



Bristol Covid-19 Local Engagement Board

Minutes

Meeting:		Date:	Time:	Location:
Bristol Covid-19 Local Engagement Board		18/09/2020	14:00 – 15:00	Zoom
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 Tim Kent	(TK)		Whitchurch Park Ward Councillor	
Mike Jackson	(MJ)	-	BCC Chief Executive	
Christina Gray	(CG)	-	BCC Director of Public Health	
Sophie Shirt	(SS)	-	BCC Deputy Head of External Communications and Consultation	
Beth Wash	(BM)	-	BCC Senior External Communications Officer	
David Ader	(DA)	-	City Office Operations and Engagement Manager	
Lindsay Gee	(LG)	-	NHS	
Ines Lage	(IL)	-	TUC	
Sue Mountstevens	(SM)	-	Police and Crime Commissioner	
Sado Jirde	(SJ)	-	Black South West Network	
Prof. Olivette Otele	(OO)	-	Commission on Race Equality	
Oona Goldsworth	(OG)	-	Brunel Care	
Huzaifa Adamali	(HA)	-	Respiratory Consultant – Southmead Hospital	
Apologies:			CC:	
Tim Borrett	BCC Director: Policy, Strategy and Partnerships		Penny Germon	- BCC Service Manager, Neighbourhoods and Communities
David Jarrett	Respiratory Consultant – Southmead Hospital		Francesca Barclay	- DA - Minute Taker
Prof. Olivette Otele	Commission on Race Equality		Nigel Costley	- TUC
Oona Goldsworthy	Brunel Care			
Jon Toy	BCC Consultation and Engagement Manager			

James Durie Andrea Dell	Business West Head of the City Office	
----------------------------	--	--

Agenda Item:	Time:	Discussion Points / Outcomes & Actions:	Owner
1.	14:00	Welcome and apologies	
2.	14.05	Review of minutes and actions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members confirmed there were no amendments to the minutes for the previous meeting and no outstanding actions. 	
2.	14:10	Public Health / Local Outbreak Management Planning Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11 per 100,000 over 7 days (42 cases). Over 1600 total cases in Bristol. The rate of infection in Bristol has reduced but there is uncertainty over the reliability of the data. 2nd wave is anticipated to be less steep. Whilst young people are mostly the ones infected, older people infection rates are rising. Thresholds are being revised from 20 to 50 to go on to the watch list. Care home staff cases are 70% staff. Two local sites are being used for testing and four more sites have been approved by DHSC. Demand is currently higher than supply, and testing should only be sought if there are symptoms. People should isolate 10 days from becoming unwell and 14 days from coming into contact with someone positive or returning from a high incidence country. Immediate focus is the opening of schools, return of students, engaging young people, hospitality, care homes and winter planning, events, use of regulations and powers and the flu vaccination programme. Current focus is on protecting those at risk, reducing family and social mixing and reducing car sharing. Any restrictions put in place will be in place until Spring. 	
3.	14:20	Current and forthcoming communications campaigns and activity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The current focus of comms has been on the outbreaks in schools. Currently working on FAQ's for parents. 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A weekly update for critical parties will be taking place led by the Director: Public Health. • Feedback from the Government comms team is that the ‘hands, face, space’ and rules of 6 are working well. • Comms are going out on Covid 19 testing and the University students return to campus. • The test and trace app is launching on Thu 24th September and members should encourage people to sign up to the app. • The Flu campaign launches Tuesday 22nd September. • Covid-19 Survey goes live week commencing 21st September. • Young People Campaign work is ongoing and the team are evaluating the feedback from surveys. • Car sharing comms are encouraging people not to travel by car. • Back to School campaign has reached 1.5 million people on social media. Stats for back to school website are not very high but the average time spent shows people are taking the information on board. • Comms will focus on providing advice to those who can't get online to book tests, on supporting people in need and on issues around enforcement. • There is low confidence around government enforcement. 	
4.	14.35	<p>Observations, feedback and discussion – Board sharing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In relation to comms for people who cannot get online, Cllr Craig was concerned with kits being in schools as there was uncertainty over the number and contents of the kits. • Each school has ten swabs and schools should only test a small sample of students showing symptoms in order to identify to ascertain if there has been an outbreak. • There was an announcement about Marshalls and no funding will be provided unless there are emergency measures in place. • The City has rangers who are good at de-escalating anti-social behaviour and the Council is looking to invest in more rangers. • The policing minister envisages that Marshalls will be encouraging observing and facilitating social distancing. They do not have any enforcement powers. • Nationally, testing capacity is prioritised for high incidence areas and the whole of the South West has been de-prioritised which may be why Bristol is seeing fewer cases as there are fewer tests being done. • There appears to have been a spike in cases following the bank holiday. • There is no data for testing outside of the local area. The de-prioritisation has been challenged on public health grounds. 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On breaches, the PCC have had 193 reports of breaches and there have been a total of 91 referrals from the quarantine issues. In August there were 90,000 calls to the communication centre. If people have concerns about large groups, they should report online and not use the 101 phone line. • Public trust in the Government is lower and the Council needs to keep local confidence through comms. • There has been good feedback from neighbouring authorities on the Bristol comms approach. • Regarding reporting in schools, schools should be aware that they are high up on the 'to inform' list. There is a dedicated schools line and schools bulletin, and the messages will go out again next week. • The joint messaging has worked well. Being able to talk to different audiences through one communication has been successful and effective. 	
5.	14:45	Upcoming communications and engagement – Board sharing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Mayor's office has been going through a history of all directions and guidance that have gone out and identified what is still current advice. • The Mayor suggested re-doing a guidance note with up to date information. • Winter is going to be difficult in terms of the weather, isolation, increased illness and fewer volunteers and winter planning needs to commence now. • Starting to amplify messaging to at risk groups to commence shielding. The winter plan has a large focus on the entire care sector and provision of PPE to this sector. • In terms of the provision of food boxes, this may be limited to those clinically vulnerable. • In terms of information on testing, it could be that those without symptoms or quarantining are confused which is why they are getting tests. We are close to being able to do our own contact tracing if required. Testing provides data on location, occupation and characteristics of people which may be helpful in knowing where activity needs to be focused on. 	
6.	14:55	Summary, actions and next steps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A leader from the Bristol Muslim Strategic Leaders group (BMSLG) made a point that translated material needs to be clear and simple. People are confused from government messaging and local comms should be kept simple and relatable. • A second issue with the test and trace app is that it is automatically updated onto phones and has led to serious privacy concerns. Comms is required to convince people to use the app. • A summary on where we are now is required with clear messaging 	

		<p>around testing and self-isolation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wider messaging is required to build trust into systems that are in place to support people. • Residents of bristol are getting complacent and messaging needs to focus on the basic risks and principles which may encourage people will adapt their behaviour accordingly. This can be shared with the schools. • There was a core cities cabinet meeting and Manchester have agreed clarity and simplicity in actions works well. There are wider issues which have led to fragility in certain communities and core cities are asking the government to help local authorities 'build back better'. Members should feed into this core cities work. • There is enormous fatigue in many communities and a sense of positivity and hope is required. There are festivals coming up such as Divali and we should work with communities to turn these events into powerful messages. • Successes should be shared and celebrated around the city. • Messages should not demonise young people. • TK queried the rules around car boot sales and social distancing. The Events group should approve all events and undertake safety plans. CG to check if car boot sales are included in general events. 	CG
7.	14:58	<p>Closing remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AC thanks members for their work and encouraged them to raise any ideas with the comms team. 	