

Cabinet

Supplemental Agenda

Date: Wednesday 11 November 2020

Publication date: Tuesday 3 November 2020

Agenda - Part I

8. **Covid-19 Update** (Pages 3 - 20)

Presentation to the verbal update by the Chief Executive.

Agenda - Part II

Nil

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Covid-19 Update

Cabinet 11th November 20

3

- Update on Covid-19 London and Harrow
- National Lockdown and Tiers
- Council Response to Covid
 - Covid-19 related activity
 - service impact
 - wider agenda
- Preparing for a vaccine
- Financial context
- Questions

- Nationally cases and hospital admissions continue to rise
- London position overall is c150 cases per 100,000 people
- 5 ● Harrow position is c150 cases per 100,000 people
- Hospital admissions increasing but not rapidly
- Encouraging signs that case levels are stabilising
- Important to continue to reinforce messages

Harrow Covid-19 Dashboard

Harrow COVID 19 Dashboard

report date: 6/11/2020

Data from 29/10/20 to 4/11/20

Positive Cases in 7 days to 4/11/2020
378

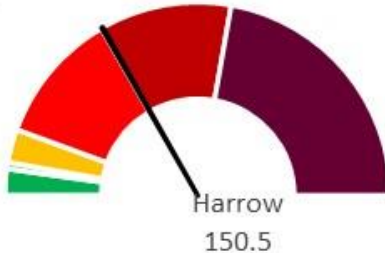
Test and Trace Cases (cumulative) % Complete



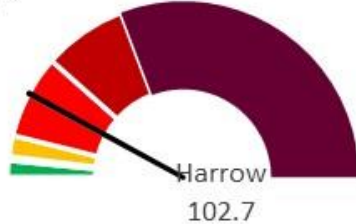
Test and Trace Contacts (cumulative) % Complete



Incidence rate (all ages) past 7 days per 100,000



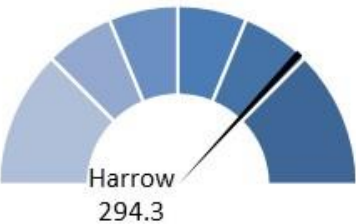
Incidence - 7 days in 60 and over per 100,000



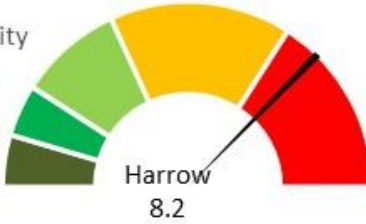
Trends in case rates per 100,000



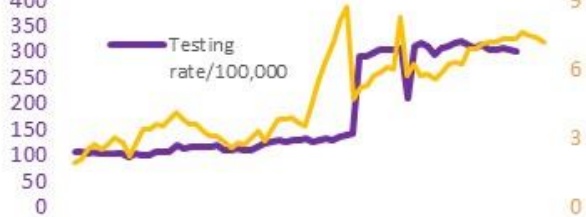
Testing rate per 100,000



Test Positivity rate



Trends in testing rates and test positivity



Commentary:

The trend in rates of COVID-19 remains upwards although the rate of change is slow. Our doubling rate is about 4 weeks. The rate of covid in the 60 and over group remains lower than the all ages rate and is also showing a slight upward trend. Testing rates are lower than the England rate but additional options will be available within the coming month.

- Council continues to play a major role in Covid-19
- Considerable work on Covid-19 specific tasks - this increases each week
- 7 ● Delivering Services during Lockdown and in Covid-19 secure environment
- Prioritising delivery of strategic projects
- Situation will continue and increase at least until spring
- Capacity and resilience is a challenge

Tier 1

Social distancing, curfew @ 10pm, social gatherings limited to 6 inside & out

∞

Tier 2

Social gatherings limited to 6 outside

Tier 3

Social gatherings limited to 6 outside but not in gardens, Leisure centres and pubs close and travel between areas restricted

- Stay at Home wherever possible
- Widespread closures, including: non-essential retail, hospitality venues, hotels, leisure centre, outdoor sport facilities, entertainment venues, personal care facilities, community centres and places of worship
- Limits to social interaction, travel and overnight stays
- Weddings cease
- Those defined as clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) advised to work from home and take extra care

- Local Track & Trace
- Local testing sites and further local testing
- Enforcement of Lockdown measures
- Self isolation benefits
- Business Grants
- Community hub & contact centre
- Support for local economy

- Delivering many services in new and innovative ways
- Most employees work from home – resilience issues
- Pressures on adults and children’s social care
- Increased homelessness and housing pressures
- Support for schools to deliver in Covid-19 secure way
- Ensuring waste services are resilient
- Preparing for elections May 2021
- Council staff delivering above and beyond

- Hope for effective vaccine increased this week
- Planning for a roll out has begun by NHS
- 12 ● Early discussions with NHS commenced re Council support
 - Council potential role in supporting logistics and delivery
 - Key role will be engaging and communicating with residents
 - Hopefully this will be a major focus for next few months

- COVID-19 has significantly impacted council finances
- Government emergency funding for 2020/1
- 13) Vital this continues for 2021/2 to ensure financial viability
- Numerous government grants for specific purposes
- Cabinet asked to agree expenditure to bolster capacity in
key areas

Since Second lockdown Announcement

- On 22 October , the Secretary of State announced additional local authority support of £1bn allocated:
 - £919m Tranche 4 Emergency Funding to respond to Covid-19 related expenditure and income pressures. Harrow's allocation is **£2.722m** taking total Emergency Funding to £17.761m
 - £100m to introduce a new fund which will support council leisure centres most in need. Further details on this scheme are to follow
- On 28th October Harrow received additional Tier 2 funding of **£753k** which was based on £3/head of population.

Since Second lockdown Announcement

15

- The Government announced that single tier and county councils will receive a one-off payment of £8 per head to support local test, trace and contain activities and wider measures to protect public health and local economies which is referred to as the “**Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF)**”. Where councils have already received funding from the COMF this will be increased to the maximum of £8 per head. Given that Harrow has already received £753k from this fund (£3/head), then a further £1.3m (£5/head) could be expected although no allocations have been announced. (**Awaiting allocation**).
- **Clinically Extremely Vulnerable.** Received £161k for those residents classed as CEV. The payment is based on 10,985. There is a query whether this payment should be based on the HNS Digital number of 14,150 which would be approx. £45k extra grant
- **Food and other essentials.** The government announced a further £173m for food and other essentials. Harrow received £216k from the previous national allocation of £63m. Estimated additional allocation is **approx. £600k**. Actual allocation pending

Prior to Second Lockdown Announcement

- **Local Restrictions Support Grant (Open)** – Will support businesses in areas where Local Covid Alert Level is HIGH – LCAL 2. The qualifying period is 19 days, 17/10/20 to 04/11/20 and grant payments will range from £653 to £1,452 dependent upon RV.
- 16 ● Likely to impact approx. 400 businesses in the hospitality, hotel, bed & breakfast and leisure industry. Harrow's allocation is **£289,318** with a further 5% for discretionary awards
- Government extended the LRSG scheme to include businesses which have been forced to close on a national rather than a local basis since March. This has the practical effect of bringing sexual entertainment venues and hostess bars as well as nightclubs, dance halls, and discotheques, into scope for locally administered grants. Implications for Harrow are minimal with approx. 25 to 50 premises entitle to a payment for the period 01/11 to 04/11

Since Second lockdown Announcement

- The three-tier alert status system has subsequently been overtaken by the national lockdown measures in force from Thursday 5th November until Wednesday 2nd December.
- **Local Restrictions Support Grant (Closed)** – Will support businesses in areas where Local Covid Alert Level is VERY HIGH – LCAL 3. Support will be via grants of £667, £1,000 or £1,500 per 14 day qualifying period, (or £1,334, £2,000 & £3,000 for the 28 day period 5/11/20 to 2/12/20).
- Likely to impact approx. 2,000 businesses in Harrow that were open as usual and providing in-person services to customers from their business premises and then required to close.
- Harrow's allocation is **£3,648,708**
- £1.1bn **Additional Restrictions Grant** to provide one-off funding to councils distributed on the basis of £20 per head, to enable councils to support businesses over the coming months, who are a key part of the local economy. This grant 100% discretionary and the funding can be used in 2020/21 and 2021/22.
- **Harrow's allocation is £5,023,200.**
- The funding could be used for one off grants to businesses and LAs can also use this funding for wider business support activities.

- Put aside a £1m fund to provide additional capacity to support our Covid-19 response
- Several services and activities have already received funding from grants
- Initial proposed allocations:
 - Social workers - £75k
 - Support to schools - £25K
 - Adult services brokerage capacity - £30k
 - Strategic Coordination Capacity - £75k to £150k
 - HR Capacity & Employee Support - £120k
 - Community engagement - £40k
 - Economic development & Business Support - £100k

- Public Health
- Track & Trace capacity
- Contact centre surge capacity
- 19 ● Mental health support for staff
- Voluntary and Community Sector support past March
- Mortuary costs post March
- Self isolation and business grants delivery
- Enforcement Capacity
- Delivery of 2021 Elections

- Covid-19 continues to dominate all aspects of council's activity
- Many tasks to directly support the response to Covid-19
- 20 ● Priority to support local communities and business through a very difficult period
- Council responding well in challenging circumstances
- Planning to maintain capacity and resilience for next six months