# Bristol Covid-19 Local Engagement Board

**Minutes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Time:</th>
<th>Location:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bristol Covid-19 Local Engagement Board</td>
<td>16/10/2020</td>
<td>14:00 – 15:00</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
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**Co-Chair**

Marvin Rees  
Asher Craig

**Attendees:**

Marvin Rees (MC) - Mayor  
Cllr Asher Craig (AC) – Deputy Mayor  
Cllr Paula O’Rourke (PO) – Clifton Ward Councillor  
Cllr Tim Kent (TK) – Hengrove & Whitchurch Ward Councillor  
Mike Jackson (MJ) – BCC Chief Executive  
Christina Gray (CG) – BCC Director: Public Health  
Sue Mountstevens (SM) – Police and Crime Commissioner  
Sandra Meadows (SM) – Voscur  
Huzaifa Adamali (HA) – Respiratory Consultant – Southmead Hospital  
Oona Goldsworthy (OG) – Brunel Care  
David Jarrett (DJ) – BNSSG  
Ines Lage (IL) – TUC  
James Durie (JD) – Business West  
Lucinda Parr (LP) – University of Bristol  
Sophie Shirt (SS) – BCC Deputy Head of External Communications and Consultation  
Beth Wash (BW) – BCC Senior External Communications Officers

**Apologies:**

Tim Borrett (TB) – BCC Director: Policy, Strategy and Partnerships  
Lindsay Gee (LG) - BNSSG  
Nigel Costley (NG) – TUC  
Cllr Claire Hiscott (CH) – Horfield Ward Councillor  
Jon Toy (JT) – BCC Consultation and Engagement Manager  
Andrea Dell (AD) – Head of the City Office  
Oliver Henderson (OH) – BCC Policy and Public Affairs Assistant  
Bishop Vivien Faull (VF) – Bishop of Bristol  
Sado Jirde (SJ) – Black South West Network

**CC:**

Penny Germon (PG) – BCC Service Manager: Neighbourhoods and Communities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agenda</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Discussion Points / Outcomes &amp; Actions</th>
<th>Owner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Page 1 of 4
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item:</th>
<th>Time:</th>
<th>Agenda Item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>14:00</td>
<td>Welcome and apologies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 2.    | 14:05 | Review of minutes and actions  
|       |       | - SS closed actions from the previous meeting.  
|       |       | - SS to flag Thrive in weekly comms update. |
| 3.    | 14:10 | Public Health / Local Outbreak Management Planning Update  
|       |       | - Bristol has escalated over the last few weeks.  
|       |       | - CG gave an overview of case numbers by age category.  
|       |       | - The university’s outbreak management plan has worked.  
|       |       | - There may be links between student and parent outbreaks.  
|       |       | - Huzaifa suggested that hospitals feed into a centralised dashboard and that nursing homes be provided more support than currently provided.  
|       |       | - A decision has been made that Bristol will escalate locally and take any necessary action if cases continue to rise.  
|       |       | - The government will escalate measures based on a series of factors as opposed to a specific rate of case numbers. |
| 4.    | 14:20 | Current and forthcoming communications campaigns and activity  
|       |       | - More than 16 million downloads of the NHS app and 40% of those who haven’t are still undecided. Awaiting a local breakdown to show regional support.  
|       |       | - Only a third of people can recognise the four main symptoms of Covid-19 and there is apparent confusion and fatigue around rules.  
|       |       | - New tier systems were introduced this week and Bristol is sharing NHS graphics which have been developed alongside its own sets of graphics.  
|       |       | - Have worked closely with the university on new releases and information sharing.  
|       |       | - UWE has 30 confirmed cases and return to full campus teaching is Monday 19 October. A testing site on the campus has now been opened.  
|       |       | - FAQs on the night time economy are up on the website and there may be a reward concept for businesses adhering to guidance.  
|       |       | - The Covid-19 Bristol Survey has had a good response rate and work is underway to target areas with lower response rates.  
|       |       | - Residents are concerned about lack of exercise, care, concerns of mental wellbeing and not seeing friends and relatives.  
|       |       | - Strong feeling that face coverings should not be optional and better enforced.  
|       |       | - The survey closes on the 27 October and SS urged all to promote it.  
|       |       | - A campaign is underway to gain young people’s insights and SS asked that all disseminate this survey.  
|       |       | - Test and Trace Support Payment scheme is now live.  
|       |       | - They continue to focus on campaigns such as ‘hands, face and space’ and the rule of six.  
|       |       | - SS suggested a live stream with the Mayor, Director of Public Health and University of Bristol take place alongside a cross-party statement from LEB and City Partners.  
|       |       | - It was agreed that Andy Bennett from the PCC should also participate in any live streams.  
|       |       | - SS to organise the live stream and cross party statement.  
|       |       | - The Mayor suggest comms in multiple languages be reviewed and engagement with faith leaders recommence.  
|       |       | - A monthly community event takes place and messages to drive out should be |
included in the agenda.
- All agreed that community messages may not be as efficient as social media (Instagram, snapchat and TikTok) and teachers in communicating with young people.
- SS to ensure messaging to be sent out to Head Teachers to include in communication to students and parents.
- The NUS should also be contacted for support in engaging with University students. Healthier Together Partnership should also participate in the joint statement. Sports clubs should also be sent messaging.

### 5. 14:35 New Escalation Structure

- If Bristol passes into a higher tier, the government is seeking assurances that Bristol is prepared.
- Suggested that additional emergency response mechanisms start to be put in place.
- A Bristol specific extension of the LEF arrangements has been put together.
- Only proposing to bring in agencies where there is a specific issue, such as the current issue with schools and universities.
- CG took members of the board through the governance and escalation process.
- CG to share the presentation.

### 6. 14:45 University of Bristol – Outbreak control/Messaging for young adults

- From January onwards, UoB have worked closely with BCC and PHE.
- An advisory group was set up early on and this was key in how UoB is now operating.
- The outbreak plan developed has provided a helpful model and structure for their current response.
- Cumulative number of cases is around 700. Staff cases are lower and a number of these cases have arisen at home.
- They are undertaking weekly risk assessments which inform which tier they need to be operating at.
- LP stressed the importance of working with student unions in order to communicate with students.
- A multi-channel approach has been used to engage with students. Daily Zoom calls are taking place with students that are self-isolating.
- Conscious of difficulties being faced by young people and additional wellbeing support is in place.
- Working closely with UWE and BCC in relation to the engage, explain, enforce campaign.
- CG praised the work done by the university.
- Students isolating over the Christmas period will require support from the community to make them feel valued as they will not be returning home. Huzafia recommended some wellness boxes be sent out. **LP to look into this as an option to support students.**

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

- CG to follow up on transfers of care data.
- SS to organise the live stream and cross party statement.
- Faith leaders group to be reconvened.
- Messages to go out via schools.
- CG to share presentation.
- UoB to look into wellness boxes for self-isolating students over Christmas.
- OG flagged hospitals pressures due to normal winter pressures.
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<th>14:58</th>
<th>Closing remarks</th>
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