

# Cabinet Third Supplemental Agenda

Date: Thursday 10 February 2022

Agenda - Part I

**8. Covid-19 Update** (Pages 3 - 12)

Presentation to the verbal update from the Chief Executive.

Scan this code for the electronic agenda:





## Covid-19 – Cabinet Update

10<sup>th</sup> February 2022

ယ



#### **Strategic Update Covid-19**



- Update on Covid-19 London and Harrow
- Current situation and forward look
- Testing Update
- Vaccination update
- Overview of service pressures and organisational challenges
- Questions

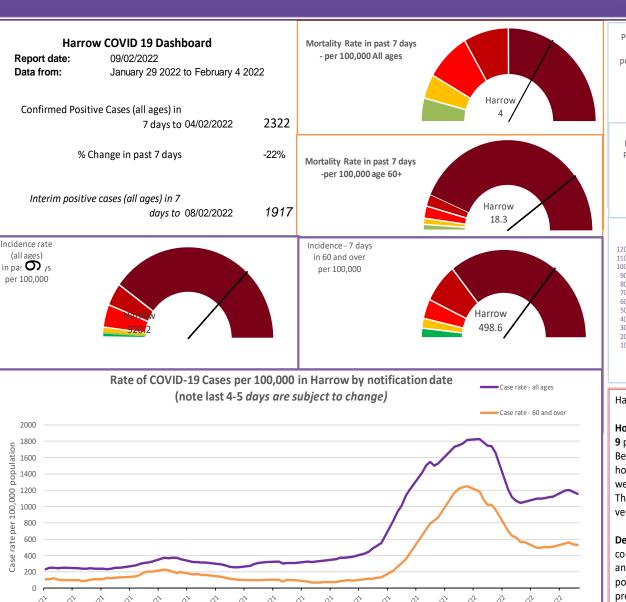
#### **Covid-19 Update**

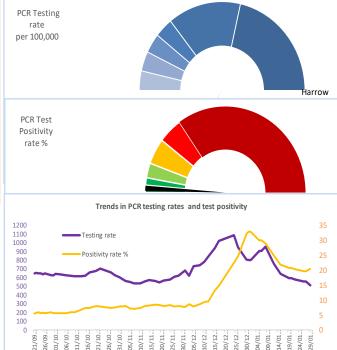


- The Omicron wave has passed the peak but cases have plateaued at a high level – Government moved to Plan A on 26<sup>th</sup> January
- In Harrow the case rate is c920.2 cases per 100k people
- Reduction in Covid-19 hospitalisation due to vaccination but pressures
   on NHS and Social Care remain significant
  - Outbreaks continue in schools and care homes but this is improving
- Council services were impacted by Omicron driven absence but this has now stabilised but social care in particular remains stretched
- Activity to support Testing and Vaccination remains ongoing
- Mandatory vaccination for NHS and Social Care not proceeding
- Overall position is stable and improving but with challenges

#### **Harrow Covid 19 Dashboard**







Harrow is currently in 7th position out of the 33 London boroughs,

#### **Hospitalisations:**

**9** people with coronavirus went into hospital on 30th January 2022. Between 23rd January 2022 and 30th January 2022, **109** went into hospital with coronavirus **-32.9%** compared to the previous 7 days. There were **100** patients in hospital with coronavirus on 30th January 2022. There were **14** coronavirus patients in hospital beds with a mechanical ventilator on 30th January 2022.

**Deaths:** There were **0** deaths within 28 days of a positive test for coronavirus reported on 9th February 2022. Between 2nd February 2022 and 9th February 2022, there have been **8** deaths within 28 days of a positive coronavirus test. This shows an decrease of **33**% compared to the previous 7 days.

#### **Covid-19 Forward Look**



- Cases levels remain high and pressures on the NHS and Social Care continue
- The position is improving and the outlook is more positive going forward but the impact of covid-19 will continue throughout the Winter
- Civic Hub reopened on 7<sup>th</sup> February for office based staff collaboration
- Government plans to publish "Plan for living with Covid-19" on 21<sup>st</sup> February that
   could see current rules e.g. self-isolation end
- The Council will continue to have an important role in Covid-19 response
  - Social Care in partnership with the NHS
  - Public Health advice
  - Business grants and support
  - Self-isolation support
  - Testing Support
  - Vaccination delivery
  - Public engagement and communication
- The focus on supporting recovery activity will increase as the emergency response reduces e.g. education, economy, mental health

#### **Symptomatic Testing Update**



- The MTU in the Civic Centre Car Park has returned to operating 3 days a week from February, Mon, Tues, Wed given drop in testing rate
- The testing site at Northwick Park will close from 1<sup>st</sup> March due to low usage. This is one of 5 test centres across London that will close from March

#### **Asymptomatic Testing Update**



- Important to continue to test regularly and record the result
- Our Covid pop up information stand that distributes home test kits to
  those unable to order via the Government's online service will be
  operating 7 days a week during February and March from libraries, the
  Leisure Centre, the Beacon Centre and Kenton Learning Centre.
- During February we are also repeating the door knocking exercise we ran in November, distributing home test kits to HMO's, temporary accommodation and some of our housing estates.
- Test kits remain available to collect from the Civic reception, Depot and over 30 other VCS groups.

### **Vaccination Update**



- Vaccination rates have slowed in January and this trend, which is also a national one,
   continues. Promotion, engagement and delivery continues as follows:
  - Vaccination of Clinically Vulnerable 5-11 year olds started on 24<sup>th</sup> January, with parents being contacted directly
  - Plans for vaccinating healthy 5-11 year olds (living with immunosuppressed adults) being rolled out during half term and second doses for 12-15 started through schools during January
  - Civic 5 is still a vaccination site 7 days a week until the end of February 2022, for booked appointments as well as being available for walk-ins. Also exploring Civic 5 being a centre for those who received vaccinations abroad to register through the NHS
  - Byron Hall had it's last vaccination on 23<sup>rd</sup> January and is now closed as a vaccination site
  - Nine pharmacies continue to offer vaccinations across, which can be booked via the NHS National Booking Site or walk-ins
  - Continued focus of our Covid Awareness Fund still on those who have not had a first dose, especially our Black heritage and Romanian Communities, with new funding still being rolled out through Health Inequalities Funding and the new Community Vaccine Champions Fund

#### **Vaccination Uptake in Harrow**

12-15



Cohort	1 <sup>st</sup> Vaccination	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vaccination (as % of first doses)	Booster (as % of second doses)
Care home residents	95%	92%	81%
Over 80's	93%	98%	88%
75-79	93%	98%	92%
70-74	91%	98%	93%
CEVs	92%	98%	79%
<u>→</u> -69's	89%	98%	92%
60-64	84%	98%	89%
55-59	79%	98%	86%
50-54	76%	97%	82%
40-49	68%	96%	73%
30-39	59%	94%	64%
18-29	60%	91%	52%
16-17	61%	71%	-

Overall, 73% of people have had a first dose, and 94% of people who have had a first dose have had their second dose.

45%

52%

On the **Booster Campaign**, Harrow has delivered **123,686** doses, **74%** of those who have had a second dose.

#### **Analysis and Conclusions**



- Covid-19 rates are reducing from the peak caused by Omicron but remain high
- The pressures on NHS and Social Care are still significant but reducing
- Pressures on Council services due to staff absence have abated
- Plan B restrictions ended on Wednesday 26th January
  - The impact of the Pandemic is reducing but caution and good public health practice – hands, face, space and ventilation remains important!
  - Next phase in Pandemic response and policy set to be announced on 21<sup>st</sup> February
  - The Council will continue to have a significant role to play in responding to Covid-19 for some months