isolate due to having been in contact with people who have tested positive for COVID-19
 - There is also a bank of volunteers who support the hub and local organisations
 - A comprehensive communications plan was established and includes regular newsletters, radio interviews, press releases/publication articles and a leaflet was sent to all Peterborough households. The aim of these communication channels is to promote the Hub and Peterborough Information Network, so residents are aware of how and where they can get support, when they need it.

- 4.1.8 Contact into the Hub is via telephone on 01733 747474, or the dedicated information pages at www.peterborough.gov.uk/coronavirus

- 4.1.9 Peterborough Hub: The Future
The Hub will continue to develop and evolve in response to the pandemic, with key priorities including:
- Creating a sustainable local support system – Creating a Unified Approach
 - Joining the dots where help is needed including working with adults and children’s social care
 - Continuing and enhancing relationships with local support organisations
 - Working with local businesses to create opportunities for those affected by COVID-19 (including young people and those with No Recourse to Public Funds) and financial advice / support

4.2 **OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT**

- 4.2.1 PCC was removed from the national ‘watch list’ as an Area of Concern on Friday 25 September.

- 4.2.2 As part of the Government’s national strategy to manage and control the pandemic, every area in England was required to develop its own Local Outbreak Control Plan for COVID-19. Peterborough’s plan, published in August and revised since, builds on tried and tested existing plans for controlling other infectious diseases like tuberculosis. It relies on working closely with local communities to reduce the risk of people contracting the disease in the first place by following clear public health messages. [Link](#)

- 4.2.3 The plan is supported by a standard operating procedure, which describes in detail the ways in which we will respond to outbreaks and support people who have tested positive for COVID-19 and/or traced by the NHS Test and Trace service.

4.2.4 Oversight of the outbreak control measures is the responsibility of the multi-agency Health Protection Board which has been established as part of the response phase to the pandemic.

4.2.5 To provide political ownership and public engagement and reassurance on local outbreak control plans and their implementation across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, a Member-led Engagement Board has been established, as referenced below.

4.2.6 **Governance Structure**

The following governance arrangements are in place to ensure adherence to the agreed plan:

- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Outbreak Engagement Board, co-chaired by the HWB Board Chairs, meets monthly and provides political leadership.
- Multi-agency Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Health Protection Board, chaired by the Director of Public Health, meets weekly, supported by a Programme Delivery Group for strategic focus on delivering the Local Outbreak Control Plan.
- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Strategic Co-ordinating Group Executive, co-chaired by the CCC/PCC and CCG Chief Executives, meets three times each week to cover wider system working and mobilisation.
- Internal Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Test and Trace Gold meets three times every week. Membership includes the Chief Executive, Director of Public Health, Service Director for Communities and Partnerships, Head of Communications, to drive activities.
- Daily rhythm of Surveillance Cell and Outbreak Management Team meetings co-ordinating action of LOCP 'cells' and the Rapid Response Team.
- The Rapid Response team meets regularly to monitor data on numbers of positive tests, areas where there have been particular increases and launch targeted communications, set up accessible test centres, as well as working with event organisers to review upcoming events.

4.2.7 **Shielding Delivery Plan**

A recent MHCLG workshop has highlighted that shielding will only be reintroduced as a last resort. Therefore, the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough delivery plan is being framed around how we will support anyone that is clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) regardless of whether or not shielding is formally reintroduced. The delivery plan has four key principles:

- **Supporting people to be independent** – our offer will give people the information and resources they need to help themselves
- **Local is best** – individuals are linked into local support in their area, finding sustainable offers of support
- **Building on existing relationships** – how can we work with and recognise the trusted relationships that already exist for CEV people?
- **Data and Intelligence led** – how can we use our data, with our partners, to understand our shielded population and better tailor our offer of support?

Shielding has NOT been reintroduced during the current lockdown, however, all CEV residents have been written to by Government with enhanced advice about what they should do during this period. The countywide hub has held discussions with each of our district council partners and with Peterborough to develop the delivery and support model.

4.2.8 **Testing and Vaccination updates**

The County Hub continues to provide marshalling support at test sites in the North and South of the county which are available for key workers, run in collaboration with the CCG.

4.2.9 **Support for Self Isolation**

Each district and city has now gone live with the National Self-Isolation Support Scheme, supporting individuals who need to self-isolate either because they test positive or are contact traced and are likely to struggle financially. In addition, a local support scheme has been established that wraps around the national offer, providing financial support where appropriate and where the national scheme cannot help, but also other forms of support that prevents someone that must self-isolate from not being able to. A countywide working group continues to meet every 2 weeks to review requests coming through, share learning and identify any gaps that can be met locally (ie the Peterborough Hub for Peterborough residents).

Key actions in the past month:

4.2.10 Routine surveillance and Outbreak Management

- Ongoing daily Surveillance Cell, Outbreak Management Team and Outbreak Cell meetings to ensure local issues and outbreaks are managed appropriately.
- Review of capacity requirements and skill mix of the Outbreak Management structures, to cover increasing workload.

4.2.11 Local Incident Management Teams

- Peterborough Incident Management Team meets weekly to review the latest epidemiology and Public Health advice feeding into the twice weekly Peterborough Rapid Response Team meetings, to take local action working with communities.

4.2.12 Schools

- The Education Cell is providing advice and support for schools across Peterborough. A new Department for Education helpline has also been introduced.
- The Service Director of Education and Director of Public Health held a recent briefing with Head teachers across the city which was well attended and received positive feedback.
- **Remote Learning** – the DfE has published a [temporary continuity direction](#) which places a duty on schools to provide remote education for state-funded, school-age children unable to attend school due to coronavirus (COVID-19). This came into effect on 22 October 2020 and will run to the end of the academic year.
- **DFE Public Health Hotline** - In response to a rise in cases and Public Health England struggling to deal with demand, the Department for Education set up a helpline for schools to deal with confirmed cases. In Cambridgeshire and Peterborough our local system was working well but the new DfE approach caused confusion, and so from the 19th October, we have taken back this role and schools and settings are getting quick responses.
- **Elective Home Education** – the government has [issued new guidance](#) to LA's and schools on ensuring parents are informed on selecting EHE. A meeting will be required between schools, the Local Authority and parents before a child is taken off role.
- **Lockdown opening guidance** – the DfE sent out updated guidance for education settings on opening Wednesday 4 November in readiness for the November lockdown. The key elements for education were the expectation around Clinically Extremely Vulnerable pupils and staff not being in school. There was also a requirement for after school activities being limited to supporting working parents. However, an earlier section gives schools flexibility on providing sports and wellbeing activities after school. Ahead of this guidance we developed [a FAQ for schools](#).
- We continue to monitor the weekly local public health data reporting to help inform schools and early years providers of the position around COVID-19 including pillar 2 testing. The test and trace process continues to operate well and we are working well with Public Health to provide advice and guidance to schools.
- Early years settings continue to open but attendance is currently running at around 75% of previous year's attendance as parents remained concerned about COVID-19.
- Free School Meals – there has been a significant increase in free school meals claims since January. The increase in numbers will mean around £18m of additional funding over 6 years – Peterborough has 620 new claims.
- Supporting families with food during half term – information was sent to parents via schools about the hub arrangements across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. The number of requests made for Peterborough were 42 (111 children).
- During the last month we have provided advice to schools on Relationships and Sex Education, flu vaccinations, the application of the rule of six in schools, QR codes, complaint processes, young carers, changes to the DBS process, COVID-19 symptoms, ventilation and attendance coding. We also provide a weekly data update on COVID-19 infection rates across Peterborough.

4.2.13 Care Homes

- Ongoing implementation and updating of the Care Home Support Plan, with renewed training on infection control and PPE use.

4.2.14 **Workplaces**

- Ongoing support to workplaces experiencing cases or outbreaks.

4.2.15 **Events and Openings**

- The Rapid Response Team meets twice weekly to discuss forthcoming events. A team works with event organisers to ensure they are aware of good practice in organising COVID-19 safe events.

4.2.16 **Peterborough Communities**

- A Peterborough Leaders' Summit was held on 2 October to recognise the excellent work done by local communities and services to keep COVID-19 rates stable in Peterborough and to ask what actions we all need to take next.
- A Joint strategy agreed by Peterborough City Council and Cambridgeshire Constabulary to engage, explain, encourage and enforce COVID-19 legislation is being delivered in central Peterborough.

4.2.17 **Local enhanced contract tracing in Peterborough**

- Ongoing high success rates with approximately 90% of cases handed on by national Test and Trace system, successfully contacted.
- Ongoing challenges with national testing capacity impacting locally. Higher numbers of children have been using the testing system.
- A local testing centre has been set up for essential key workers (including school staff).
- A permanent, local Testing Centre opened in central Peterborough (Gladstone Park) in October, which provides access for walk-in clients.

4.2.18 **Planning for a winter surge**

- The Health Protection Board review planning for a winter surge and are identifying key priorities, including a focus on capacity and business continuity, communicating with communities, ensuring local preparedness, access to testing and promoting flu vaccination for eligible groups.
- Locally, winter/Christmas planning is discussed at the SPP Board and SPP Delivery Groups for members to talk through how they can work together to support the elderly, those struggling with loneliness and the vulnerable during this period.

For the latest Public Health COVID-19 data, please click on the following link:

https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/coronavirus_cambridgeshire/cambridgeshire-and-peterborough-public-health-covid-19-reports/

5. **CONSULTATION**

5.1 Please refer to the governance structure within section 4.

6. **ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT**

6.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board is expected to review the information contained within this report and respond / provide feedback accordingly.

7. **REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION**

7.1 Health and Wellbeing Board members to feel assured that appropriate progress is being made to support Peterborough residents during the pandemic.

8. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

8.1 Health and Wellbeing Board members must be kept informed of progress and key activity.

9. **IMPLICATIONS**

Financial Implications

9.1 There are no significant implications within this category.

Legal Implications

9.2 There are no significant implications within this category.

Equalities Implications

9.3 There are no significant implications within this category.

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

10.1 N/A

11. APPENDICES

11.1 N/A

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