# Bristol Covid-19 Local Engagement Board

## Minutes

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<th>Meeting:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Time:</th>
<th>Location:</th>
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<td>Bristol Covid-19 Local Engagement Board</td>
<td>18/12/2020</td>
<td>14:00 – 15:00</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
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### Co-Chair
Marvin Rees  
Asher Craig

### Attendees:
Marvin Rees (MR) – Mayor  
Cllr Asher Craig (AC) – Deputy Mayor  
Cllr Claire Hiscott (CH) – Deputy Leader of Conservative Group  
Cllr Paula O'Rourke (PO) – Clifton Ward Councillor  
Cllr Tim Kent (TK) – Hengrove & Whitchurch Ward Councillor  
Christina Gray (CG) – BCC Director: Public Health  
Carol Slater (CS) – Health Equity Lead: *For item 3 vaccine update*  
Katie Porter (KP) – Principal Public Health Specialist: *For item 3*  
Tim Borrett (TB) – BCC Director: Policy, Strategy and Partnerships  
Andrea Dell (AD) – Head of the City Office  
James Durie (JD) – Business West  
Sue Mountstevens (SMo) – Police and Crime Commissioner  
Sado Jirde (SJ) – Black South West Network  
Huzaifa Adamali (HA) – Respiratory Consultant – Southmead Hospital  
Oona Goldsworthy (OG) – Brunel Care  
Sophie Shirt (SS) – BCC Deputy Head of External Communications and Consultation  
Caitlin Clark – Newsdesk Officer

### Apologies:
Mike Jackson (MJ) – BCC Chief Executive  
David Jarrett (DJ) – BNSSG  
Lindsay Gee (LG) - BNSSG  
Sandra Meadows (SMe) – Voscur  
Penny Germon (PG) – BCC Service Manager: Neighbourhoods and Communities  
Nigel Costley (NG) – TUC  
Beth Wash (BW) – BCC Senior External Communications Officers

### CC:
Ines Lage (IL) – TUC

## Agenda

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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Discussion Points / Outcomes &amp; Actions</th>
<th>Owner</th>
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<td>1.</td>
<td>14:00</td>
<td>Welcome and apologies</td>
<td>AC</td>
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### 2. 14:05 Previous minutes/actions

- TB shared the minutes of the previous meeting held on 18/12/20.
- Standing actions from meeting held on 11/12/20:
  - OG to share details of nurse case study for vaccination with SS.
- Standing actions from meeting held on 4/12/20:
  - SS will report back to next Board once Ward Councillors had been contacted to ask for feedback. It was agreed to conduct a sense check on how messages being received, especially with respect to different demographics, and report to the Board.
  - PO asked if there would be any benefit in conducting a cost analysis of marshal activity and resource as a way of retaining them in the city post-pandemic for the public benefit. KJ agreed to progress this and report to the Board. This action is with TB to follow up.

### 3. 14:10 Public Health / Local Outbreak Management / Testing update

- **DPH situation report**
  - There had been a significant drop in the last week down to 117 cases which is due to testing, tracing and marshal enforcement.
  - 40% of Bristol deaths have occurred in care homes but there have been fewer deaths to date than in ‘wave 1’.
  - Public Health are working closely with street marshals. Open air markets are closing in Bristol to avoid gatherings and this has been welcomed.
  - Hospitals remain under extreme pressure.

- **Implications of tier allocation**
  - Bristol City Council is working closely with South Gloucestershire Council due to boundary and tier messaging.
  - An expected uptick in January is expected due to unlocking over the Christmas period. Tier 2 is still High and we must bear this in mind.

- **Risks, issues and action over holiday period**
  - OG expressed concern that the Tier 2 relaxation could increase care home cases.

- **Vaccine update**
  - Pfizer Covid vaccine received approval on 2/12/20 and has met strict standards. The vaccine arrived at Southmead Hospital on 7/12/20 and first lot of mass testing took place on 8/12/20. The vaccine has been rolled out initially to those classed as most at risk, for the over 80s. CS advised there is complexity of transporting the ‘frozen’ vaccine and planning continues to cover all areas of Bristol as soon as possible.
  - In the last 10 days 6,000 people have received the vaccine across Southmead Hospital and four primary care centres (i.e. GP surgeries) including Greenway.
  - AstraZeneca vaccine is anticipated to be approved soon.
  - GP practices are giving priority to get the vaccine out to care homes.
  - OG informed there is a good 90% take-up rate in two Brunel Care homes.
  - PO raised concern over case rates amongst taxi drivers and asked if Bristol City Council could request a change in hierarchy of vaccines to include taxi drivers. CS informed all councils must follow Government
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<th>4.</th>
<th>14:30</th>
<th>Current forthcoming communications campaigns and activity</th>
<th>SS</th>
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<td>• Working with NHS England on vaccine communication.</td>
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<td>• Covid stories from survivors and the impact on life post-virus have been received.</td>
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<td>• Comms team are working on a joint statement from LEB for Christmas and New Year period. Concerns were raised about people moving between tiers including to worship, and LEB agreed to write to faith leaders with guidance about this.</td>
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<td>• Comms continue to build up examples of case studies, and influencers to support vaccination communications. AC suggested reaching out to diverse staff group. Local Insights to be a standing agenda at future meetings.</td>
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<td>• SJ requested more use of community radio to reach Black, Asian and Minority ethnic communities.</td>
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<td>• MR raised some concerns based on online content that showed greater amount of US-inspired anti-vax and conspiracy activity, including linked to some fringe Christian groups. This could be explored further with Bristol Diocese to understand if it is a local issue and whether there should be a concerted communications response.</td>
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<td>• There will be video messages to young people on social media.</td>
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<td>• SS and HA agreed to meet regarding families’ stories and reflections.</td>
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<td>• There will be a full duty rota covering any concerns on Covid during the Christmas season. SS to send LEB members email address so they have a contact.</td>
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<td>• OG informed care home visiting had been an issue due to lateral flow staff testing not yet in use and this is too much of a risk.</td>
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<td>• SMo advised there will be extra police working over Christmas and in particular the New Year. Police need to be made aware of large group gatherings as soon as possible to be able to intervene early.</td>
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<td>• HA noted the impact on front-line workers and others working over Christmas, including Christmas Day. It was agreed that ‘thank you’ messaging would be added to existing planned front-line worker campaign.</td>
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<td>• CH said she has a ward bordering with South Gloucestershire and asked how boundary messages were being managed. SS informed comms are working on this message and will share with South Gloucestershire colleagues.</td>
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<th>Board member intelligence, feedback and discussion</th>
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<td>• Cllr Asher Craig confirmed Bristol would go from Tier 3 to Tier 2 on 19/12/20 and a further Government review of tiers is expected on 30/12/20.</td>
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| 6. | 14:55 | Summary, actions and next steps | SS  
SJ/SS  
HA/SS |
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<td>• Letter to be sent to faith groups to provide advice regarding moving between tiers</td>
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<td>• Make more use of community radio to raise awareness amongst the black community. Ultrasound campaigns could be used for vaccine message.</td>
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<td>• HA and SS to meet to discuss if and how HA can help facilitate families’ sharing their stories and reflections on life post virus after losing loved ones or experiencing serious illness. It was noted GDPR applies and could only take form</td>
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of HA speaking to families and sharing contact details of someone at the council if they wished to.

- There has been online content that showed greater amount of US-inspired anti-vax and conspiracy activity. Contact Martin Gainsborough at Bristol Diocese as a link person to discuss intelligence from faith communities to help inform understanding of whether this is a pronounced local issue and whether there should be a concerted communications response.
- Consider additional comms to taxi drivers via taxi union.
- Send a Christmas thank you message to care workers/front line staff.

7. 14:58 Closing remarks

- AC thanked all for attending.