

**Contain Outbreak Management Fund****AGENDA NO:**

<b>Cabinet Date</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> January 2021
<b>Public Health and Communities</b>	Cllr Tim Harman
<b>Key Decision</b>	Yes
<b>Background Documents</b>	Gloucestershire Local Outbreak Management Plan (GLOMP)
<b>Location/Contact for inspection of Background Documents</b>	<a href="https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/covid-19-information-and-advice/gloucestershire-covid-19-local-outbreak-management-plan/">https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/covid-19-information-and-advice/gloucestershire-covid-19-local-outbreak-management-plan/</a>
<b>Main Consultees</b>	<p>The GLOMP is overseen by the COVID-19 Health Protection Board which comprises representatives of Gloucestershire County Council, District Councils, Gloucestershire Constabulary, Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group, Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Public Health England.</p> <p>Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Public Health, Executive Director for Corporate Resources and the relevant support services</p>
<b>Planned Dates</b>	The Local Outbreak Management Plan is reviewed every three months to ensure it accurately describes our plans to prevent, respond and manage cases and outbreaks of Covid-19.
<b>Divisional Councillor</b>	All
<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To seek approval for the allocation of the Local Authority Contain Outbreak Management Fund.
<b>Recommendations</b>	To delegate authority to the Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Public Health, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Public Health and Communities and the Executive Director for Corporate Resources to allocate the Local Authority Contain Outbreak Management Fund in order to deliver the objectives in the Local Outbreak Management Plan in accordance with the Council's standing orders and procurement legislation.
<b>Reasons for recommendations</b>	The Department for Health and Social Care has allocated additional funding to implement the Local Outbreak Management Plan.

<b>Resource Implications</b>	<p>A ring-fenced grant of £5.096 million has been allocated to Gloucestershire County Council from the Department for Health and Social Care for the purpose of implementing the Gloucestershire Local Outbreak Management Plan. Additional monies were made available with the introduction of the tiering system, including £2 per head of population up until 25<sup>th</sup> December, thereafter the allocation will increase to £8 per head for the period of time Gloucestershire will sit in Tier 3. Additional funding for the period 2<sup>nd</sup> December to 29<sup>th</sup> December has been confirmed as £1.456 million. From 6<sup>th</sup> January Local Authorities will receive £4/head per 28 days for the duration of the highest level restrictions (Tier 3, Tier 4 or National Lockdown).</p>

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### 1. Background

1.1 In July 2020, the Gloucestershire Local Outbreak Management Plan was adopted by Gloucestershire County Council and £2.2 million was allocated by The Department for Health and Social Care to support the implementation of the GLOMP. In October the Department of Health and Social Care announced new allocations for local authorities from the existing Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) to support the new three tier COVID classification rules. The funding is intended to fund public health activities such as proactive containment and intervention measures. This grant will be administered by upper tier Local Authorities in England. It will be paid at a level of £1 per head of population in areas with a medium alert level (tier 1), £3 per head for those areas classified as high risk (tier 2) and £8 per head for those areas classified as very high risk (tier 3). On 10th November the GCC allocation was confirmed as £5.096 million following all areas being classified as very high risk. Since 2<sup>nd</sup> December Gloucestershire has been classified as tier 2. Additional funding has been made available for Local Authorities in Tier 2 to receive funding of £2 per head of population per 28 days in those restrictions. This funding will be made available until the end of this financial year, subject to a review in January 2021. Gloucestershire moved into tier 3 on 26<sup>th</sup> December and additional funds for the period 2<sup>nd</sup> December to 29<sup>th</sup> December has been confirmed as £1.456 million. From 6<sup>th</sup> January Local Authorities will receive £4/head per 28 days for the duration of the highest level restrictions (Tier 3, Tier 4 or National Lockdown).

1.2 The COMF is intended to fund the following activities:

- Targeted testing for hard-to-reach groups out of scope of other testing programmes. Additional contact tracing.
- Enhanced communication and marketing (e.g. towards hard-to-reach groups and other localised messaging).
- Delivery of essentials for those in self-isolation.
- Targeted interventions for specific sections of the local community and workplaces. Harnessing capacity within local sectors (e.g. voluntary, academic, commercial).
- Extension/introduction of specialist support (e.g. bespoke comms).
- Additional resource for compliance with, and enforcement of, restrictions and guidance
- Targeted support for school/university outbreaks.
- Community-based support for those disproportionately impacted such as the BAME population.
- Support for engagement and analysis of regional areas to assess and learn from local initiatives.
- Providing initial support, as needed, to vulnerable people classed as Clinically Extremely Vulnerable who are following tier 3 guidance.

1.3 Our role as a Local Authority is to support Public Health England (PHE) and the NHS Test and Trace team to provide local understanding and knowledge and ensure that the public and stakeholders understand and can be reassured about a situation. We will also be working to

ensure that people who might be asked to self-isolate, because they have been in contact with a confirmed case, have essentials like food and medication. The Local Outbreak Management Plan outlines how these key relationships will work.

Our outbreak management plan will focus on preventing, containing and responding to potential outbreaks in places such as workplaces, care homes, hospitals and schools, and monitoring the daily numbers of cases and other intelligence to get ahead of the curve.

1.4 The LOMP aims to keep COVID-19 under control in Gloucestershire by focusing on four areas:

#### Prevention:

In Gloucestershire, for our county to safely recover from the effects of COVID-19 and to reduce the risk of the need for a return to stricter lockdown measures, we need to ensure that our citizens are supported and encouraged to “stay safe and stay alert”. This includes minimising the spread of the disease through continuing to encourage good hygiene practices including regular hand washing, social distancing and regular disinfecting of surfaces touched by others.

#### Containing COVID-19:

The key to managing COVID-19 in the UK is to contain its spread whenever possible. This relies on our citizens being aware of the symptoms of COVID-19 and knowing what to do and where to get tested. Once we know who has tested positive, we need to ensure that anyone they have been in contact with is identified (through “contact tracing”) and given advice to self-isolate too, in case they have caught the virus. This will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection that people could pass on to others in the community.

#### Responding to Outbreaks:

Individual cases of COVID-19 will usually be managed and supported via the NHS Test and Trace system with little involvement from either Public Health England (PHE) or the Local Authority. Provided people self-isolate promptly and complete their contact tracing information, and contacts also go on to self-isolate, then we should be able to contain the spread of COVID-19. Outbreaks and individual cases associated with high risk settings will be managed and supported by PHE and the Gloucestershire system as appropriate.

#### Monitoring & Data Sharing:

This element of the LOMP will ensure that the best available evidence and data will be used to support and inform decisions about prevention, containment and response.

The LOMP is overseen by the Health Protection Board

## **2. Resourcing the LOMP**

2.1 The County Council has received £5.096 million plus an additional £2 per head of population, for the period of time Gloucestershire was in Tier 2 and thereafter £8 per head whilst in Tier 3, to support the delivery of the LOMP. An outline budget has been developed to allocate the money (see Appendix 1). This will include costs associated with local contact tracing, rapid community testing, targeted communications campaigns and a VCS grant scheme. At this stage, these are given for indicative purposes only. Final decisions on how to

allocate the grant will be delegated to the Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Public Health in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Public Health and Communities and Executive Director for Corporate Resources in accordance with the Council's standing orders and procurement legislation. Any unspent funding received can be carried forward into the next financial year.

### **3. Options**

3.1 Having a Local Outbreak Management Plan in place is a statutory requirement so no other options were considered.

### **4. Risk Assessment**

4.1 The decision is considered low risk.

- Risk to the delivery of the Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Public Health's statutory duties under the Health and Social Care Act (2012). Risk is considered low. The decision mitigates the risk of the Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Public Health not being able to seek assurance that there are plans in place to protect the health of the Gloucestershire population.

- Risk that the County Council will not be able to lead the response to cases, clusters and outbreaks of Covid-19 in Gloucestershire. Risk is considered low. The decision means the multi-agency plan will be adopted and the funding allocated by the Department of Health and Social Care can be allocated to support the plans implementation.

### **5. Officer Advice**

5.1 That the allocation of the COMF is delegated to the Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Public Health in consultation with the Executive Director of Corporate Resources and the Cabinet Member for Public Health and Communities to enable the County Council to respond in the event of a local outbreak and to keep COVID-19 under control in Gloucestershire.

### **6. Equalities considerations**

6.1 A Due Regard Statement was completed for the GLOMP and applies to the allocation of this funding. It has been reviewed and updated. It will be monitored and reviewed by the Health Protection Board, with input/oversight from the COVID-19 Engagement Board.

6.2 Cabinet members should read and consider the Due Regard Statement in order to satisfy themselves as decision makers that due regard has been given.

### **7. Consultation feedback**

7.1 The Health Protection Board monitors the progress of the plan and will inform the allocation of the COMF.

## 8. Performance Management/ Follow-up

8.1 The plan will be monitored by the Health Protection Board and COVID-19 Engagement Board. It will be formally reviewed every three months.

### Appendix 1

**Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) Proposed Budget allocation**  
Area headings taken from Department for Health and Social Care COMF Monitoring Form

<b>Area/ Activity</b>	<b>Budget £000s</b>
Testing	1,186
Tracing	891
Compliance measures	787
Communication and marketing	237
Support for the clinically extremely vulnerable	297
Support for wider vulnerable groups, including rough sleepers	950
Support for those self isolating	297
Targeted intervention for specific cohorts within the community	891
Specialist support	303
Utilisation of local sectors (Academic, volunteers etc.)	297
Support for educational outbreaks	297
Other: PPE	119
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,552</b>

<b>Report Title</b>	Contain Outbreak Management Fund
<b>Statutory Authority</b>	Department for Health and Social Care requirement
<b>Relevant County Council policy</b>	Health and Social Care Act (2012).
<b>Sustainability checklist:</b>	
Partnerships	The GLOMP has been developed in consultation with a range of Local Resilience Forum members
Decision Making and Involvement	The Covid-19 Health Protection Board, chaired by the Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Public Health, have oversight of the plan and the Covid-19 Engagement Board will play an advisory role in the further development and delivery of the Local Outbreak Management Plan and ensure local communities are kept informed of the work to prevent and mitigate cases of Covid-19.
Economy and Employment	The GLOMP will be in place to ensure effective control of any outbreaks of Covid-19. This will include support to business to ensure that they are able to operate within the restrictions.
Caring for people	The GLOMP is focussed on minimising the impact of Covid-19 and protecting the most vulnerable in society.
Social Value	Will considered on all appropriate procurements
Built Environment	No Impact
Natural Environment' including Ecology (Biodiversity)	No Impact
Education and Information	The GLOMP will involve implementing information campaigns to restrict the spread of Covid-19.
<b>Tackling Climate Change</b>	Carbon Emissions Implications? Neutral Vulnerable to climate change? No
<b>Due Regard Statement</b>	Has a Due Regard Statement been completed? Yes Yes - considerations included in main body of report  A copy of the full Due Regard Statement can be accessed on

	<p>GLOSTEXT via  <a href="http://glostext.gloucestershire.gov.uk/uuCoverPage.aspx?bcr=1">http://glostext.gloucestershire.gov.uk/uuCoverPage.aspx?bcr=1</a></p> <p>Alternatively, a hard copy is available for inspection from Stephen Bace, Democratic Services Unit, e-mail:  <a href="mailto:stephen.bace@gloucestershire.gov.uk">stephen.bace@gloucestershire.gov.uk</a>.</p>
<p><b>Human rights Implications</b></p>	<p>From 2nd October 2000, the Human Rights Act 1998 has the effect of enshrining much of the European Convention on Human Rights in UK law. Article 8 of the Human Rights Act 1998 guarantees a right to respect for private and family life and Article 1 of the First Protocol guarantees the right to peaceful enjoyment of possessions. Article 8 also provides that there shall be no interference by a public authority with the exercise of this right except in the interests of national security, public safety, or the economic well-being of the country, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, or for the protection of the freedom of others.</p> <p>The GLOMP maintains a balance between maintaining the convention rights against the need to protect the health of the wider population due to the outbreak of COVID19.</p>
<p><b>Consultation Arrangements</b></p>	<p>There are no further arrangements for consultation</p>