

Report Title	Gold update on COVID-19 position		
Sponsoring Executive	Liam Kennedy – Chief Operating Officer		
Report Author	Liam Kennedy – Chief Operating Officer, Melanie Roberts – Acting Chief Nurse,		
Meeting	Trust Board (Public)	Date	9 th June 2021

1. Suggested discussion points *[two or three issues you consider the Committee should focus on]*

The Board should focus on:

- The continued low prevalence of community rates, despite the easing of national regulations.
- The internal changes to the site including the removal of our last full Covid ward
- The Completion of our Covid-19 Surge plan in preparation for any future increases in Covid admissions

2. Alignment to 2020 Vision *[indicate with an 'X' which Plan this paper supports]*

Safety Plan	X	Public Health Plan	X	People Plan & Education Plan	
Quality Plan		Research and Development		Estates Plan	
Financial Plan		Digital Plan		Other <i>[specify in the paper]</i>	

3. Previous consideration *[where has this paper been previously discussed?]*

CLE

4. Recommendation(s)

Board is asked to:

- Note** the contents of the report
- Note** and Discuss the changes that we have implemented as part of our de-escalation plan
- Note** the completion of our Covid 19 Surge plan

5. Impact *[indicate with an 'X' which governance initiatives this matter relates to and where shown elaborate]*

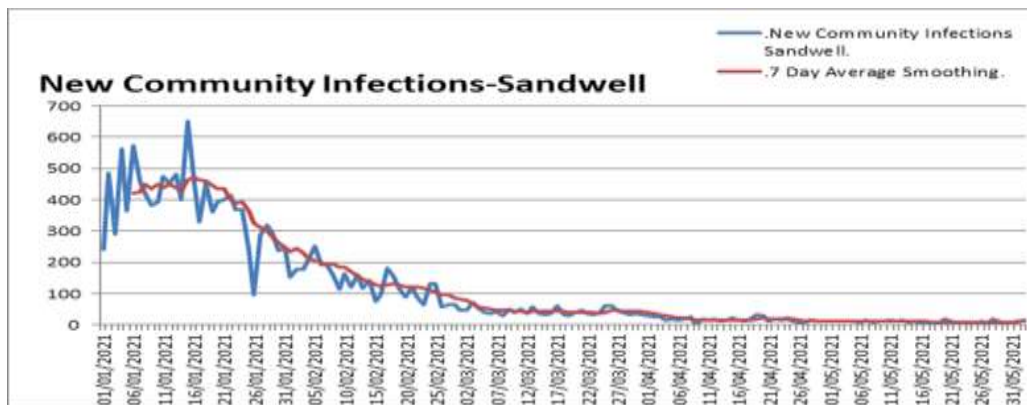
Trust Risk Register						
Board Assurance Framework						
Equality Impact Assessment	Is this required?	Y	<input type="checkbox"/>	N	x	If 'Y' date completed
Quality Impact Assessment	Is this required?	Y	<input type="checkbox"/>	N	x	If 'Y' date completed

SANDWELL AND WEST BIRMINGHAM HOSPITALS NHS TRUST

Report to the Trust Board: 9th June 2021 Gold update on COVID-19 position

1. Community infection Rate

- 1.1 The Community infection rate remains very stable over the last several weeks despite the relaxation of government guidelines on Covid. The Community infection rate is our proxy and first trigger point for implementation of any internal re-surge plans.



2. In-patient Beds

- 2.1 The number of Covid Positive in-patients has remained very stable at less than 20 over the last few weeks. However, we still have the 4th highest number of Covid inpatients in the midlands, comparable to our position throughout the pandemic.
- 2.2 Our last remaining Covid Ward, the respiratory ward, is being converted to a Non-Covid ward with segregated areas and Side rooms to accommodate Covid Patients. The organisation will manage Covid patients on speciality wards in side rooms as per other infectious diseases. If the limited Side rooms are full there is escalation plans to create another bay to support isolation of Covid positive patients

3. Surge Plan

- 3.1 Following several de-brief sessions a re-surge plan has been compiled, which evaluates the learning from both previous Covid surges and provides the organisation with a pick up and go document for responding to future surges.
- 3.2 The Plan covers detailed plans for each group in how they respond to the escalating trigger points. It also covers amongst other details; the switches to geographical locations, redeployment of staff groups, set up and step down of relevant meetings and the trigger points for escalation at each stage

4. Indian Variant

- 4.1 Public Health England has stated that a variant of COVID-19 first detected in India has become “a global variant of concern”. In preliminary studies it has been found to spread more easily. In light of this we need to continue to be vigilant in our approach to managing COVID-19, particularly for those patients who come to our hospital sites via the emergency department needing admission.
- 4.2 The Trust has developed new guidance for staff in the emergency department to ensure patients are screened for symptoms and asked about recent travel to India but also recent travel to any current hot spot areas in the UK such as areas in the North West, Bedford etc. so that we can ensure that there is not further transmission of the virus within the Trust

5. Staff Lamp testing

- 5.1 Lamp testing has now been rolled out across the organisation. The current uptake is at 33%, with just under 40% of staff registered to undertake the test. There are plans in place to increase the uptake via a communications campaign and pop up registration clinics. Letters have been sent to all staff to encourage the use of Lamp testing across the organisation

6. Vaccination

- 6.1 Trust vaccination data is currently at 70%. We are continuing our communications campaign to encourage staff to have the vaccine. Staff can continue to access the vaccine at either Tipton Sports Centre or Saddlers in Walsall
- 6.2 There have been changes from the JCVI in relation to the Astra Zeneca vaccine. All pregnant women and the under 40s are to be offered an alternative vaccine. Vaccinations are now open for the 30 years and over across the country.
- 6.3 Tipton has been approved to be able to offer both the Astra Zeneca vaccine and the Pfizer vaccine. Pfizer vaccinations went live at Tipton on the 1st June 2021
- 6.4 Tipton commenced 2nd vaccines on the 10th May. The timescale between 1st and 2nd doses has also changed recently from 12 weeks to 8 weeks. All patients who have appointments after the 25th May will have their second vaccine brought forward. The target date for completion for second vaccines in the over 50s is mid-June

7. Recommendations

- 7.1 The board is asked to:
 - a) Note the contents of the report
 - b) Note and Discuss the changes that we have implemented as part of our de-escalation plan
 - c) Note the completion of our Covid 19 Surge plan

Liam Kennedy
Chief Operating Officer

Melanie Roberts
Acting chief Nurse

June 2021