



OUTBREAK CONTROL ENGAGEMENT WORKING GROUP

Tuesday 11th December 2020

At 1.00pm

Remote Teams Meeting

(Teams invitation has been sent)

Membership

Councillor Moore (Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board) (Chair)
Councillor Thomas (Mental Health Champion)
Councillor Harrison (Children in Care Champion)
Denise McGuckin (Hartlepool Borough Council)
Dr Tim Butler (NHS England)
Karen Hawkins (NHS Tees Valley Clinical Commissioning Group)
Lesley Wharton (North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust)
Craig Blundred (Director of Public Health, Hartlepool Borough Council)
Sally Robinson (Hartlepool Borough Council)
Sharon Cooney (Cleveland Police)
Jill Harrison (Hartlepool Borough Council)
Tony Hanson (Hartlepool Borough Council)
Ed Turner (Hartlepool Borough Council)
Christopher Akers-Belcher (Healthwatch)
Julian Penton (VCS – Hartlepower)
Reverend Michelle Delves - Faith Representation
Jacqueline Mckenzie (Primary Care Network)*
Fiona Adamson (GP Federation)*
Graham Trory (Primary Care Network)*
Carl Parker (Primary Care Network)*

* To rotate

Items

1. Apologies
2. Notes from the meeting held on the 10th November 2020 (attached)
3. Coronavirus in Hartlepool - Data Update - Presentation (*Director of Public Health*)
4. Covid-19 Community Champions - Presentation (*Director of Adult & Community Based Services*)
5. Support Hub and CEV Update (*Director of Adult & Community Based Services*)
6. Any other business
7. Date of next meeting – 12th January 2021

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD (OUTBREAK CONTROL ENGAGEMENT WORKING GROUP)

MEETING NOTES – 10 NOVEMBER 2020

The meeting commenced at 3.00 pm and was an online remote meeting in compliance with the Council Procedure Rules Relating to the holding of Remote Meetings and the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

Present:

Councillor Moore (Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board) (Chair)
Councillor Thomas (Mental Health Champion)
Councillor Harrison (Children in Care Champion)
Denise McGuckin (Hartlepool Borough Council)
Michael Houghton (NHS Tees Valley Clinical Commissioning Group)
Rebecca Smith (substitute for Lesley Wharton (North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust)
Craig Blundred (Acting Director of Public Health, Hartlepool Borough Council)
T/Chief Insp Peter Graham (substitute for Sharon Cooney (Cleveland Police)
Jill Harrison (Hartlepool Borough Council)
Tony Hanson (Hartlepool Borough Council)
Ed Turner (Hartlepool Borough Council)
Julian Penton (VCS – Hartlepower)

Also in attendance:-

Officers:

Dean Langstaff, Public Health Intelligence Analyst
Joan Stevens, Statutory Scrutiny Manager
Amanda Whitaker, Democratic Services Team

21. Apologies for Absence

Lesley Wharton, Supt Sharon Cooney and Christopher Akers-Belcher (due to technical issues)

22. Declarations of interest by Members

None

23. Minutes

The notes of the meeting held on 5th October 2020 were confirmed.

24. Coronavirus in Hartlepool – Data Update - Presentation *(Acting Director of Public Health)*

The Acting Director of Public Health and Public Health Intelligence Analyst provided a comprehensive presentation which updated the Working Group on the current outbreak situation in the Borough. Statistical data was provided in relation to the period up to 6th November with cases in Hartlepool significantly higher than the England average and continuing to rise.

Covid related death rates in Hartlepool and England, up to 16 October, were also higher than the England average. Details of covid cases by ward were also provided with the Hart ward/De Bruce ward border seeing a higher concentration of cases with no apparent key reasons identified.

Working Group members debated issues arising from the presentation and Officers provided further clarification in relation to the issues raised. The continued importance of preventative measures was highlighted. Members were updated on the covid situation in care homes and it was noted that weekly meetings were being held with care homes to share lessons which had been learnt. An elected member referred to the need for vigilance in schools and the need for schools to receive support was highlighted.

AGREED -

The presentation was noted.

25. Coronavirus - Local and National Restrictions – Verbal Update

The Working Group received an update from the Managing Director on the background and introduction of local and national restrictions. The Leader of the Council/Chair of the Working Group referred to the role of members of the Working Group and requested all to play a collective part in reducing the number of covid cases in the town during this period of 'lockdown'. Members reiterated that vigilance should continue and the Managing Director informed the Working Group that the Authority was working with North Tees and Hartlepool Trust so that health colleagues could work with the Authority to ensure key messages were communicated appropriately to the community.

AGREED -

The update was noted.

26. Covid-19 Community Champions Update *(Acting Director of Public Health)*

The Working Group was updated, by the Acting Director of Public Health, on the current situation in relation to covid community champions. A formal proposal was being collated and an update would be submitted to the next meeting of this working group. In response to clarification sought from an elected member, the Group was advised that Officers were not yet at the stage of identifying community champions.

AGREED –

The update was noted.

Any Other Business

The Mental Health Champion requested an update from the Director of Adults and Community Based Services in relation to the trend in terms of mental health issues during this 2nd 'lockdown' period. The Director advised that an update would be presented at the next meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board and a report would be submitted to a future meeting of this Working Group in relation to mental health activity through the Authority's support hub.

Meeting concluded at 3.50 p.m.

CHAIR

OUTBREAK CONTROL ENGAGEMENT WORKING GROUP

11th December 2020



Report of: DIRECTOR OF ADULT & COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES

Subject: SUPPORT HUB AND CEV UPDATE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide members of Outbreak Control Engagement Working Group with an update on the work of the Hartlepool Support Hub and the offer to those who are Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV).

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Hartlepool Support Hub was established in response to the COVID19 pandemic to support individuals who were shielding, vulnerable and in self-isolation.
- 2.2 During the initial response Hartlepool Support Hub:
- Received 11,131 calls.
 - Made 26,160 calls.
 - Delivered 2,269 food parcels.
 - Collected and delivered 2,325 prescriptions
 - Delivered 313 PPE requests.
 - Selected and delivered 138 books.
 - Delivered 78 'goodie' packs to carers on behalf of Hartlepool Carers.
 - Delivered 2,948 hot meals provided by Mecca Bingo.
 - Helped people keep in touch.
 - Signposted people to other services such as Social Prescribers, MIND, Poolie Time Exchange, Hartlepool Carers and the befriending service.
 - Topped up prepaid energy meters
 - Supplied a range of essential items including continence products, pet food and hearing aid batteries.
- 2.3 A second national lockdown was announced in October. The term shielding was replaced and Local Authorities were required to ensure that support arrangements were in place for those individuals identified as Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV). The guidance for the CEV population was not as restrictive as the shielding requirements, and individuals were

encouraged to continue leaving their homes for exercise, but to minimise contact where possible.

- 2.4 When shielding paused in August 2020 work was undertaken with those receiving support from Hartlepool Support Hub to ensure person centred plans were in place to sustain long term wellbeing and access to food, services and social opportunities. Many individuals who received support from the hub during this time identified they had more contact during lockdown due to the support they received than they usually do.
- 2.5 Contact was made via text and email with all individuals on the CEV list prior to the second lockdown being implemented to reassure people that the Support Hub was available to support those in need.
- 2.6 The 200 people identified as requiring the highest level of support, based on previous needs and lack of alternative support, were contacted via phone before lockdown to review person centred plans and ensure they were signed up to the National Shielding Service System (NSSS). This also provided people with access to priority food slots, access to the NHS Responders Service and priority prescription deliveries.
- 2.7 The demand on the Support Hub during the second lockdown has been significantly different to the first. Very few food parcels have been delivered (3-5 per week) and this has been an emergency response after which individuals are supported to have long term access to food. Pharmacies were given funding to deliver to those who were CEV due to the expectation placed on Local Authorities during the first lockdown. Some support linked to prescriptions has still being needed as pharmacies managed an increase in their delivery capacity.
- 2.8 Most of the demand has been associated with isolation, supporting mental wellbeing and digital inclusion. Digital exclusion especially in the early stages on the first lockdown had a significant impact on the elderly and vulnerable who did not have the skills, access to technology and access to connectivity.
- 2.9 Due to the priority need to develop digital inclusion as part of the ongoing offer to those who are CEV and vulnerable, a programme will be implemented in partnership with VCS colleagues to progress with a community broadband scheme based on a pay as you go model. Access to technology is also being delivered in partnership with Project 65 and the Support Hub. Two Digital Development Officers are employed on a fixed term basis to work with individuals and develop the offer.
- 2.10 Calls remain low to the Support Hub during the second lockdown in comparison to the first. 366 calls were received from 5 – 27 November however, because the hub uses a person centred planning and proactive approach, 940 outgoing calls have been made to support individuals.
- 2.11 50 hot meals have been delivered daily in partnership with Mecca Bingo whilst they have been unable to reopen to the public.

- 2.12 A robust plan is being developed to support those most vulnerable across the Christmas period. This will include distribution of gifts, food hampers and a hot Christmas meal for those who otherwise would not get one. The Council has worked in partnership with Middleton Grange and VCS colleagues and significant donations have been received to support this campaign.
- 2.13 Plans to sustain the Support Hub beyond the second lockdown have been developed to ensure there is ongoing support throughout the pandemic as well as longer term support for some of the most vulnerable members of Hartlepool community through a Community Led Support offer, working in close partnership with Adult Social Care.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Outbreak Control Engagement Working Group notes future plans to support those who are CEV, with a focus on digital inclusion, positive mental health, social engagement and wellbeing planning. Working with North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust opportunities are being explored to align digital planning to ensure those who need access to digital healthcare consultations and appointments are able to access digital infrastructure to enable this to happen.
- 3.2 Consideration also needs to be given to whole system planning to support those who are CEV but also those who are critically vulnerable as these individuals are being left behind.
- 3.3 The Working Group is also asked to note that Hartlepool Support Hub has been working on a Community Led Support model since 2019 and COVID19 has accelerated progress with this. Hartlepool Support Hub will begin to operate as the front door to Adult Social Care from early 2021 to ensure community based solutions and opportunities are explored before progression to formal social care services.

4. CONTACT OFFICER

Gemma Ptak
 Assistant Director – Preventative and Community Based Services
Gemma.ptak@hartlepool.gov.uk
 01429 523441