

Local Members Interest
N/A

Cabinet - Wednesday 15 September 2021

Update from Covid Member Led Local Outbreak Control Board

Introduction

1. The number of new cases of Covid nationally and in Staffordshire rose during August 2021 and continues at high levels. Vaccination is limiting the number of hospitalisations and deaths from Covid. However, the NHS and social care are experiencing considerable pressure from Covid and other conditions.
2. This highlights that the virus does still pose a threat. People should exercise personal responsibility and continue to take sensible precautions to prevent the spread of infection. This means maintaining good hygiene, keeping a respectful distance, and wearing face coverings in crowded indoor places, as well as testing twice weekly. If pressure on the NHS worsens, we face the risk that the Government reimposes restrictions on our lives and livelihoods.

Covid vaccination

3. The Covid vaccination programme continues to make progress. More than 1.3 million doses have now been administered, and more than 80% of adults have now received two doses. The focus at the moment is on vaccinating younger adults and 12-17 year olds. The Government is expected to announce a booster campaign for older adults as well as vaccination of 12-15 year olds.

Local Outbreak Management Plan

4. The Council will maintain Covid defences for at least the remainder of 2021/22. This includes testing and contact tracing, as well as managing outbreaks and supporting the most vulnerable. These arrangements are set out in our Covid Local Outbreak Management Plan. This will be updated in line with emerging Government policy.

List of Background Documents/Appendices:

[Staffordshire Covid Local Outbreak Management Plan](#)

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