# Bristol Covid-19 Local Engagement Board

## Minutes

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<td>Bristol Covid-19 Local Engagement Board</td>
<td>20/11/20</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  
Mike Jackson (MJ) – BCC Chief Executive  
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  
Sandra Meadows (SMe) – Voscur  
Huzaifa Adamali (HA) – Respiratory Consultant – Southmead Hospital  
David Jarrett (DJ) – BNSSG  
Nigel Costley (NG) – TUC  
Sophie Shirt (SS) – BCC Deputy Head of External Communications and Consultation  
Beth Wash (BW) – BCC Senior External Communications Officers  
Jon Toy (JT) – BCC Consultation and Engagement Manager  
Oliver Henderson (OH) – BCC Policy and Public Affairs Assistant

### Apologies:

Oona Goldsworthy (OG) – Brunel Care  
Ines Lage (IL) – TUC  
Lindsay Gee (LG) - BNSSG  
Penny Germon (PG) – BCC Service Manager: Neighbourhoods and Communities

### CC:


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### Agenda Item:

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<th>Discussion Points / Outcomes &amp; Actions:</th>
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| 1. | 14:00 | Welcome  
• AC welcomed members to this week’s C-19 LEB. | AC |
### Previous minutes/actions

- TB reviewed previous minutes, these have been approved.
- Review of previous actions
  - PG to share any asks in relation to assisting community engagement / outreach with LEB partners. – **Complete and Ongoing BAU**
  - MJ to follow up on specific case of late self-isolation payment raised by Cllr Tim Kent. - **Closed**
  - SS/Comms to share weekly information on where local rates are high with LEB members as part of standing update - **Complete**
  - PG and OG to discuss welfare calls and aligning with those done within care sector. – **Ongoing**
  - PG to convene another group call with Faith Leaders in communities about engagement and outreach - **Ongoing**
  - MJ to look to Avon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service joining the Monday Multi-Agency Gold meetings and participating in community engagement and communications – **Complete**
  - SS and CG to discuss current communications plan and open letter to specific communities. - **Complete**
  - All LEB members to send any case studies, influencer and potential campaign participant details to SS - **Complete and Ongoing BAU**
  - SS and HA to discuss HA participation in influencer campaign - **Complete**
  - SS/Comms to share any Covid campaign / marketing collateral with LEB Members whenever available with ask to help disseminate - **Complete**
  - KJ to follow up with Covid Marshall team about potential briefing on medical detail offered by HA and reply to HA to confirm - **Complete**
  - IL to liaise with TB about any join public affairs activity on the CTAS system - **Complete**
  - SS/Comms and all LEB members to consider more use of individual and joint LEB voices in promoting key messages during lockdown and beyond - **Ongoing**

### Public Health / Local Outbreak Management Planning Update

- Rates remain high, but they appear to be flattening, along with overall numbers. We will need to key our eye on this to ensure it takes effect but it demonstrates that lockdown is working.
- We are beginning to see geographical clusters emerging and we are adopting a neighbourhood tasking approach in areas where rates are high, such as Lawrence Hill and Ashley. There are also some concerns about Avonmouth and Shirehampton, and also Bishopsworth,
- We are about to receive our Lateral Flow devices. However, we will not be mass testing. We are working with other local authorities to make sure we have a planned, targeted approach.
- JD asked what is meant by “mass testing” and how is our approach different than Liverpool’s
- CG explained that the term Mass Testing refers to the government’s rapid testing programme which has many applications. Liverpool piloted rapid testing in the community, which is also referred to as mass testing. This required support from the military.

### Current and forthcoming communications campaigns and activity

- We are Launching our “Can Do” volunteering campaign this week, while awaiting further information on what will happen on 2 December. In the meantime, we are continuing with more direct communications, including targeted Facebook
ads in areas where rates are high, reiterating key messages. We are also targeting a message to teachers about parents congregating at school gates, sending texts to Council tenants asking them to avoid lifts and communal spaces, and sending out communications packs and posters from next week.

- We will be doing targeted communications around testing. We are working in Lawrence Hill and other high rate areas, to ensure people are receiving the information they need on support available, particularly financial.
- We are working on a campaign with young people, who feel victimised and the future is bleak. The campaign will emphasise that we have their back and we understand how they feel.
- There will be continuing messaging on lateral flow testing next week, along with communications on vaccination. We are also working on a thanking “people for Christmas” campaign.
- AC noted that the marshals were in Lawrence Weston today and relayed concerns from the community that they feel that messaging is not getting across that this is city wide, and there is risk in all communities.

### 5. 14:30 Lateral flow testing – update

- Lateral flow testing (LFT) is a new technology which works faster than the standard PCR tests currently in service. Bristol is part of the second wave of the “Mass Testing” programme, and a clinical reference group has been set up for oversight of how these tests will be used.
- There are programmes covering the Universities, care homes and hospitals, as well as the Local Authority programme, so we need to coordinate in order to avoid tripping over one another.
- LFT can identify the virus before someone is symptomatic. But they may miss people who have only a low viral load but may go on to become infectious. There is a high risk of false negatives.
- The Local Authority programme will include a partnership delivery model, beginning with the Port of Bristol have agreed to partner with us. We expect to receive our tests imminently.

**JD:** if there are certain vital businesses, can we ensure they are speaking to you in a timely fashion  
**CG:** we need to work out who should receive the tests

**HA:** does this system work with Test and Trace? Will you feed information to hospital systems?  
**CG:** the positive and negative results will be fed into Test and Trace, but would not be linked into hospital systems as people receiving results will be asymptomatic, and not unwell.

**TK:** Some people are being told to take a test on a precautiony basis. What test do they take?  
**CG:** this will a developing issue. Businesses will be purchasing tests privately as well, and people are seeing these tests as a way to get through the rest of the winter. However we need to be clear about what the tests can safely do.

### 6. 14:40 Local Task Groups – update

- **PG update:**  
  - There are two tiers to our community outbreak management response. In tier one we were able to successfully mobilise community hubs. We
have continued to work with this network, asking them if they would extend their work into a localised approach to outbreak management for areas with under 100 cases. For areas with more than 100 cases, they are in tier two, where we set up task groups to examine whether businesses in the local area are complying with guidance on social distancing.

- A meeting took place this week focused on the actions local people in Bishopsworth can do within the local community to limit spread.

- ME update:
  Having a focused task group in each area is really helping to get the message out. A lot of work has been done in schools in Easton schools, leading to far better compliance and reduced mixing. There was a meeting last night discussing how the community take action together. There was a positive outcome, and the message has become very personal and local. We are working closely with the Covid marshals on Stapleton Road and Lawrence Hill. People are starting to respond positively.

- KJ update:
  There are issues around businesses not complying with the rules and not social distancing. The Covid marshals and Police are engaging. Police are working with BCC, talking about compliance with the communities. WECA and First Bus have also agreed to put up messaging around the city reinforcing the guidance.

HA: during second wave, how can we become champions? Would there be patient advocates that can be champions for a campaign? We need to explore how we tell the stories of patients in intensive care.

Group agreed further action on stories from community champions.

### 7. 14:55 Summary, actions and next steps

- Communications to liaise with media on not being so city centre focused – to focus on wider areas
- Explore patient advocates and champions
- We are working with colleagues to ensure that Polling for the Romanian Election at the Bristol Novotel can be operated in a way that ensure people can attend and vote safely. We are looking into more polling stations across the city to help maximise safe access and would welcome any views on this.

### 8. 14:58 Closing remarks

- Mayor Rees thanked the Communications team for their hard work.