

Report Title:	Gold update on COVID-19		
Sponsoring Executive:	Liam Kennedy, Chief Operating Officer, Melanie Roberts Chief Nursing Officer		
Report Author:	Melanie Roberts, Chief Nursing Officer		
Meeting:	Trust Board (Public)	Date	7 th October 2021

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

The community rate of infection is starting to stabilise, the community testing numbers have started to increase. We watch with interest the reopening of schools and the potential impact on the community infection rate

Our Trust Bed occupancy of patients continues to reduce and we are now at just below 8%. This has reduced slowly from 13% last month to the current 8%. We are currently reviewing our red bed provision.

ICU has remained busy and reservists have been deployed to support, but over the last few weeks have seen a downward trend in the number of patients with covid. Reservists are now returning to their substantive roles and surgical services are working through the plan to reinstate T&O inpatient surgery which had been suspended for a few weeks.

The vaccine programme continues and we are busy planning the Booster programme which is due to go live in October and the schools programme for 12-15yr olds

2. Alignment to our Vision *[indicate with an 'X' which Strategic Objective this paper supports]*

Our Patients	X	Our People	X	Our Population
To be good or outstanding in everything that we do	X	To cultivate and sustain happy, productive and engaged staff	X	To work seamlessly with our partners to improve lives

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

Quality and Safety Committee: 24th September

4. Recommendation(s)

The Trust Board is asked to:

- a. **NOTE** the contents of the report including the reducing numbers of positive covid patients onsite
- b. **DISCUSS** the management of patient flow and vaccine program

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		N	If 'Y' date completed
Quality Impact Assessment	Is this required?	Y		N	If 'Y' date completed

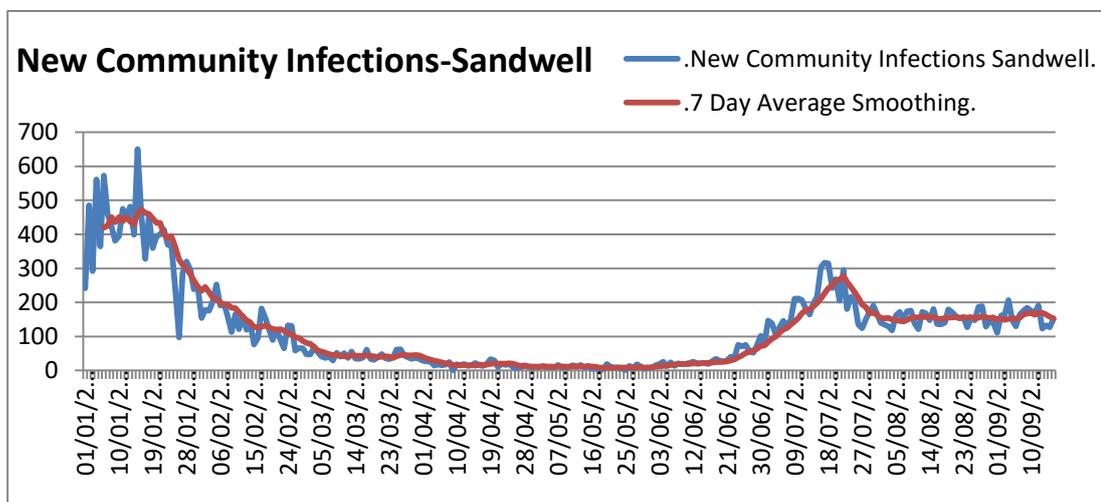
SANDWELL AND WEST BIRMINGHAM HOSPITALS NHS TRUST

Report to the Public Trust Board: 7th October 2021

Gold update on COVID-19 position

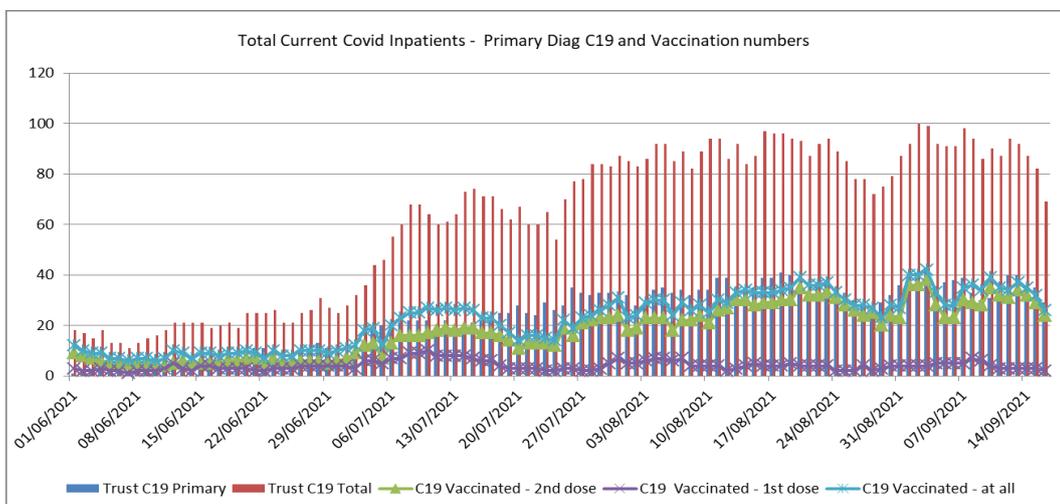
1. Community infection Rate

1.1 From the Graph below you will note the Community infection rates are stabilising over a 7 day average. The rates are at 152 and the last few days has seen testing at over 12k per day which is a 1K increase. The community rates are being monitored carefully with schools reopening to ensure these rates do not rise, but so far we have seen no evidence of this .



2. Inpatients

The graph below shows the number of positive covid inpatients in the Trust is variable but is starting to reduce slowly. Most admissions with a positive Covid result also still remain unvaccinated.



3. Point of Care Testing (POCT)

- 3.1 The Trust has been given additional POCT kits and two additional analyser following the request to the national team. The extra analysers went live week beginning the 27th September and will give us more capacity to test all admissions to the Trust

4. Staff testing

- 4.1 Lamp testing has been rolled out across the organisation and until more recently the take up was improving on a weekly basis. Throughout August we have seen a decline in progress which may be due to both annual leave and some challenges in response times with our pathology partners. We are investigating both and will be developing some further communications and internal dashboards with groups to monitor progress.

5. Vaccination

- 5.1 Our Vaccination programme continues, we are remain at 82% and continually reviewing Trust Data to ensure we have captured all staff. We continue to have sensitive conversations with colleagues who have not yet received the vaccine and analyse the data within the organisation looking at our high risk staff etc.
- 5.2 We have commenced the covid booster and flu programme for our staff on the city site and Sandwell starts on the 5th October
- 5.3 12-15yr old health children – We have developed a pop up schools programme with our place and local authority partners which goes live week commencing 4th October. This includes 19 schools in Sandwell. We are just finalising the consent process with VACCs UK who we will subcontract this part of the process and finalising the sub contract with NHSE/I. West Birmingham schools will be provided by Birmingham Community Healthcare Trust.
- 5.4 We continue to work through the vaccine mandate for our staff visiting care homes to be vaccinated. There are challenges with this that are being discussed as a system

6. Recommendations

- 6.1 The Trust Board is asked to:
- a) Note the contents of the report
 - b) Discuss the flow and vaccine elements of the report

Melanie Roberts
Chief Nurse

29th September 2021