

Bristol Outbreak Control Plan Executive Summary

We have now entered another phase of our response to the Coronavirus pandemic in the UK. We will need to identify local outbreaks of Covid-19 quickly and take effective action to rapidly control them.

The social and economic harms from the response to the virus now pose as great a risk of illness and premature death as the virus itself. Local Outbreak Management Plans are being produced by every local authority in England and these will be the way in which local areas manage these risks using their knowledge of, and relationship with, their people and place.

This Local Outbreak Management Plan for Bristol outlines how we will respond, with our partners, to prevent outbreaks and limit the spread and impact of any that occur. It ensures there are clear protocols in place to respond effectively and outlines how we will focus on preventing infection in the first place through ongoing engagement with our communities and partners. Our response to Covid-19 builds on long-established principles of outbreak management that have served to protect the public in the past.

Disease knows no borders and Bristol is working closely with all other local authorities in the South West Region to make sure our plans and approaches are aligned. As a member of Avon and Somerset Local Resilience Forum we describe the escalation arrangements which are in place, should mutual aid be required; and as a member of the Healthier Together health and care system for Bristol North Somerset and South Gloucestershire we describe our collaboration and close working arrangements particularly in relation to care homes, infection prevention and control, testing and outbreak management.

Our plan describes:

- How we will prepare for and respond to incidents and outbreaks in Care Homes, Schools, workplaces and communities.
- How we will support vulnerable people to isolate
- How we will work with the national Test and Trace programme and have local oversight and swift mobilisation of local testing in capability; and how the local public health team will work with Public Health England to manage complex situations.
- Our approach to data and intelligence; and how we will work with national, regional and local intelligence to identify and respond swiftly to outbreaks
- Our two new committees a Covid-19 health protection committee to have technical oversight of the plan; and a Covid-19 Mayoral board to have oversight of public communication and local engagement

This is a dynamic plan and it will be developed and refined in line with national policy and local circumstances. Implementing the plan will involve many people and agencies including local government, businesses, communities, NHS, care workers, teachers, voluntary organisations and others.