

Somerset Local Outbreak Management Plan

Prevention and Control of Outbreaks of COVID-19

Definitions

An Outbreak is –

2 or more confirmed cases of COVID-19 among people who are linked by time and place e.g. direct close contacts, proximity contacts or in the same cohort or 'bubble' within 14 days.

Note: A single case is NOT an outbreak!

A Cluster is -

Two or more confirmed cases of COVID-19 in a setting within 14 days.

Note: not necessarily linked other than by setting.

Outbreak management should be proactive as well as reactive – prevent outbreaks by early response to cases or clusters, not just reactive

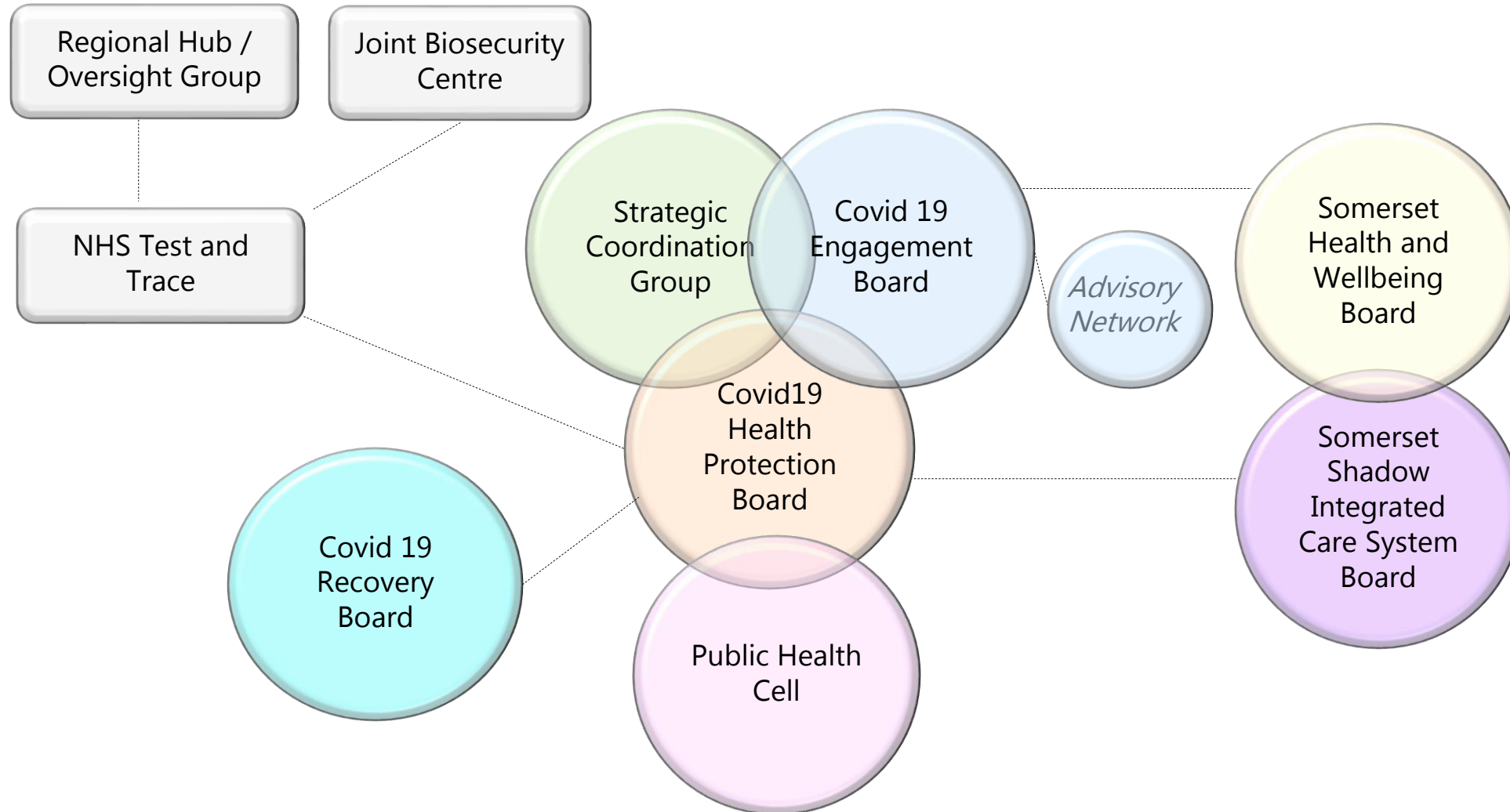
What is an Outbreak Management Plan?


1. The COVID-19 Local Outbreak Management Plans are intended to:
 - build on existing plans to manage outbreaks in specific settings,
 - ensure the challenges of COVID-19 are understood,
 - consider the impact on local communities, and
 - ensure the wider system capacity supports DsPH
2. Local Outbreak Plans for COVID-19 are a combination of:
 - **outbreak management** expertise and capabilities (epidemiology and surveillance, infection suppression and control techniques, contact tracing and evaluation) AND the multi-agency capabilities of bodies in supporting these efforts through the deployment of the necessary resources (and possibly the use of powers) to deliver these functions at scale, where needed.
 - engagement and communication with residents, communities and visitors to support and reinforce **proactive use of infection control measures** and **reactive communication and engagement** in an event of a significant outbreak.

Local Outbreak Control Plans will centre on 7 themes:

- 1 Care Homes and Schools**
Prevent and manage outbreaks in specific individual settings (e.g. schools, care homes)
- 2 High Risk Workplaces, Communities and Locations**
Prevent and manage outbreaks in other high-risk locations, workplaces and communities
- 3 Mobile Testing Units & Local Testing approaches**
Deploy local testing capacity optimally
- 4 Contact Tracing in Complex Settings**
Deliver contact tracing for complex settings and cohorts
- 5 Data Integration**
Access to the right local data to enable the other 6 themes and prevent outbreaks
- 6 Vulnerable People**
Support vulnerable people and ensure services meet the needs of diverse communities
- 7 Local Boards (including Communication & Engagement)**
Take local actions to contain outbreaks and communicate with the general public

COVID-19 Outbreak Management Plan Governance





TIME is critical in outbreak control

Track

Identify

Manage

End

Track

- Data and intelligence to track the virus in Somerset on a daily basis
- Public Health Cell - daily huddle to review numbers, trends, issues. Open and close outbreaks and allocate Lead Consultant and Outbreak Control Teams
- Data feeds from Joint Biosecurity Centre (JBC), Public Health England(PHE), local NHS providers, Office for National Statistics etc
- Use local and PHE knowledge to understand the significance of individual cases or clusters

/identify

- Early identification of outbreaks and clusters to enable swift response is crucial
- Rapid identification of contacts to isolate before further spread in the setting or community – breaking the chains of transmission

Measures

- Range of measures in PH toolkit – use through empowerment and engagement, enforcement can be used if required
- Testing of suspected cases and contacts
- Isolation of cases and high risk contacts
- Support to vulnerable people and communities
- Infection prevention and control measures in settings
- Local lockdowns – no powers (yet?)

End

- Outbreak declared over
- Re-opening, embed or reinforce measures and recovery
- Continued support to vulnerable e.g. mental wellbeing

Somerset – Time to Unite and Control Covid

- <https://thespinoff.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Covid-19-Bubble-spread-02-1.gif>

Acknowledgment

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