

**Keep Kingston Safe:
Living with COVID-19
V1.3
September 2023**

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Foreword from the Leader and Chief Executive

On February 21st 2022, the government set out the new national approach to the pandemic in the document called 'COVID-19 Response: Living with COVID-19'¹, the government's plan for removing the remaining legal restrictions while protecting people most vulnerable to COVID-19 and maintaining resilience. Regulations and requirements that had been in place in England were removed and replaced with public health guidance on 'Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19'² and 'Guidance for people with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19'³.

Seasonality, waning immunity or a new variant could result in a significant resurgence of COVID-19. Kingston Council will continue to work with partners to review the now more limited COVID-19 data regularly. As set out in this plan, the council will also support the national COVID-19 vaccination programme, work with the NHS and UKHSA (UK Health Security Agency) colleagues to promote the key prevention messages to the public and partners, and work in partnership with UKHSA, in the event of any particular outbreaks or other situations. This updated plan V1.3 provides links to the latest guidance since V1.2 (which was published in December 2022).

The people of Kingston, staff and partner organisations have worked together, tirelessly, hand in hand to Keep Kingston Safe since early 2020. In this new plan, we will be asking residents to play the most important role in keeping everyone safe - by following national guidance in their personal lives to protect themselves and others. There is guidance detailed in this plan for specific settings and we encourage all such settings to follow it closely. As testing is reduced to a small number of groups we have more limited data and also fewer interventions available to respond to specific outbreak situations. Vaccination is a key component in staying safe and we will continue to work with partners and residents to ensure that no-one is left behind with the vaccination offer.

Leader of the Council

Chief Executive

Director of Public Health

¹ Living with COVID-19 Response - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-response-living-with-covid-19/covid-19-response-living-with-covid-19>

² <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-safely-with-respiratory-infections-including-covid-19>

³ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/people-with-symptoms-of-a-respiratory-infection-including-covid-19>

Introduction and Guidance changes

In February 2022, the Government published the 'Living with COVID-19'⁴ document which set out the national approach on the COVID-19 response going forward. Thus, this plan reflects this new 'phase' of the response and how this will be implemented in Kingston. This update, V1.3, reflects guidance changes since the December 2022 V1.2 plan.

In the Living with COVID-19 plan 2022, Government structured its ongoing response around four principles:

- A. **Living with COVID-19:** removing domestic restrictions while encouraging safer behaviours through public health advice, in common with longstanding ways of managing most other respiratory illnesses;
- B. **Protecting people most vulnerable to COVID-19:** vaccination guided by Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) advice, and deploying targeted testing;
- C. **Maintaining resilience:** ongoing surveillance, contingency planning and the ability to reintroduce key capabilities such as mass vaccination and testing in an emergency; and
- D. **Securing innovations and opportunities** from the COVID-19 response, including investment in life sciences.

Living with COVID-19 - What changed in the guidance?

21 February 2022 the Government:

- Removed the guidance for staff and students in most education and childcare settings to undertake twice weekly asymptomatic testing.

From 24 February 2022 the Government:

- **Removed the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test.** Adults and children who test positive continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days.
- **No longer asked fully vaccinated close contacts and those aged under 18 to test daily for 7 days**, and removed the legal requirement for close contacts who are not fully vaccinated to self-isolate.
- **Ended self-isolation support payments**, national funding for practical support and the medicine delivery service will no longer be available.
- **Ended routine contact tracing.** Contacts will no longer be required to self-isolate or advised to take daily tests.
- **Ended the legal obligation for individuals to tell their employers when they are required to self-isolate.**
- Revoked The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) (No. 3) Regulations.

⁴ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-response-living-with-covid-19>

From 24 March 2022, the Government:

- **Removed the COVID-19 provisions** within the Statutory Sick Pay and Employment and Support Allowance regulations.

From 1 April 2022, the Government:

- Removed the current guidance on voluntary COVID-status certification in domestic settings and **no longer recommended that certain venues use the NHS COVID Pass**.
- Updated guidance setting out the ongoing steps that people with COVID-19 should take to minimise contact with other people. This aligns with the changes to testing.
- **No longer provides free universal symptomatic and asymptomatic testing for the general public in England**.
- Consolidated guidance to the public and businesses, in line with public health advice.
- **Removed the health and safety requirement for every employer to explicitly consider COVID-19** in their risk assessments.
- Replaced the existing set of 'Working Safely' guidance with new public health [workplace guidance](#).
- Published the following guidance to manage respiratory infections including COVID-19: [Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#) and [People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#)

From August 31st 2022:

- Routine regular asymptomatic staff testing **was paused** at the end of August 2022 whilst COVID-19 rates were reported to be relatively low. Some staff without COVID-19 symptoms may be asked to undertake testing as part of rapid response testing for care homes and high-risk extra care and supported living services or as part of outbreak testing in care homes. Staff and residents in residential and care settings are still advised to take a lateral flow test if they develop [symptoms](#).
- People aged 50 years and older, residents in care homes for older people, those aged 5 years and over in a clinical risk group and those who care for vulnerable individuals and families of individuals with weakened immune systems, and health and social care staff will be offered a booster of coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine this autumn 2022. For further details see: [A guide to the COVID-19 autumn booster - GOV.UK](#).

From 1st April 2023:

- The government continues to prioritise protecting the most vulnerable and those in high-risk settings therefore the government-funded testing will continue to focus on these groups.
- The ongoing success of the vaccination programme, increased access to treatments and high immunity amongst the population, has allowed the government to scale back testing in England. From April onwards, testing will be provided to individuals and settings at highest risk from COVID-19, whilst continuing to support diagnosis for care and access to treatments.
- All testing will use lateral flow device (LFD) tests, which have proven to be effective at detecting COVID-19 and provide a rapid result. In NHS settings, polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests may also be used to support clinical diagnosis.

- Testing of residents, service users and patients will continue to help manage outbreaks in high-risk settings. Symptomatic testing will also continue for individuals who are eligible to access COVID-19 treatments, and staff working with patients who are at high-risk from severe outcomes, in NHS and hospice settings.

From 1st July 2023 - The ‘living with COVID-19’ vaccination programme:

- During 2023 there has been a transition towards a proportionate, focussed, and sustainable programme which aims to reduce severe disease (hospitalisation and mortality) and thus also to protect NHS capacity, with a particular focus on winter preparedness (autumn campaigns) but with additional (spring) campaigns for those at the highest risk, who will be especially vulnerable over the later summer months as their immunity wanes⁵.
- The primary course of vaccination will become a targeted offer available only to those at higher risk of severe COVID-19 and only during the planned seasonal booster campaigns.
- Those individuals who develop severe immunosuppression may be at high risk of severe COVID-19 and less able to sustain any protection from previous vaccination or exposure and should be considered for catch-up primary vaccination or additional dose(s) of vaccination before the next seasonal campaign as advised by a clinician.

What will be the main changes in our local response?

Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response (EPRR):

- Stand down Council Gold (from 28th March 2022) and Silver (from 22nd February 2022 - becoming COVID-19 Recovery Group). There was then a suggestion to have a COVID-19 Sustained Group established. It was agreed that this COVID-19 Sustained Response work would be considered with partners under the Kingston Health Protection Forum as a sub-section and agreed in the HPF Terms of Reference in June 2022.
- Stand down Partnership Strategic Coordination Group (SCG) (from 3rd March 2022 - issues to be picked up by Borough Resilience Forum (BRF) going forward)
- Maintain the Health Protection Forum (HPF) - with a broadened mandate covering additional Health protection issues and to include the work of the COVID-19 Sustained Response Group (as above)
- The weekly Adult Social Care Covid SITREP calls ceased in May 2023. A weekly update about the care provider market capacity is shared with ASC and PH leadership.

⁵

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1155194/COVID-19-vaccination-information-for-IHCP-v6.0-May2023.pdf

Data:

- Minimise Insight & Data data team focus to available data for a weekly report and vaccination data support
- Be ready to stand up additional data support if needed
- Daily Case Data Meetings ('DCDMs') were stood down in March 2022 and moved to one weekly summary 'DCDM' with existing partners invited to attend (Insight & data, Public Health, Adult Social Care, Children's Social care, Schools, Early Years, Regulatory Services, CCG, Hospital). Repurposed to a 'monitoring' format⁶ with weekly summary emailed to key partners from May 2023
- Support Vaccination Community Champions Behavioural Insights (completed in first half of 2022)
- Support 'Staying Healthy' data (Metrics for Health and Care Plan, obesity etc)
- Produce weekly SLT briefing, BRF, HPF and other data briefings as required, weekly Chief Executive and Leader briefings)

Local Public Health Health Protection Function and rota:

- Continue to offer advice to schools if schools contact RBK Public Health, review available schools absence data. Support may be requested from UKHSA South London HPT (SLHPT) for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) settings in outbreak.
- UKHSA SLHPT will provide guidance to care homes and settings with vulnerable people when notified of an outbreak. Local Public Health support will be given to SLHPT if requested. Weekly review of the Capacity Tracker (Adult Social Care homes data) by Public Health.
- Hostels etc - SLHPT will provide support to hostels in managing outbreaks as and when they are reported to them. RBK Public Health to support if requested - no proactive data analysis to find such outbreaks
- Respond to queries via inbox/ emails on COVID-19 related issues
- RBK PH COVID-19 Inbox to be maintained
- Stand down Daily Health Protection Coordinator rota (with request to be ready to stand up again, if needed)

Tracing:

- Local Contact Tracing Team stood down, Tracing ended (24th Feb 2022)
- Tracers are currently supporting other areas of council work

Testing:

- From April 2022, the LA role in distributing tests ended
- RBK will continue to promote workplace testing for those where it is still part of the guidance for particular settings.

⁶ Produce weekly report for internal (and CCG) group with available data (likely minimum: hospital case trends, Kingston, London, England, Waste Water: Hogsmill, Mogden, London, England, any test data available, geography of case rates, ONS Survey, capacity Tracker, vaccination, schools data)

PPE:

- Continue to provide PPE to frontline staff as and when required until the remaining stock has been depleted.
- Staff will then be invited to sign up to a national PPE ordering portal that care providers already have access to.
- Maintain an offer on emergency basis to care locations in the borough if requested via a contingency stock of PPE stored at Kingston Cemetery.
- Please email ppe.enquiries@kingston.gov.uk if PPE is required by frontline staff or in an emergency situation to care locations.

Vaccination:

- Focus on reaching those who are eligible and yet to take up COVID-19 vaccination offers through our established networks when vaccination sessions are available as COVID-19 vaccination is targeted to people at increased risk from COVID-19⁷
- Promote COVID-19 seasonal boosters to eligible cohorts
- Provide Insight and Data support to any targeted vaccination campaigns

Sub-Regional Arrangements:

- Work with SWL Public Health Partners, UKHSA SLHPT, SWL ICB & other colleagues re: Living with COVID-19, where working on a larger footprint makes sense.

Regional Arrangements:

- Work with London Regional Public Health Partners, ADPH, OHID, UKHSA & other colleagues (e.g. Resilience Forum, Mortuary Management) re: Living with COVID-19, where working on a regional footprint makes sense.

Communications & Engagement:

COMMUNICATING WITH RESIDENTS AND PARTNERS

Kingston Council will continue to tailor local public health messaging appropriately in the borough, taking into account factors such as the epidemiological situation, any new Variants of Concern (VOCs) and changes in national guidance. RBK will continue to promote COVID-19 vaccination to eligible cohorts as advised by the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI). Communications will focus on building community resilience by providing the knowledge and resources to enable individuals to care for themselves and others, and on enhancing the day-to-day health and wellbeing of communities to reduce any ongoing and possible future negative impacts of COVID-19.

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<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-programme-for-2023-jcvi-interim-advice-8-november-2022/jcvi-statement-on-the-covid-19-vaccination-programme-for-2023-8-november-2022>

Learning from 2020-2022:

We are reviewing the local response work undertaken in Kingston 2020-2022. This is being done through surveys, data analysis and other methods. Any key findings and suggestions for the way forward and for any other enhanced responses will be incorporated into this plan (and future versions) when available.

Role of the Council and Partners and links to others

Responsibilities and Governance arrangements

The national and regional structures and processes have developed since the first draft of this plan in June 2020 with the 2021 guidance⁸ being withdrawn in April 2021.

Local responsibilities and governance:

The Director of Public Health and their local authority have a public health health protection function⁹ and are required to respond to health protection risks including COVID-19 in their areas. They are supported by local UKSA Health Protection Teams (HPTs) who play a key role alongside local authority partners to combat outbreaks and deal with enduring transmission. In Kingston we are supported by UKHSA SLHPT.

As well as working with HPTs, local systems will include emergency planning mechanisms which are widely used, including local resilience forums, supported by The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) and Local Government, and engaging a full range of partners. This includes all of the emergency planning responsibilities of Category 1 responders and where necessary the deployment of regional and local resilience forums. Close working throughout the pandemic has strengthened and developed these existing partnerships.

While local arrangements will reflect local systems, clear governance is essential to ensure that each area operates effectively. Local governance of COVID-19 builds on existing practice and structures:

- *the DPH has a statutory duty for the COVID-19 Local Outbreak Management Plan; supported by wider local authority teams as necessary*
- *the local authority Chief Executive is responsible for the local response, providing strategic leadership and direction, shaping local communications and engagement, and deploying local government resources*
- *local authorities, through their elected mayors and council leaders, are accountable to their local community for the local response, decisions and spending undertaken*
- *councillors, as local systems leaders, and local community leaders can facilitate*

⁸

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/containing-and-managing-local-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreaks/covid-19-contain-framework-a-guide-for-local-decision-makers>

⁹

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/213009/Public-health-role-of-local-authorities-factsheet.pdf

- systems relationships and community engagement*
- the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 provides that other responders, through the local resilience forum (LRF), have a collective responsibility to plan, prepare and communicate in a multi-agency environment*

In Kingston, some changes have been made to the governance arrangements since the Local Outbreak Management Plan V7.2. See below:

- COVID-19 Health Protection Board (was ‘operational BRONZE’) has now become the Kingston Health Protection Forum**, with a remit to review COVID-19 and wider health protection threats and issues in the borough, and will continue to be the drafting forum for outbreak management plans
 - Covid-19 Strategic Coordinating Group (Gold Emergency Planning Group) - Has been stood down**
 - COVID-19 Silver Response Group** - Has been stood down and replaced by **COVID Recovery Group** which is now part of the Kingston Health Protection Forum.
 - Kingston Borough Resilience Forum** - *the multi-agency partnership group will continue to meet and consider emergency plans and borough risks*
 - Local Outbreak Control Engagement Board** - now the Kingston Partnership Board
 - Terms of Reference for these groups have been drafted to reflect their roles in this outbreak control plan (See **Appendix 2**). The Terms of Reference may need amending to reflect the new ‘phase’ of response. The local borough governance links to regional and national mutual aid and coordination as detailed in sections below.

Local Outbreak Management

The Living with COVID-19 plan 2022 sets out how a local response is now aligned with wider local health protection arrangements, bringing the lessons learnt from the pandemic to further develop the health protection system. The objective in this phase is to enable the country to manage COVID-19 like other respiratory illnesses, while minimising harm and retaining the ability to respond if a new variant emerges.

Local COVID-19 outbreak management has adjusted to responding to COVID-19 as part of wider infectious disease functions. The focus is on protecting those at highest risk from COVID-19. From 1 April 2022, the joint priorities for the national and local system relating to outbreak management are:

- To continue COVID-19 outbreak management in high-risk settings to reduce the risk to vulnerable people within these settings. This will include working proactively with such settings to reduce the risk of importation and spread of COVID-19 where possible.
-
- To support a range of settings to reduce the risk of, and to manage, COVID-19 outbreaks as part of usual practice, now including COVID-19 alongside other respiratory illnesses and other health protection risks.
- Community engagement to support public health messaging including working with local partners, employers and with vulnerable people in their community through tailored and targeted communication. This includes continuing to promote positive behaviours that can reduce the transmission of respiratory and other viruses.

Regional Support and governance:

With the decommissioning of regional and local COVID-19 specific response services, Public Health Teams will continue to link in regional partners in Office for Health

Improvement and Disparities (OHID), NHS England, UKHSA/SLHPT and other key government departments as required.

Roles and responsibilities

The role of UKHSA (UKHSA Living with COVID-19: Local Briefing - 30 March 2022)

1. UKHSA will support cross government work on setting the national strategic and policy direction on COVID-19 and publish public health guidance. It will use existing health protection frameworks to deliver this. As part of this approach, UKHSA will continue to focus on protecting the settings at highest risk (*care homes, prisons, homeless settings*).
2. UKHSA SLHPT team will:
 - a. lead on management of outbreaks in high risk settings and complex outbreak investigation and management;
 - b. provide intelligence and technical advice to LAs (Local Authorities), NHS and other local stakeholders on COVID-19 response activities;
 - c. provide guidance in limited circumstances as outlined above, contribute to national surveillance; and
 - d. continue to play a key enabling role in collaborating with partners across Whitehall and connecting the national response and policy making to local response and feedback.

The role of Local Authorities (LAs) and Directors of Public Health (DsPH)

LAs have always played a critical role in health protection, emergency response and infectious disease control. Now that we are 'living with COVID-19', LAs have returned to supporting outbreak management as they did pre-pandemic, including COVID-19 alongside other respiratory infections and other health protection issues.

DsPH have an existing [statutory duty](#) in planning for, and responding to, emergencies that present a risk to the public's health. As we move into treating COVID-19 in line with other respiratory illnesses, UKHSA expects DsPH will continue to have a vital leadership role in health protection locally and will seek to enable appropriate health protection support.

Mutual aid requests to neighbouring boroughs

Mutual Aid Requests to neighbouring boroughs within the Local (SW London) Resilience Forum have been discussed at DPH level, and would be actioned if required. It has also been noted that outbreaks do not respect geographical boundaries and therefore joint work with neighbours/ Surrey may be required to bring a local outbreak under control.

Data and Surveillance

Although most datasets have now been discontinued or paused, we continue to monitor all available local, regional and national data sources and produce weekly analysis updates to interpret the latest picture, highlight any trends and potential areas for action. The available data sources include:

- Hospital patient testing within Kingston as well as Greater London and Surrey
- Hospitalisations and intensive care use

- Care home and high risk setting resident and staff outbreak testing now routine asymptomatic testing has ceased
- Data on existing and emerging variants
- Vaccination uptake
- School absence data (all absences, not COVID-19 specific)
- Adult Social Care setting data (limited, not always provided immediately to council)

There will be an online review of the available COVID-19 data involving colleagues from Public Health, Regulatory Services, Adult Social Care, Achieving for Children and the South West London ICB. Meetings will be agreed where further discussion and action in response to the data is required. Outputs and summaries are used to inform other individuals and groups, such as the Leader of the Council, Chief Executive, Strategic Leadership Team and Kingston's Borough Resilience Forum and the local communications approach.

How to stay safe

COVID-19 vaccination provides a high level of protection against severe disease, hospitalisation and death. However, it is still possible to get COVID-19 and to pass it on to others. While COVID-19 is circulating, there are a variety of other measures that individuals, workplaces, and other locations can take to minimise transmission of COVID-19 and other respiratory infections. The key measures that can be taken to stay safe and to reduce spread are:

- Getting COVID-19 vaccinations and having booster doses when offered
- Letting fresh air in if meeting indoors, or otherwise meeting outside
- Wearing a face covering in crowded and enclosed spaces, especially where coming into contact with people you do not usually meet and when rates of transmission are high
- Trying to stay at home if unwell
- Staying at home and avoiding/limiting contact with other people especially those whose weakened immune system means they may be at higher risk of serious illness from COVID-19, if you are positive or have [symptoms](#)
- Washing hands and following advice to "Catch it, Bin it, Kill it"

Please follow the up to date guidance on living safely with respiratory infections including COVID-19 and what actions to take if you have symptoms of a respiratory infection or a positive COVID-19 test result:

- [Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#)
- [People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#)
- [Ventilation](#)

Please note: The national guidance continues to be updated so please refer to the guidance via the links provided where it will take you to the most up to date advice.

Vaccination

The primary aim of the COVID-19 vaccination programme continues to be the prevention of severe disease (hospitalisation and mortality) arising from COVID-19. Older persons, residents in care homes for older adults, and those who are immunosuppressed continue to be at highest risk of severe COVID-19^{10,11}.

All those aged 5 years and over have been offered a 1st and 2nd dose of the COVID-19 vaccine and some cohorts, additional boosters. In April 2023, The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) recommended that children 6 months to 4 years of age who are clinically vulnerable, should also be offered COVID-19 vaccination. This programme was rolled out from June 2023. Those at highest risk; those aged 75 and over, people who live in care homes for older people, and people aged 12 and over who have a weakened immune system, have been offered additional seasonal boosters. The JCVI continues to review the vaccination programme and the epidemiological situation, and will advise on further booster doses as indicated.

The offer of primary COVID-19 vaccines for the majority of people i.e. those at lower risk of severe illness, ends on 30th June 2023, as we move towards a more targeted vaccination offer that prioritises those most at risk¹². If any of these otherwise healthy 5 to 49 year olds develops a new health condition after the end of June 2023 that places them in a clinical risk group, they would be offered interseasonal vaccination and/or a booster vaccine during the next seasonal vaccination campaign, as appropriate. Vaccination outside these campaign periods is subject to individual clinical judgement.

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccine - NHS](#)

Kingston Council was funded by the DLUCH to support a successful Vaccine Community Champions programme between January and June 2022. Building on this foundation, Kingston Council will continue to support this NHS led programme working with underserved communities to enable access, reduce barriers and close gaps in disparities in the take-up of the offer to those who are eligible. RBK will work with SWL ICB to facilitate pop-up walk-in vaccination clinics in the borough and promote these sessions to local residents in eligible cohorts.

For more information:

NHS England COVID-19 vaccination webpages: [COVID-19 vaccination - NHS](#)

SW London ICB vaccination webpages: [Covid-19 - NHS South West London Integrated Care Board](#)

¹⁰ [JCVI statement on spring 2023 COVID-19 vaccinations. 22 February 2023 - GOV.UK](#)

¹¹ [COVID-19 vaccination programme: Information for healthcare practitioners](#)

¹² [JCVI statement on the COVID-19 vaccination programme for 2023: 8 November 2022 - GOV.UK](#)

Protecting people most vulnerable

The success of the coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination programme has meant that the requirement for shielding and identifying people as clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) is no longer necessary.

Most people who were part of this CEV patient cohort are no longer at substantially greater risk than the general population and are advised to follow [the same guidance](#) as everyone else on staying safe and preventing the spread of COVID-19 and other respiratory infections, as well as any further advice received from their healthcare professional.

However, there remains a smaller number of people whose weakened immune system means they may be at higher risk of serious illness from COVID-19, despite vaccination. Enhanced protection measures, such as those offered by specific treatments or additional vaccinations alongside other protective behaviours, may benefit these individuals. They should follow the advice of their specialist and the guidance set out in [COVID-19: guidance for people whose immune system means they are at higher risk - GOV.UK](#).

Further guidance can be found:

[Highest-risk patients eligible for COVID-19 treatments: guide for patients - GOV.UK](#)

[Treatments for COVID-19 - NHS](#)

[Access community-based treatments for coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK](#)

Maintaining Resilience

The future path and severity of the virus is uncertain and it may take several years before the virus becomes more predictable. During this period further resurgences will occur, it is possible more severe variants will emerge and there will sadly be more hospitalisations and deaths.

The Government's aim is to manage and respond to these risks through more routine public health interventions. As such, the NHS has developed a range of interventions to respond to COVID-19 demand while protecting NHS activity to the fullest possible extent. In future, pharmaceutical capabilities will be the first line of defence in responding to COVID-19 if risk threatens to place unsustainable pressure on the NHS.

The Government will retain surveillance to monitor the virus, understand its evolution and identify changes in characteristics, enabling the Government to make informed decisions.

The council will support any actions as outlined by national government and regional partners. It is important to note that no further additional outbreak funding has been provided to the council beyond the COVID-19 'Contain' funds in 2020/21. The Ring Fenced Public Health Grant 21/22 does allow funds to be used for a COVID-19 response, but no additional funds were received in this annual grant to support such activities¹³. Since March 2022, RBK no longer has testing and tracing functions and other response and resilience resources which were funded by these grant funds in 2020-22.

Contingency planning

Local partners have significantly stepped up to support local outbreak management. In future the Government expects COVID-19 to be managed regionally and locally as part of a wider all hazards approach, using existing health protection frameworks. However, further clarity is needed on what role the council is expected to play at the local level in terms of COVID-19. Further, funding for the many elements of the response 2020-2022 is no longer in place (including for personnel as part of this response).

Kingston Council, like other local authorities, will play a role in responding to VoC outbreaks if required at the request of UKHSA. The council will support UKHSA to help identify and isolate positive cases, while working with Kingston residents and local community groups to help support the local responses, to manage any outbreak. Kingston Council will work with the community to raise awareness of the risk from variants and to seek their cooperation with the response using targeted, culturally sensitive communications and engagement campaigns, to drive greater compliance with the response.

Contact tracing

It is recognised that since 2020 Local Tracing Partnerships between all Local Authorities in England and NHS Test & Trace/ UKHSA helped to reach many more positive cases than a national-only model. Local Tracing in particular, made a greater contribution in areas of high

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<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/public-health-grants-to-local-authorities-2021-to-2022/public-health-ring-fenced-grant-2021-to-2022-local-authority-circular>

deprivation and provided necessary support to targeted community isolation compliance and vulnerable members of the community. Kingston stood up a local NHS Test and Trace Contact Tracing Team for the period November 5th 2020-February 24th 2022, which supported the national Test and Trace work. Although we are in the next phase of “Living with Covid”, Local Tracing Partnerships have been advised to be prepared in case of further variants and the potential need to be able to stand up tracing services again for further surges or variants of concern, which are still anticipated. We have the equipment and a network of tracers who may be stood up in a local tracing role again, if required. It is important to note, however, that tracing team members are in other roles and funding for tracing, though the Contain (COMF) fund has now been fully utilised and is no longer available.

Testing: Contingency capabilities

The Government has indicated that they will retain core infrastructure and capabilities in England to scale up testing in the case of a new variant of concern. Locally, we will agree a process on upscaling based on experience of setting up Asymptomatic Test Sites and deployment of mobile testing teams to undertake secondary school and outbreak testing and targeted community testing. However, it is important to note that the local test team has been stood down and is no longer in employment with the council. Contain (COMF) grant funding for the test team has now also been fully utilised.

Throughout the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the government has prioritised protecting the most vulnerable and those in high-risk settings. Government-funded testing will continue to focus on these groups, with new guidance coming into effect in England from 1 April 2023.

The ongoing success of the vaccination programme, increased access to treatments and high immunity amongst the population, has allowed the government to scale back testing in England. From April [2023] onwards, testing will be provided to individuals and settings at highest risk from COVID-19, whilst continuing to support diagnosis for care and access to treatments.

All testing will use lateral flow device (LFD) tests, which have proven to be effective at detecting COVID-19 and provide a rapid result. In NHS settings, polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests may also be used to support clinical diagnosis.

Testing of residents, service users and patients will continue to help manage outbreaks in high-risk settings. Symptomatic testing will also continue for individuals who are eligible to access COVID-19 treatments, and staff working with patients who are at high-risk from severe outcomes, in NHS and hospice settings¹⁴.

Specific operational guidance will continue to be provided to the different high-risk settings, giving details of how the LFD tests should be used.

Where symptomatic testing is recommended, this should be based on the [current list of COVID-19 symptoms](#).

¹⁴ [Who can get a free NHS COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test](#)

All other residents, service users, patients and staff who are symptomatic should follow guidance for the general population.

Please see [COVID-19: testing during periods of low prevalence - GOV.UK](#) and specialised setting guidance for further detail.

Tackling health inequalities

COVID-19 has exacerbated pre-existing socio-economic and health inequalities, contributing to poorer outcomes amongst those who were already disadvantaged. The 'Build Back Fairer: COVID-19 Marmot Review'¹⁵ presented risk factors associated with excess mortality, and outlined the rapid need to address and prevent the disparities in underlying health conditions behind the pandemic's direct impact. For example, nationally, one fifth of COVID related death certificates to May 2020 mentioned diabetes, a condition closely related with being overweight. Older men, and those with lower incomes, and Black, Asian & minority ethnic groups made up proportionally greater numbers of these mortality cases, alongside age as the greatest risk factor.

Since the start of the pandemic, both the NHS and local government have accelerated some preventative health programmes (although some have also been impacted and delayed by the pandemic) which proactively engage those at greatest risk of poorer health outcomes to address health inequalities. We will continue to support those at highest risk in communities with lower rates of COVID-19 vaccine uptake, particularly in areas of deprivation and for ethnic minority groups as part of its approach to both reducing health disparities and living with COVID-19, but also to support the wider health and social care system.

Kingston's Refreshed Health & Care Plan 2022-24¹⁶, as part of a whole system, partnership approach to improving population health and wellbeing sets out the approach to help address some of the local health inequalities. The plan includes targeted 'Living with COVID-19' support and promotion amongst disadvantaged and underserved population groups, including older people, those from Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities, and those on a low income. Partnership working, and a post-Covid support model is being developed to help tackle food, fuel and financial insecurity by enabling residents to access support to prevent or deal with financial concerns or problems. This includes help to secure employment, preventing poorer health outcomes i.e. through referrals to and the provision of appropriate community support and appropriate services.

Targeted funds (funded under the 'Enduring Transmission' element of the Contain COMF funds - see Keep Kingston Safe: Local Outbreak Management Plan V7.2 for further details) are enabling extension of operational programmes such as whole family approaches to healthy weight (HENRY parenting) and free adult weight management offers to address pre-existing inequalities associated with obesity across the life course. This is being complemented by extending the use of paid social media and other communication channels

¹⁵ Institute of Health Equity (2020) Build Back Fairer: The COVID-19 Marmot Review

<http://www.instituteofhealthequity.org/resources-reports/build-back-fairer-the-covid-19-marmot-review>

¹⁶ <https://www.southwestlondonics.org.uk/content/uploads/2022/06/Kingston-Health-and-Care-Plan-2022-to-2024.pdf>

to provide wider whole resident population messaging about behaviour change associated with weight-related health conditions and prevention support.

Living with COVID-19 - Staying Healthy

As the data has shown, obesity and diabetes have been found to be major risk factors for poor outcomes from COVID-19. Kingston provides access to a range of direct healthy lifestyle interventions alongside other partners in statutory and community sectors, accessible through the [Connected Kingston](#) website. Services are just one element of staying healthy - in this 'Living with COVID-19' phase, we need to ensure that our built environment helps people stay healthy (e.g. through ventilation, access to active travel e.g. bike lanes, paths and safe and attractive places to exercise for all ages).

Specialised settings

Specialised setting outbreak management plans (COVID-19): Care Home Providers

Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

As we learn to live with COVID-19, everyone should continue to take precautions to protect themselves and others. For Care Homes, please follow specific national guidance for your setting. Efforts have been made to include as much key guidance as is available in this section below. **Please always refer to the latest national guidance on actions for care homes.**

If the individual lives in a residential setting that is similar to a care home, such as in an extra care and supported living service, providers may wish to follow all or some of the guidance for symptomatic care home residents as set out in the [COVID-19 supplement to the infection prevention and control resource for adult social care - GOV.UK](#) on care home residents who are symptomatic or test positive for COVID-19.

Please note: The national guidance continues to be updated so please refer to the guidance via the links provided where it will take you to the most up to date advice.

Staying Safe, Testing and Infection Prevention and Control:

Testing

- [COVID-19 supplement to the infection prevention and control resource for adult social care - GOV.UK](#)
- [COVID-19: testing during periods of low prevalence - GOV.UK](#)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) testing for hospices - GOV.UK](#)
- **If you are having trouble accessing PCR/LFD tests, please contact 119**

Staying Safe

Infection Prevention and Control measures are a priority in care home settings. Please find links to staying safe guidance below:

- [Infection prevention and control in adult social care settings - GOV.UK](#)
- [COVID-19 supplement to the infection prevention and control resource for adult social care - GOV.UK](#)
- [People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#)
- [Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#)
- [Adult social care: guidance - GOV.UK](#)
- [Ventilation to reduce the spread of respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#)
- [NICE infection prevention and control precautions](#)
- [COVID-19: personal protective equipment use for non-aerosol generating procedures - GOV.UK](#)

Please email ppe.enquiries@kingston.gov.uk if PPE is required by frontline staff or in an emergency situation to care locations.

Vaccination

The primary aim of the COVID-19 vaccination programme continues to be the prevention of severe disease (hospitalisation and mortality) arising from COVID-19 infection. Older persons, residents in care homes for older adults, and those who are immunosuppressed continue to be at highest risk of severe COVID-19. For the latest guidance on who is eligible for COVID-19 vaccination please visit the [NHS website](#).

For more information:

NHS England COVID-19 vaccination webpages: [COVID-19 vaccination - NHS](#)

SW London ICB vaccination webpages: [Covid-19 - NHS South West London Integrated Care Board](#)

Reporting COVID-19 cases:

Care homes with an outbreak (**two or more linked cases**) including of COVID-19 are advised to notify the UKHSA South London Health Protection team (SLHPT) and receive their guidance.

Getting help with an outbreak (two or more linked cases) of respiratory illness including COVID-19:

Please report the following to **UKHSA SLHPT**:

- A new outbreak (**two or more linked cases**) of COVID-19
- A suspected acute respiratory outbreak and symptomatic individuals are COVID-19 negative
- A new or ongoing outbreak of respiratory illness, including COVID-19 with where there is serious illness, hospital admissions or deaths

- If you are concerned that the outbreak is not under control, where there is increasing complexity or a rising tide of cases

UKHSA South London Health Protection team (SLHPT)

Contact: Telephone: 0300 30 30 450 or email: slhpt.oncall@ukhsa.gov.uk OR phe.slhpt@nhs.net (use nhs.net for emails containing Patient Identifiable Information)

Kingston Public Health can also be contacted with queries or for advice.

Email: covid-19ph@kingston.gov.uk (Monday to Friday 9-5pm (except Public Holidays), monitored daily)

All care home settings should continue to report COVID-19 case data via the [Capacity Tracker](#).

RBK Adult Social Care (ASC) reviews the Capacity Tracker on a weekly basis. This is used to inform care commissioners. In May 2023, RBK Adult Social Care (ASC) stood down the ASC COVID SITREP meetings as there was less testing even in response to an outbreak, less data and far fewer outbreaks reported. A weekly data email is sent by Public Health to ASC colleagues.

The SWL ICB Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) lead currently offers regular weekly webinars for care homes. To find out more about the weekly webinars, contact Debbie Calver at debbie.calver@swlondon.nhs.uk

Key guidance on outbreaks in care homes:

[Infection prevention and control in adult social care settings - GOV.UK](#)

[Infection prevention and control in adult social care: COVID-19 supplement - GOV.UK](#)

Admission and care of residents in a care home during COVID-19:

[Infection prevention and control in adult social care: COVID-19 supplement - GOV.UK](#)

Visiting a care home, visiting when a care home has a COVID-19 outbreak:

[Infection prevention and control in adult social care: COVID-19 supplement - GOV.UK](#)

Admissions to care homes with a COVID-19 outbreak:

[COVID-19 supplement to the infection prevention and control resource for adult social care - GOV.UK](#)

Specialised setting outbreak management plans (COVID-19): Domiciliary Care

Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

COVID-19 continues to circulate in the community but as a result of protection by high vaccination coverage, high immunity amongst the population, and increased access to COVID-19 treatments, the government advises that the situation allows COVID-19 to now be

managed increasingly like other respiratory infections. However, everyone should continue to take precautions to protect themselves and others.

For Domiciliary Care, please follow specific national guidance. Efforts have been made to include as many of the key guidance links as available in the section below.

Domiciliary care providers should have contingency plans at the ready (sometimes called outbreak management plans), detailing how they would exceptionally and temporarily reintroduce any measures. Further guidance to support domiciliary care providers to stay safe can be found at [Infection prevention and control in adult social care: COVID-19 supplement - GOV.UK](#)

The advice outlined in the [Living with COVID-19](#) and [People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#) guidance should be followed along with the general public health messages outlined in [Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#).

Please always refer to the latest national guidance on actions for Domiciliary Care.

Please note: The national guidance continues to be updated so please refer to the guidance via the links provided where it will take you to the most up to date advice.

Testing:

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the government has prioritised protecting the most vulnerable and those in high-risk settings. The ongoing success of the vaccination programme, increased access to treatments and high immunity amongst the population, has allowed the government to scale back testing in England. From April 2023 onwards, testing will continue to help manage outbreaks in high-risk settings and symptomatic testing will also continue for individuals who are eligible to access COVID-19 treatments. Staff or service users with symptoms of a respiratory infection, including COVID-19 should follow the guidance set out in the [COVID-19 supplement to the infection prevention and control resource for adult social care - GOV.UK](#).

- [COVID-19: testing during periods of low prevalence - GOV.UK](#)

Infection Prevention and Control (IPC)

IPC measures should continue to be practised in home care to reduce transmission of respiratory infections including COVID-19 and other infections such as norovirus. This includes regular cleaning, good ventilation and hand hygiene.

The appropriate PPE must be used correctly and is only effective when combined with:

- cleaning your hands regularly and appropriately for at least 20 seconds
- respiratory hygiene (catch it, bin it, kill it) and avoiding touching your face with your hands following standard infection prevention and control principles
- [Infection prevention and control: resource for adult social care - GOV.UK](#)
- [Infection prevention and control in adult social care: COVID-19 supplement](#)

- [COVID-19: personal protective equipment use for non-aerosol generating procedures - GOV.UK](#)
- [Ventilation to reduce the spread of respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#)
- For PPE to be effective, it is important to use it properly and follow [the guide to donning \(putting on\) and doffing \(removing\) PPE \(non AGP\) in adult social care settings](#)

Domiciliary care providers can access free PPE for COVID-19 needs via the [PPE portal](#).

Please email ppe.enquiries@kingston.gov.uk if PPE is required by frontline staff in an emergency situation.

Vaccination

The primary aim of the COVID-19 vaccination programme continues to be the prevention of severe disease (hospitalisation and mortality) arising from COVID-19 infection. Older persons, residents in care homes for older adults, and those who are immunosuppressed continue to be at highest risk of severe COVID-19. For the latest guidance on who is eligible for COVID-19 vaccination please visit the [NHS website](#).

For more information:

NHS England COVID-19 vaccination webpages: [COVID-19 vaccination - NHS](#)

SW London ICB vaccination webpages: [Covid-19 - NHS South West London Integrated Care Board](#)

Getting help with an outbreak (two or more linked cases) of respiratory illness including COVID-19:

Domiciliary care providers are advised to notify the UKHSA South London Health Protection Team (SLHPT) of an outbreak (**two or more linked cases**) and receive their guidance.

UKHSA South London Health Protection team (SLHPT)

Contact: Telephone: 0300 30 30 450 or email: slhpt.oncall@ukhsa.gov.uk OR phe.slhpt@nhs.net (use nhs.net for emails containing Patient Identifiable Information)

Please update the [Capacity Tracker](#) and report all COVID-19 cases for your service staff and service users.

Health Protection advice

Domiciliary care providers should contact the UKHSA SLHPT in the first instance for Health Protection advice on COVID-19.

Kingston Public Health can also be contacted with queries or for advice.

Kingston Public Health

Email: covid-19ph@kingston.gov.uk (Monday to Friday 9-5pm, monitored daily, not including Public Holidays)

Key guidance on outbreaks in domiciliary care

[Infection prevention and control in adult social care settings - GOV.UK](#)

[Infection prevention and control in adult social care: COVID-19 supplement - GOV.UK](#)

[COVID-19 PPE guide for adult social care services and settings - GOV.UK](#)

[Adult social care: guidance - GOV.UK](#)

In addition to the specific advice for your setting, please consider advice for:

- [People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#)
- [Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#)
- [Ventilation to reduce the spread of respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#)

Specialised setting outbreak management plans (COVID-19): Day Centres

Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

As we learn to live with COVID-19, everyone should still continue to take precautions to protect themselves and others. To continue efforts to Keep Kingston Safe, all settings should follow the advice outlined in the [Living with COVID-19](#) and [People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#) guidance and follow the general public health messages outlined in [Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#) and below. For Day Centres, please follow any specific national guidance in these publications for these settings. Efforts have been made to include as much key guidance as is available in the section below.

All day centre settings should already have contingency plans (sometimes called outbreak management plans) detailing how they would exceptionally and temporarily reintroduce any measures if needed. Further guidance to support day centre settings to stay safe and develop individual contingency plans can be found at [Infection prevention and control in adult social care settings - GOV.UK](#) and [Infection prevention and control in adult social care: COVID-19 supplement - GOV.UK](#)

Please note: The national guidance continues to be updated so please refer to the guidance via the links provided where it will take you to the most up to date advice.

Staying Safe and Testing:

Infection Prevention and Control measures are a priority in care settings. Please find links to the guidance below.

- Follow the testing guidance in [Infection prevention and control in adult social care: COVID-19 supplement](#). If you are having trouble accessing LFD tests, please contact 119.
- If a staff member or service user tests positive for COVID-19, follow the guidance in the [Infection prevention and control in adult social care: COVID-19 supplement](#). If you develop [symptoms of COVID-19](#), stay at home and follow the guidance for [People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#).

Infection Prevention and Control (IPC)

IPC measures should continue to be practised to reduce transmission of respiratory infections including COVID-19 and other infections such as norovirus. This includes regular cleaning, good ventilation, limiting social contact if unwell and hand hygiene.

PPE must be used correctly and is only effective when combined with:

- cleaning your hands regularly and appropriately for at least 20 seconds, respiratory hygiene (catch it, bin, kill it) and avoiding touching your face with your hands
- following standard infection prevention and control precautions
- [Infection prevention and control in adult social care settings - GOV.UK](#)
- [Infection prevention and control in adult social care: COVID-19 supplement](#)
- [COVID-19 PPE guide for adult social care services and settings - GOV.UK](#)
- [Ventilation to reduce the spread of respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#)

Day centres can access free PPE for COVID-19 needs if required via the [PPE portal](#).

Please email ppe.enquiries@kingston.gov.uk if PPE is required by frontline staff if needed.

Vaccination

The primary aim of the COVID-19 vaccination programme continues to be the prevention of severe disease (hospitalisation and mortality) arising from COVID-19 infection. Older persons, residents in care homes for older adults, and those who are immunosuppressed continue to be at highest risk of severe COVID-19. For the latest guidance on who is eligible for COVID-19 vaccination please visit the [NHS website](#).

For more information:

NHS England COVID-19 vaccination webpages: [COVID-19 vaccination - NHS](#)

SW London ICB vaccination webpages: [Covid-19 - NHS South West London Integrated Care Board](#)

Getting help with an outbreak (two or more linked cases) of respiratory illness including COVID-19:

Please report the following to **SLHPT**:

- If you are concerned that the outbreak (2 or more linked cases) is not under control, where there is increasing complexity or a rising tide of cases
- A suspected acute respiratory outbreak and symptomatic individuals are COVID-19 negative
- A new or ongoing outbreak of respiratory illness, including COVID-19 with where there is serious illness, hospital admissions or deaths

Contact: Telephone: 0300 30 30 450 or email: slhpt.oncall@ukhsa.gov.uk OR phe.slhpt@nhs.net (use nhs.net for emails containing Patient Identifiable Information).

Health Protection advice

Day centre providers are advised to notify the UKHSA South London Health Protection Team (SL HPT) if their support is needed. Kingston Public Health can also be contacted with queries or for advice.

Kingston Public Health

Email: covid-19ph@kingston.gov.uk (Monday to Friday 9-5pm, monitored once daily, not including Public Holidays)

Key guidance on outbreaks for day care settings:

- [Infection prevention and control in adult social care settings - GOV.UK](#)
- [Infection prevention and control in adult social care: COVID-19 supplement](#)
- [COVID-19 PPE guide for adult social care services and settings - GOV.UK](#)
- [Adult social care: guidance - GOV.UK](#)

In addition to the specific advice for your setting, please consider advice for:

- [People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#)
- [Ventilation to reduce the spread of respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#)
- [Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#)

Specialised setting outbreak management plans (COVID-19): Hostels, homeless and Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs)

Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

As we learn to live with COVID-19, everyone should continue to take precautions to protect themselves and others. To continue efforts to Keep Kingston Safe, all settings should follow the advice outlined in the [Living with COVID-19](#) and [People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#) guidance and follow the general public health messages outlined in [Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#) and below.

Please note: The national guidance continues to be updated so please refer to the guidance via the links provided where it will take you to the most up to date advice.

Setting specific guidance

All hostel settings should already have contingency plans (sometimes called outbreak management plans) detailing how they would exceptionally and temporarily reintroduce any measures if required to. Guidance to support hostel services for people experiencing homelessness and rough sleeping to stay safe and develop individual contingency plans can be found in:

- [Operating principles for night shelters - GOV.UK](#)
- [COVID-19: outbreaks in prisons, refuges and other higher-risk accommodation settings - GOV.UK](#)

Vaccination

The primary aim of the COVID-19 vaccination programme continues to be the prevention of severe disease (hospitalisation and mortality) arising from COVID-19 infection. Older persons, residents in care homes for older adults, and those who are immunosuppressed continue to be at highest risk of severe COVID-19. For the latest guidance on who is eligible for a Covid-19 vaccination please visit the [NHS website](#).

For more information:

NHS England COVID-19 vaccination webpages: [COVID-19 vaccination - NHS](#)

SW London ICB vaccination webpages: [Covid-19 - NHS South West London Integrated Care Board](#)

Find and Treat Team: Complete and attach a completed [referral form](#) and send to haltTeam.cnwl@nhs.net for an onsite vaccination session for residents and staff

In addition to the specific advice for your setting, please consider advice for:

- [People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#)

- [Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#)
- [Ventilation of indoor spaces to stop the spread of coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK](#)
- respiratory hygiene (catch it, bin it, kill it)

Additional measures in the event of an outbreak

Local authorities need a clear picture of all alternative local provisions that could be used in the case of an outbreak. Where local authorities are unable to meet the emergency needs of a hostel provider, they should liaise with the London Resilience Forum. In the event of an outbreak, settings should contact the Pan-London Find and Treat Teams

- **Find and Treat Team:** Complete and attach this completed [referral form](#) and send to haltTeam.cnwl@nhs.net.
- If you are referring a symptomatic individual from a Hostel Outreach Team, please contact the Find and Treat team directly on 0203 447 9842.
- [COVID-19: outbreaks in prisons, refuges and other higher-risk accommodation settings - GOV.UK](#)

Please email ppe.enquiries@kingston.gov.uk if PPE is required by frontline staff in an emergency/outbreak situation.

Health Protection advice

Setting providers or commissioners can contact Kingston Public Health with queries or for advice. Where there is a significant concern and to notify an outbreak (**two or more linked cases**) and receive guidance, UKHSA South London Health Protection Team (SLHPT) can be contacted as LCRC has now stood down.

UKHSA South London Health Protection Team

Contact: Telephone: 0300 30 30 450 or **email:** slhpt.oncall@ukhsa.gov.uk OR phe.slhpt@nhs.net (use nhs.net for emails containing Patient Identifiable Information).

Kingston Public Health

Email: covid-19ph@kingston.gov.uk (Monday to Friday 9-5pm, not including Public Holidays)

Specialised setting outbreak management plans (COVID-19): Schools - mainstream schools and SEND settings

Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

As we learn to live with COVID-19, everyone should continue to take precautions to protect themselves and others. To continue efforts to Keep Kingston Safe, all educational settings should follow the advice outlined in the [Living with COVID-19](#) and [People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#) guidance and follow the general public health messages outlined in [Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#) and below.

Please note: The national guidance continues to be updated so please refer to the guidance via the links provided where it will take you to the most up to date advice.

Most infectious diseases in education, childcare, and children's social care settings can be managed by following the UK Health Security Agency's (UKHSA) Health Protection in Education and Childcare Settings guidance. All educational settings are advised to have emergency plans that should include a range of steps that you might take in the event of a significant public health incident. They should also include when you might consider seeking specialist advice from your UKHSA health protection team in line with the UKHSA [Health protection in children and young people settings, including education - GOV.UK](#) guidance.

The new guidance for educational settings that replaces the Contingency Framework and Schools operational guidance:

- [Emergency planning and response for education, childcare, and children's social care settings - GOV.UK](#)
- [Health protection in education and childcare settings - GOV.UK](#)
- [Managing outbreaks and incidents - GOV.UK](#)

In addition to the specific advice for your setting, please consider advice on:

- [People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#)
- [Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#)
- [Ventilation](#)
- [E-bug resources](#)
- [Keeping children safe in out-of-school settings: code of practice - GOV.UK](#)
- HSE [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) – Advice for workplaces](#)
- Order PPE via the [PPE portal](#) if required

Health Protection advice

There are no specific thresholds for outbreak control measures and the general advice above applies in all scenarios of respiratory infections/COVID-19 cases.

UKHSA advises that most infectious diseases, including respiratory and COVID-19 in education and childcare settings, can be managed by following the advice provided in the updated version of the [Health Protection in schools and other childcare settings](#) and ensuring children, young people and staff follow the recommended exclusion periods.

Please however, report the following to UKHSA South London Health Protection Team:

- A death of a staff member/pupil due to respiratory infections, including COVID-19

If a pupil or staff member is hospitalised (due to respiratory infections, including coronavirus (COVID-19), this **does not** routinely need to be reported, but if you would like advice, including with regards to communications you may also contact UKHSA SLHPT for support.

Single cases

You **do not** need to report single cases of COVID or other respiratory illness.

Educational settings are advised to notify the UKHSA South London Health Protection Team (SL HPT) of an outbreak (**two or more linked cases**) and receive their guidance.

UKHSA South London Health Protection Team

Email: slhpt.oncall@ukhsa.gov.uk

Telephone: 0300 30 30 450 (Daytime and Out of Hours)

Kingston Public Health can also be contacted for local support.

Kingston Public Health

Email: covid-19ph@kingston.gov.uk (Monday to Friday 9-5pm checked daily, not including Public Holidays)

Vaccination

For the latest guidance on covid vaccination please visit the [NHS website](#).

SEND settings and schools with SEND provision

Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

As we learn to live with COVID-19, everyone should continue to take precautions to protect themselves and others. To continue efforts to Keep Kingston Safe, all settings should follow the advice outlined in the [Living with COVID-19](#) and [People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#) guidance and follow the general public health messages outlined in [Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#) and below.

Please note: The national guidance continues to be updated so please refer to the guidance via the links provided where it will take you to the most up to date advice.

Most infectious diseases in education, childcare, and children's social care settings can be managed by following the UK Health Security Agency's (UKHSA) Health Protection in Education and Childcare Settings guidance. All educational settings are advised to have emergency plans that should include a range of steps that you might take in the event of a significant public health incident. They should also include when you might consider seeking specialist advice from your UKHSA health protection team in line with the UKHSA [Health protection in children and young people settings, including education - GOV.UK](#) guidance.

The new guidance for educational settings that replaces the Contingency Framework and Schools operational guidance:

- [Emergency planning and response for education, childcare, and children's social care settings - GOV.UK](#)
- [Health protection in education and childcare settings - GOV.UK](#)
- [Managing outbreaks and incidents - GOV.UK](#)

In addition to the specific advice for your setting, please consider advice on:

- [People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#)
- [Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#)
- [Ventilation](#)
- [E-bug resources](#)
- [Keeping children safe in out-of-school settings: code of practice - GOV.UK](#)
- HSE [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) – Advice for workplaces](#)
- Order PPE via the [PPE portal](#) if required

UKHSA advice

There are no specific thresholds for outbreak control measures and the general advice above applies in all scenarios of respiratory infection/COVID-19 cases.

UKHSA advises that most infectious diseases, including respiratory and COVID-19 in education and childcare settings, can be managed by following the advice provided the updated version of the [Health Protection in schools and other childcare settings](#) and ensuring children, young people and staff follow the recommended exclusion periods.

Please however, report the following to SLHPT::

- A death of a staff member/pupil due to respiratory infections, including COVID-19
- An acute respiratory infection outbreak, including COVID-19 in a **SEND school with medically vulnerable children** i.e. immunocompromised or school carrying out Aerosol Generating Procedures (AGPs)
- A new or ongoing outbreak in SEND school or boarding school, without medically vulnerable children (but where school have seen a rapid increase in case numbers)
- A SEND school with difficulties in applying the outbreak control measures due to residential setting or increasing complexity e.g. hospital admissions

As LCRC has now stood down educational settings are advised to notify the UKHSA South London Health Protection Team (SLHPT) of an outbreak and receive their guidance.

UKHSA South London Health Protection Team

Email: slhpt.oncall@ukhsa.gov.uk

Telephone: 0300 30 30 450 (Daytime and Out of Hours)

Kingston Public Health can also be contacted for local support.

Kingston Public Health

Email: covid-19ph@kingston.gov.uk (Monday to Friday 9-5pm, not including Public Holidays).

Vaccination

For the latest guidance on covid vaccination please visit the [NHS website](#).

Specialised setting outbreak management plans (COVID-19): Early Years Settings

Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

As we learn to live with COVID-19, everyone should continue to take precautions to protect themselves and others. To continue efforts to Keep Kingston Safe, all settings should follow the advice outlined in the [Living with COVID-19](#) and [People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#) guidance and follow the general public health messages outlined in [Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#) and below.

Please note: The national guidance continues to be updated so please refer to the guidance via the links provided where it will take you to the most up to date advice.

Most infectious diseases in education, childcare, and children's social care settings can be managed by following the UK Health Security Agency's (UKHSA) health protection in education and childcare settings guidance. All educational settings are advised to have emergency plans that should include a range of steps that you might take in the event of a significant public health incident. They should also include when you might consider seeking specialist advice from your UKHSA health protection team in line with the UKHSA [Health protection in children and young people settings, including education - GOV.UK](#) guidance.

The new guidance for educational settings that replaces the Contingency Framework and Schools operational guidance:

- [Emergency planning and response for education, childcare, and children's social care settings - GOV.UK](#)
- [Health protection in education and childcare settings - GOV.UK](#)

In addition to the specific advice for your setting, please consider advice on:

- [People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#)
- [Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#)
- [Ventilation](#)
- HSE [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) – Advice for workplaces](#)
- [E-bug resources](#)

Health Protection advice

There are no specific thresholds for outbreak control measures and the general advice above applies in all scenarios of respiratory/COVID-19 cases.

UKHSA advises that most infectious diseases, including respiratory and COVID-19 in education and childcare settings, can be managed by following the advice provided the updated version of the [Health protection in children and young people settings, including education - GOV.UK](#) and ensuring children, young people and staff follow the recommended exclusion periods.

Please however, report the following to UKHSA SLHPT:

- A death of a staff member/pupil due to respiratory infections, including COVID-19

If a pupil or staff member is hospitalised (due to respiratory infections, including coronavirus (COVID-19), this **does not** routinely need to be reported, but if you would like advice, including with regards to communications you may also contact SLHPT for support.

Single cases

You **do not** need to report single cases of COVID or other respiratory illness.

Educational settings are advised to notify the UKHSA South London Health Protection Team (SLHPT) of an outbreak and receive their guidance.

UKHSA South London Health Protection Team

Email: slhpt.oncall@ukhsa.gov.uk

Telephone: 0300 30 30 450 (Daytime and Out of Hours)

Kingston Public Health can also be contacted for local support.

Kingston Public Health

Email: covid-19ph@kingston.gov.uk (Monday to Friday 9-5pm, not including Public Holidays)

Vaccination

For the latest guidance on covid vaccination please visit the [NHS website](#).

Specialised setting outbreak management plans (COVID-19): Children's Social Care

Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

As we learn to live with COVID-19, everyone should continue to take precautions to protect themselves and others. To continue efforts to Keep Kingston Safe, Kingston Social Care team will follow the advice outlined in the [Living with COVID-19](#) and [People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#) guidance and follow the general

public health messages outlined in [Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#) and below.

- [Emergency planning and response for education, childcare, and children's social care settings - GOV.UK](#)
- [Health protection in education and childcare settings - GOV.UK](#)
- HSE [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) – Advice for workplaces](#)
- [E-bug resources](#)
- Order PPE via the [PPE portal](#) if required

Please note: The national guidance continues to be updated so please refer to the guidance via the links provided where it will take you to the most up to date advice.

Most infectious diseases in education, childcare, and children's social care settings can be managed by following the UK Health Security Agency's (UKHSA) health protection in education and childcare settings guidance. All educational settings are advised to have emergency plans that should include a range of steps that you might take in the event of a significant public health incident. They should also include when you might consider seeking specialist advice from your UKHSA health protection team in line with the UKHSA [Health protection in education and childcare settings - GOV.UK](#) guidance.

The new guidance for educational settings that replaces the Contingency Framework and Schools operational guidance:

- [Emergency planning and response for education, childcare, and children's social care settings - GOV.UK](#)
- [Health protection in education and childcare settings - GOV.UK](#)
- [Keeping children safe in out-of-school settings: code of practice - GOV.UK](#)

In addition to the specific advice for your setting, please consider advice on:

- [Ventilation](#)
- [E-bug resources](#)
- [Reducing the spread of respiratory infections, including COVID-19, in the workplace - GOV.UK](#)
- HSE [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) – Advice for workplaces](#)
- Order PPE via the [PPE portal](#) if required

Health Protection advice

There are no specific thresholds for outbreak control measures and the general advice above applies in all scenarios of respiratory/COVID-19 cases.

UKHSA advises that most infectious diseases, including respiratory and COVID-19 in education and childcare settings, can be managed by following the advice provided the updated version of the [Health protection in children and young people settings, including](#)

[education - GOV.UK](#) and ensuring children, young people and staff follow the recommended exclusion periods.

Please however, report the following to UKHSA:

- A death of a staff member/pupil due to respiratory infections, including COVID-19

If a pupil or staff member is hospitalised (due to respiratory infections, including coronavirus (COVID-19), this **does not** routinely need to be reported, but if you would like advice, including with regards to communications you may also contact UKHSA for support.

Single cases

You **do not** need to report single cases of COVID or other respiratory illness.

Educational settings are advised to notify the UKHSA South London Health Protection Team (SLHPT) of an outbreak and receive their guidance.

UKHSA South London Health Protection Team

Email: slhpt.oncall@ukhsa.gov.uk

Telephone: 0300 30 30 450 (Daytime and Out of Hours)

Kingston Public Health can also be contacted for local support.

Kingston Public Health

Email: covid-19ph@kingston.gov.uk (Monday to Friday 9-5pm, not including Public Holidays).

Vaccination

For the latest guidance on covid vaccination please visit the [NHS website](#).

Specialised setting outbreak management plans (COVID-19): Further Education & Higher Education settings

Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

As we learn to live with COVID-19, everyone should continue to take precautions to protect themselves and others. To continue efforts to Keep Kingston Safe, all settings should follow the advice outlined in the [Living with COVID-19](#) and [People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#) guidance and follow the general public health messages outlined in [Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#) and below.

Please note: The national guidance continues to be updated so please refer to the guidance via the links provided where it will take you to the most up to date advice.

Most infectious diseases in education, childcare, and children’s social care settings can be managed by following the UK Health Security Agency’s (UKHSA) health protection in education and childcare settings guidance. All educational settings are advised to have emergency plans that should include a range of steps that you might take in the event of a significant public health incident. They should also include when you might consider seeking specialist advice from your UKHSA health protection team in line with the UKHSA [Health protection in children and young people settings, including education - GOV.UK](#) guidance.

The new guidance for educational settings that replaces the Contingency Framework and previous operational guidance:

- [Emergency planning and response for education, childcare, and children's social care settings - GOV.UK](#)
- [Health protection in education and childcare settings - GOV.UK](#)

In addition to the specific advice for your setting, please consider advice on:

- [Ventilation](#)
- [Reducing the spread of respiratory infections, including COVID-19, in the workplace - GOV.UK](#)
- HSE [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) – Advice for workplaces](#)

Health Protection advice

If you are an HE provider, you should ensure that responses to the most serious public health incidents are discussed with your local Director of Public Health and agreed in advance as part of your contingency planning, for example for the start of academic years.

There are no specific thresholds for outbreak control measures and the general advice applies in all scenarios of respiratory/COVID-19 cases.

UKHSA advises that most infectious diseases, including respiratory and COVID-19 in education and childcare settings, can be managed by following the advice provided the updated version of the [Health Protection in schools and other childcare settings](#) and ensuring children, young people and staff follow the recommended exclusion periods.

Please however, report the following to UKHSA:

- A death of a staff member/pupil due to respiratory infections, including COVID-19

If a pupil or staff member is hospitalised (due to respiratory infections, including coronavirus (COVID-19), this **does not** routinely need to be reported, but if you would like advice, including with regards to communications you may also contact SLHPT for support.

Single cases

You **do not** need to report single cases of COVID or other respiratory illness.

Educational settings are advised to notify the UKHSA South London Health Protection Team (SLHPT) of an outbreak and receive their guidance.

UKHSA South London Health Protection Team

Email: slhpt.oncall@ukhsa.gov.uk

Telephone: 0300 30 30 450 (Daytime and Out of Hours)

Kingston Public Health can also be contacted for local support.

Kingston Public Health

Email: covid-19ph@kingston.gov.uk (Monday to Friday 9-5pm, not including Public Holidays).

Vaccination

For the latest guidance on covid vaccination please visit the [NHS website](#)..

Specialised setting outbreak management plans (COVID-19): Workplaces

Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

Working safely

While there is no longer a requirement for all employers to explicitly consider COVID-19 in their statutory health and safety risk assessments, it is important that as a business, organisation or an employer you continue to comply with your legal obligations relating to health and safety, employment and equality duties. Working safely should still be a priority. [Reducing the spread of respiratory infection including COVID-19, in the workplace - GOV.UK](#) guidance covers how to reduce the risk of respiratory infections including COVID-19 spreading in your workplace. Businesses and workplaces should also follow the advice in the guidance below:

- [Ventilation](#)
- [Living with COVID-19](#)
- [Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#)
- [People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK](#)
- [HSE Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) – Advice for workplaces](#)

Please note: The national guidance continues to be updated so please refer to the guidance via the links provided where it will take you to the most up to date advice.

Vaccination

For the latest guidance on covid vaccination please visit the [NHS website](#).

Regulatory Services will continue to work with businesses to provide advice and support to help limit the transmission of COVID-19. This will include encouraging regular ventilation of premises and enhanced cleaning of touchpoints.

Appendix 1: Living with COVID-19: Communications & Engagement Strategy

Updated strategy to be added

Appendix 2: Terms of Reference for Governance Groups

Local Outbreak Control Engagement Board

This section will be updated in late 2023

Kingston Health Protection Forum - Terms of Reference

Purpose:

To continue to build on collaborative and partnership working, strengthened over the last 2 years with the Kingston COVID-19 pandemic response, in other areas of Health Protection for Kingston. To ensure that there are safe and effective arrangements and plans in place to protect the health of the local population.

The scope of Health Protection to be considered will include:

- Prevention and control of infectious diseases
- Immunisation programmes - inc. childhood, schools, flu, COVID-19
- Kingston Immunisation Steering Group to feed into the Kingston Health Protection Forum
- Screening programmes - breast, cervical, antenatal and newborn
- Outbreak planning and response
- Prevention and Management of environmental hazards
- Local Outbreak Management Plan (COVID-19) review and sign off and other responsibilities as set out in the Plan
- Covid -19 Sustained Response Group to be part of Kingston Health Protection Forum

Functions:

1. To provide a forum for discussion with local partners of Health Protection risks and mitigations and opportunities for joint working including COVID-19 recovery
2. To share any local Health Protection issues/concerns which may affect the health of the local population
3. To provide oversight of key Health Protection issues and review Health Protection plans including the COVID-19 Local Outbreak Management Plan
4. To share local surveillance data for infectious diseases and immunisation and screening uptake data that may inform planning
5. To receive and discuss updates from the Kingston Immunisation Steering Group
6. To discuss significant incidents and outbreaks, consider lessons learned, best practice and recommendations, and encourage implementation of any findings

Proposed Governance Arrangements:

Chair and Membership

The Director of Public Health or her representative will chair the forum.

Core membership will be as listed below:

- Director of Public Health - Kingston Council
- Consultant in Public Health - Kingston Council
- Health Protection Officer - Kingston Council
- Kingston Outbreak Control Officer
- Kingston Council Adult Social Care representative
- Resilience and Planning Manager
- Public Health - Kingston Council
- Environmental Health - Kingston Council
- Communications and Engagement Lead - Kingston Council
- Senior Community Development Coordinator for Marginalised Groups - Kingston Council
- Achieving for Children representative
- Health Protection Consultant UKHSA SL HPT
- Screening lead - NHSE
- Immunisation Lead NHS SWL ICB
- SWL CCG Infection Prevention Control Specialist
- Your Healthcare representative
- University
- Hospital

Frequency of meetings:

The Forum will meet once a month with an increase in meeting frequency as and when required and agreed with members.

Format of meetings:

There will be a standard Forum agenda to include:

- Local data update including COVID-19
- UKHSA SL HPT - Health Protection update
- NHS SWL ICB - immunisation update (flu, COVID-19, childhood, schools, older people, pregnancy)
- NHSE - Screening update (breast, cervical, bowel and other relevant programmes, antenatal and newborn)
- SWL ICB IPC - update
- Kingston Immunisation Steering Group updates
- Updates on infectious and non-infectious environmental concerns as necessary - new and emerging infections, air quality, heat/cold

Secretariat:

Kingston Public Health (Health Protection Officer) will arrange meetings, minutes, draft agendas

Review of the Terms of reference will be on an annual basis.

Reviewed and agreed July 2023

RBK Borough Resilience Forum

Terms of reference

March 2019

Objective:

To promote an integrated and co-ordinated approach to contingency planning and emergency management throughout the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames.

Scope

The Royal Borough Kingston Borough Resilience Forum (RBK BRF) shall be responsible for the following activities:

Produce a yearly work plan, borough based risk register and joint multi agency exercise.

Ensure there is co-operation and understanding between relevant organisations and agencies throughout the Royal Borough when responding to emergencies and disruptions.

Ensuring local arrangements are in place to deliver or facilitate the actions outlined in regional or national planning.

To develop joint training and exercising amongst members of the Forum in all areas relating to contingency planning and emergency management.

Local Governance – Safer Kingston Partnership (SKP): Attend meetings to report progress of annual work plan, Borough Risk Register and multi-agency plans, and seek sign off by SKP.

Pan – London Governance – Report to the London Resilience Forum (LRF) via the reporting process co-ordinated by the London Resilience Group and other government bodies as required. Attend LRF as required, participate and develop pan-London arrangements and raise BRF requests and actions to LRF.

A forum to cover the responsibilities of a multi-agency Influenza Pandemic Committee during the planning stages.

To provide a multi-agency forum to develop and review required multi-agency emergency plans and arrangements.

Membership

The membership of the RBK BRF is open to all category 1 & 2 responders and strategic partners working within Kingston, these are detailed below:

Category 1 Responders

Royal Borough of Kingston

Metropolitan Police Service

London Fire Brigade

London Ambulance Service

Kingston Hospital

NHS England

Public Health England

Environment Agency

Maritime & Coastguard Agency (HMCG London)

RNLI

Your Health Care

Category 2 Responders

Clinical Commissioning Groups

Utilities Companies

All Category 2 organisations (Voluntary Sector)

Other partner organisations

Kingston University

Kingston First - Town Centre Management (Business representative)

Kingston Citizens Advice

London District, MOD

Surrey County Council

Other organisations as identified by the Core Membership

Chairperson

The chair of the BRF will be agreed between the category 1 responders and shall be responsible for the following:

Arrange meetings & venues

Produce minutes, agenda's and invites to third parties to attend RBK BRF

Lead on the consultation, completions and production of annual work plan, borough risk register and joint multi agency exercise.

Represent the RBK BRF at each meeting of the Safer Kingston Partnership, SRRF and when invited to the LRRF. Attend any other meetings which require the attendance of the RBK BRF.

The chair will give an update on any meeting attended on behalf of RBK BRF and relay any requests or issue raised after consultation with the RBK BRF.

The Local Authority will act as nominated chair, until the BRF agree a change in chairperson.

Deputy Chairperson (Two)

The deputy chairperson/s will be agreed by the category 1 & 2 responders and shall be responsible for the following:

In the absence of the chairperson, chair BRF meetings.

Attend external meetings on behalf of Kingston BRF, including London LRF meetings

Lead one BRF work stream: Training & Exercising, Risk Register or Multi agency Plans

If appropriate (dependent upon incident impact) chair and co-ordinate borough multi-agency response during prolonged emergency incidents.

Membership Quorum

A minimum of four category one responders must be present at any meeting to make its decisions valid.

Decision Making and Voting Rights

Only category one responders will have decision making or voting rights for the annual work plan, borough risk register and annual joint exercise.

Category 2 responders and partners will be consulted and their views considered in any decision making process.

In the event of a joint or split decision the chair will have the casting vote.

Governance

Local – The BRF will report directly to the Safer Kingston Partnership as its governing body, who will sign off its work plan, borough risk register and any other outcomes it produces.

Pan London – The BRF will also provide regular reports to the London LRF on local incidents, multi-agency plan arrangements and comment upon requests or instructions passed to it from LRG.

If requested a representative (Chair or category 1 responder) will attend the London LRF or any special resilience forum held by a government department or section.

Meeting Arrangements

The BRF shall meet approximately once every three (or four) calendar months, or more frequently where the work plan requires it.

Each meeting shall have a structured agenda circulated in advance, which members should discuss with the groups/organisations they are mandated to represent prior to representing the collective view at the meeting.

Review

These terms of reference shall be discussed and reviewed on an annual basis or as soon as possible if emergency incidents have prohibited BRF meetings from taking place.

Appendix 3: How we got here - brief summary of key events from Local Outbreak Control and Management Plans V1-7.2

This will be added shortly

Appendix 4: Learning from 2020-2022

This will be added on completion of surveys