

Local Outbreak Management Plan Scenario Planning Overview

07/04/2021



Introduction

The Local Outbreak Management Plan was refreshed in spring 2021 following the first two waves of the UK Covid-19 pandemic.

As part of this refresh the Council and partners have considered five emerging scenarios moving forward which this document considers and sets out the planned response to:

- Diminishing case numbers and no new significant threats
- Variant of concern situations and outbreaks
- Enduring transmission situations
- Rising tide multiple outbreaks
- Wave 3 escalation

For each scenario we have scoped the planned response and we aim to test the planning for this through table top exercises in Autumn 2021.

The NHS is working separately with the Council on scenario planning for NHS and Social care.

Scenario One

DIMINISHING TRANSMISSION & NO NEW SIGNIFICANT THREATS



Scenario Assumptions

- Case rates continue to decline to maintain a case rate below 20 cases/100,000 population,
- Transmission is declining and remains primarily linked to households, workplace and education with no clear clustering in communities of identity or place.
- Testing uptake remains proportionate
- Vaccine uptake is strong across the 1-9 priority groups and uptake in younger age groups has been positive.

Planned Headline Response

Governance	Public Health Response	Testing Strategy	NPI	Vulnerable Groups
<p>LOEB continues to meet monthly</p> <p>BIMT meets monthly</p> <p>CRG meets weekly</p>	<p>Covid T&T team provides 7/7 response</p> <p>Maintain Local O response</p> <p>Unused PH capacity is focused on CWG PH response and planning</p> <p>Engagement & Coms works to migrate partnerships to HealthyBrum campaign</p>	<p>Focus on home testing with Lateral Flow distribution support.</p> <p>Maintain core offer of LFD testing sites.</p> <p>Monitor testing uptake by site where possible.</p> <p>Consider reduction in MTU/LTU symptomatic locations following impact assessments on access.</p>	<p>Maintain and integrate Covid marshals into Env. Health functions and through BID.</p> <p>Maintain isolation support and advice.</p> <p>Continue to promote awareness and understanding through Champions and engagement partners as part of evolution into Healthy Brum partners.</p>	<p>Migrate Covid into existing partnership groups and oversight.</p>

Scenario Two

VARIANTS OF CONCERN AND/OR OUTBREAKS



Scenario Assumptions

- Identification of non-travel related variants of concern or significant cluster/outbreak.
- Overall population level transmission is declining and remains primarily linked to households, workplace and education with no clear clustering in communities of identity or place.
- Testing uptake remains proportionate
- Vaccine uptake is strong across the 1-9 priority groups and uptake in younger age groups has been positive.

Planned Headline Response

Governance	Public Health Response	Testing Strategy	NPI	Vulnerable Groups
<p>LOEB continues to meet monthly</p> <p>BIMT meets monthly</p> <p>CRG meets weekly</p> <p>LOEB & BIMT briefed on situation</p> <p>MP and Ward Members briefed based on location and plan</p>	<p>Covid T&T team provides 7/7 response</p> <p>Maintain Local O response</p> <p>Unused PH capacity is focused on additional contact tracing support if required.</p>	<p>Saturation testing approach, dependant on situation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Targeted coms to promote existing testing routes - Postal surge PCR with deposit sites - Door to Door Drop & Collect PCR - MTU deployment - National switch on targeted sequencing and CTAS escalation 	<p>Targeted deployment of Covid marshals and EHO into geographical area to reinforce NPI.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If workplace based involve regional HSE. • If education based involve regional schools commissioner. • If NHS/Care work with NHS IPC <p>Enhanced local coms around isolation support & advice offer.</p>	<p>Consider impacts on vulnerable groups and if additional interventions required.</p>

Scenario Three

ENDURING TRANSMISSION



Scenario Assumptions

- Identification of a site of enduring transmission, this may be a setting such as a workplace or school or care home or a geography or community of identity.
 - In the absence of a national or regional definition, enduring transmission would be considered if case rates in a specific defined place or community continue to remain higher than expected for a period of 30 days or more.
 - Overall population level transmission is declining and remains primarily linked to households, workplace and education with no clear clustering in communities of identity or place.
 - Testing uptake remains proportionate
 - Vaccine uptake is strong across the 1-9 priority groups and uptake in younger age groups has been positive.
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Planned Headline Response

Governance	Public Health Response	Testing Strategy	NPI	Vulnerable Groups
<p>LOEB continues to meet monthly</p> <p>BIMT meets monthly</p> <p>CRG meets weekly</p> <p>LOEB & BIMT briefed on situation</p> <p>MP and Ward Members briefed based on location and plan</p>	<p>Covid T&T team provides 7/7 response</p> <p>Maintain Local O response</p> <p>Unused PH capacity is focused on additional contact tracing support if required.</p>	<p>Saturation testing approach, dependant on situation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Targeted coms to promote existing testing routes - Door to Door Drop of LFD. - Consider MTU deployment - Consider National switch on targeted sequencing and CTAS escalation 	<p>Targeted deployment of Covid marshals and EHO into geographical area to reinforce NPI.</p> <p>Enhanced local coms around isolation support & advice offer.</p>	<p>Consider impacts on vulnerable groups and if additional interventions required.</p>

Scenario Four

RISING TIDE



Scenario Assumptions

- Multiple areas with rising case numbers in small but steady upward trend or multiple clusters and outbreaks with evidence of enduring transmission starting to emerge.
- Overall population level transmission is holding steady or showing small increase which is sustained over several weeks.
- Testing uptake remains proportionate
- Vaccine uptake is strong across the 1-9 priority groups and uptake in younger age groups has been positive.

Planned Headline Response

Governance	Public Health Response	Testing Strategy	NPI	Vulnerable Groups
<p>LOEB continues to meet monthly</p> <p>BIMT meets fortnightly</p> <p>CRG meets weekly</p> <p>LOEB & BIMT briefed on situation</p> <p>MP and Ward Members briefed</p>	<p>Covid T&T team provides 7/7 response</p> <p>Maintain Local O response</p> <p>Review capacity to consider moving BAU PH staff into Covid response for outbreak management.</p>	<p>Saturation testing approach in areas of concern, dependant on situation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Targeted coms to promote existing testing routes - Door to Door Drop of PCR with request for National switch on targeted sequencing and CTAS escalation 	<p>Targeted deployment of Covid marshals and EHO into geographical area to reinforce NPI.</p> <p>Enhanced local coms around isolation support & advice offer.</p> <p>Step up enforcement visits and work with WMP on strong messaging.</p>	<p>Consider impacts on vulnerable groups and if additional interventions required.</p> <p>Briefing advice to key risk settings e.g education settings, care homes</p>

Scenario Four

WAVE THREE



Scenario Assumptions

- Local, regional or national sustained upward trend in case rates in the context of maintained levels of testing over several weeks.
- In this scenario it will be important to consider vaccine uptake as this will impact on the NHS and Social Care resilience. The NHS is working separately with the Council on scenario planning for NHS and care impacts.

Planned Headline Response

Governance	Public Health Response	Testing Strategy	NPI	Vulnerable Groups
<p>LOEB continues to meet monthly</p> <p>BIMT meets weekly</p> <p>CRG meets twice weekly</p> <p>MP and Ward Members briefed</p>	<p>Covid T&T team provides 7/7 response</p> <p>Stand down or restrict Local O response</p> <p>Review capacity to consider moving BAU PH staff into Covid response for outbreak management.</p>	<p>Revert to previous wave testing model with emphasis on rapid access to PCR through DHSC managed sites.</p>	<p>Targeted deployment of Covid marshals and EHO into historically high risk geographical area to reinforce NPI.</p> <p>Enhanced local coms around isolation support & advice offer.</p>	<p>Monitor impacts on vulnerable groups and if additional interventions required.</p> <p>Briefing advice to key risk settings e.g education settings, care homes</p>

National Considerations Identified

- Potential implications of moving away from free test kits for workplaces and potential for further transmission within workplaces while uptake in working age adults of vaccination remains low in younger age groups, who predominantly work in high density workplace settings like retail.
- Future plans for PCR testing sites and whether this will transition to home-testing only model and impact of this.
- Future plans for financial aide for isolation and if this will be ended at some point or move to be a pressure on the response funding.
- Sequencing capacity for surge response and timeliness.
- International travel impact over the summer and risk of increased VOI/VOC clusters.

