

OUTBREAK ENGAGEMENT BOARD

MONDAY, 19TH APRIL, 2021

At 2.30 pm

by

VIRTUAL MEETING - ONLINE ACCESS ON [RBWM YOUTUBE](#)

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

PART I

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RBWM Outbreak Engagement Board

Monday 19th April 2021, 2.30pm, Zoom meeting

www.rbwm.gov.uk



Board Attendees:

- Cllr Carroll
- Cllr Price
- Cllr Werner
- Director of Adults, Health and Commissioning – Hilary Hall
- Communications and Marketing Manager – Louisa Dean
- Consultant in Public Health – Anna Richards
- Head of Housing and Environmental Health – Tracy Hendren
- Head of Communities – David Scott
- Director of Children's Services – Kevin McDaniel
- Executive Managing Director RBWM, Clinical Commissioning Group – Caroline Farrar

Additional Attendees:

- Cllr Cannon
- Cllr Coppinger
- Cllr Stimson
- Cllr Hilton
- Cllr Bhangra
- Cllr Shelim
- Cllr Baldwin

Apologies:

- Managing Director – Duncan Sharkey
- Director of Public Health - Tessa Lindfield

	Item		Actions
1.	Conflicts of Interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Carroll is currently working for the UK Government's Vaccines Taskforce as an expert adviser and infectious disease and vaccines specialist, Sanofi Pasteur. he declared his employment in the interests of full transparency and to highlight that should for any reason during the meeting, or indeed during future meetings, the Outbreak Engagement Board discussed anything directly related to Sanofi Pasteur's business he would abstain from the discussion and leave the room as required. 	
2.	Questions from the Public	<p>1. Please can you tell me if the new, more infectious, strains of the Covid-19 virus require us to distance ourselves more than 2 meters apart?</p> <p><i>The key behaviours of washing hands, wearing face coverings, making space and meeting in the fresh air help stop the spread of Covid-19. Transmission risk for Covid-19 is highest where people are in close proximity</i></p>	

Item		Actions
	<p><i>(within 2 metres). To reduce the risk of transmission, the government advice is to remain at least 2 metres away from people you do not live with or who are not in your support bubble. The same advice is given for all Covid-19 variants.</i></p> <p>2. Also, if I pass someone who is smoking or has a strong perfume but over 2 meters away, if they have Covid-19 would the smoke or perfume particles carry the virus to me? <i>Covid-19 is primarily transmitted between people through respiratory (droplet and aerosol) and contact routes. It is unlikely that the scenario outlined in the question would lead to transmission of the virus between individuals.</i></p> <p>3. Why are borders being opened? Everyone has not been vaccinated yet!? <i>Decisions about border control are made by national government. National guidance about coronavirus (Covid-19) travel is presented on the government website: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus#fcd0-travel-advice-during-covid</i></p> <p>4. Why are women over 40 not being given the chance to get the Pfizer vaccine? <i>The Frimley system is prioritising patients for COVID-19 vaccination in line with the national priority groups set out by the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI).</i></p> <p><i>People cannot choose which vaccine they receive. All available vaccines have to be approved by passing the Medicines & Healthcare Regulatory Agency's (MHRA) tests on safety and efficacy. So, people should be assured that whatever vaccine they get, it will be highly effective and protect them from coronavirus. If a clinical concern exists, which mandates the use of a particular vaccine, the patient is asked to contact their GP practice when they are called for vaccination. A clinical pre-assessment is also undertaken at all vaccination appointments to ensure that proceeding with the vaccination, including the type of vaccine to be used, is clinically appropriate.</i></p> <p>5. To encourage parents and teens to register the home testing could RBWM not encourage the NHS system to be improved? <i>Thank you for your suggestions. There is now an online portal for members of the public who have a query or wish to provide feedback or complain about any element of the test and trace process: https://enquiries.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/s/ . Could we kindly ask you to provide your feedback through this link.</i></p>	

	Item		Actions
3.	Local Position	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 351.3 cases tested per 100,000 population which is the 7 day moving average. • 1.1% of individuals tested positive. This is a decrease. • 25.8 cases per 100,000 population, which has also decreased. This is in line with the overall England average which is 27.9. • 8.2 cases per 100,00 population for 60+. This has increased also. • 39 confirmed cases in the last 7 days. • RBWM are currently sitting in line with the average of the South East and England. • Weekly case rate information is now available by a 5 year age band. The heat map that is available on the Berkshire Public Health website enables us to see the levels of Covid-19 diagnosis by age group within RBWM which has changed over times. Darker colours show higher weekly case rates in people aged 10 - 14 (59 cases per 100,000) and 55 - 59 years old (58 cases per 100,000). Case rates have increased over the last week in 55 – 59 year olds. • From 2nd – 8th April, a number of wards have had no cases, the other wards that have had cases are under 5. • Statistically mortality rate is in line with what would be expected. There has been 1 death from Covid-19. • The number of Covid-19 patients has decreased in FHFT Hospitals with 1 admission on 4th April. On 6th April, 16 patients were in FHFT Hospitals for Covid-19 and none of these were on mechanical ventilation. • The number of daily admissions for Covid-19 patients has decreased in Royal Berkshire Foundation Trust hospitals. There was 2 admissions on 4th April. • As of 6th April, 8 patients had been admitted to RBFT Hospitals for Covid-19, 2 of these needed mechanical ventilation. • Nearly 406,000 people in Berkshire have now received a Covid-19 vaccination (first dose). • Approximately 93% of people aged 80 and over have now received a vaccination in Berkshire and 89% people aged 50 and over. • The Public Health team will keep a close eye on the data regarding the children's age groups now that they have all returned to school. Within RBWM, the case rates have been higher amongst primary age rather than secondary age. Across Berkshire, it was predominantly in the secondary age group that had higher case rates. • All the schools within the Borough are being worked with to ensure that they have risk assessments in place and are being Covid-19 secure. • The Public Health shared team are still looking at numbers in the 30 – 40 age group to see whether there is any link to parents and schools. • The rates in schools are very similar to others within the South East. One school had an outbreak, however action was taken by the school to mitigate this. Both Kevin McDaniel and Sarah Bellars from the CCG have 	

	Item		Actions
		<p>raised the discussion around whether schools within RBWM could be put forward for teacher vaccination. NHS England have advised this is not a decision that can be made locally.</p> <p>Action – CF to check whether rates by ethnicity are available to the public.</p> <p>Action – AR to check data on schools in Primary age group.</p>	
4.	Update on High Risk settings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within secondary schools, families have been asked to keep lateral flow testing going throughout the holidays. They have been asked to do this twice per week. • The Department of Education continue to review the advice given to schools, in particular secondary schools, over the Easter period. They have suggested that face coverings will continue to be worn by staff and pupils. • Youth services will be restarting group work with young people this week. In the coming weeks there will be more interaction with young people and other services. • Children's services are shifting their default position back to seeing all young people that are open to the service who are vulnerable. This will be face to face within the Covid-19 guidelines. • In adult social care for care homes, the picture is very positive. • There has been one positive case across 37 care homes this week. There have been no Covid-19 deaths. • There are no cases in domiciliary care agencies or supported living arrangements currently. • The vaccination rates for adult social care frontline staff are going well, with all second vaccinations going ahead for those staff. • There is currently a consultation on the requirement for all staff working in older people's care homes to be vaccinated. RBWM are encouraging providers to take part in that consultation. 	
5.	Engagement and Comms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23rd March marked a year on since the Government announced the first lockdown. The comms team sent out messages to residents, community groups and partners to thank them for all the work that has been done over this last year. • With Easter, the comms team sent reminders for children to continue to be tested during this period. Also messages around the vaccine myth buster and the Community testing centre at Braywick were sent out. This was sent via social media and the newsletter which now has 54,000 subscribers to it. • Messages were sent out on the easing of restrictions, explaining what people could do. The team focused on the positives. • The community champion newsletter now has 150 subscribers to it. 	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following the death of the Duke of Edinburgh, the messaging slightly changed. Messages were shared around Ramadan and Hands, Face, Space, in line with the national mourning. Messages were also sent out advising people not to attend the funeral in Windsor. This was shared by other parties as well. Over the last month, additional stay safe signs have been put up in schools and parks. There are new signs for the library vans as well. The team have liaised with Head teachers to ensure that messages were continuing to be shared around testing throughout the holidays. Two Maidenhead Advertiser wraps have been done. This goes over the front of the newspaper, reminding people of the community testing and Collect scheme. Asian Star radio have continued to share safety messages, which has been done throughout. With the shielding process coming to an end, there will be a press release on this. 	
6.	Enforcement and Compliance Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 101 inspections undertaken. All of these visits were compliance checks. 75 of which were broadly compliant, 26 had minor compliances which included things like no hand sanitiser, social distancing, missing signage and QR codes not being scanned. 29 service requests – 20 general non covid enquiries, 3 Covid enquiries or advice, 5 Covid workplace measures, and 1 outbreak notification within a school. 5 requests of premises opening 	
7.	Update on Vaccination programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During the last week, Cohort 10 ages 45 – 49 has been opened up nationally and all people are being called. However, vaccine supplies are still low. This Cohort might be open for a while. Nationally, the vaccine supply continues to be a challenge. Second doses are proceeding according to plan. The CCG are considering the need to move to any other models as activities are opened up over the summer. A drive through site is under consideration. Until this happens, members of the public should attend the site that they had their first vaccinations. Within the guidance from the JVCI, people should have their second vaccination within 12 weeks of their first one. 	
8.	AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None. 	
9.	Date of next public meeting	17 th May 2021, 2.30pm, Zoom meeting	

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