

<b>Local Members Interest</b>
N/A

## **Cabinet - Wednesday 16 September 2020**

### **Update from COVID-19 Member Led Local Outbreak Control Board**

#### **Introduction**

1. The Council continues its efforts to prevent and control the spread of Covid-19. With the number of cases rising nationally it is even more important that we follow national guidance to avoid a resurgence of infections and any consequent restrictions on our lives and our economy. Stick to the rules. This means washing your hands regularly, sticking to 2 metre social distancing, self-isolating and booking a test if you have any Covid-19 symptoms, and self-isolating for 14 days if you have been in close contact with a confirmed case.

#### **Latest Situation**

2. The number of new confirmed cases in Staffordshire has risen to around 20 a day. We are managing an increasing number of Incidents related to care providers, educational settings, businesses and communities.
3. In the last month, the most significant Incidents have been an outbreak related to the Silverdale Working Men's Club and an ongoing elevated level of infections in parts of Burton.
4. We have been affected by a shortfall in national laboratory capacity. This means that it can be very difficult for people in Staffordshire to book a test close to home. We have raised this with the Department of Health and Social Care but have been told that it may take several weeks before it can be resolved. We are exploring the potential for alternative local testing arrangements.
5. We also continue to raise issues about the completeness and timeliness of contact tracing by the NHS test and trace service with the Department of Health and Social Care. We have put in place systems to mitigate this with the Council tracing some cases and contacts in order to identify common exposures and ensure that they are self-isolating, and we are proceeding with a Local Enhanced Contact Tracing pilot to trace those cases and contacts that the national service has been unable to reach.

#### **List of Background Documents/Appendices:**

[COVID-19 Local Outbreak Control Plan](#)

## Contact Details

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