

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT

November 2020

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<b>Sponsor</b>			
<b>Is your report for Approval / Consideration / Noting</b>			
For noting and discussion			
<b>Links to the STP (please tick)</b>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reduce inequalities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Join up health and care	<input type="checkbox"/> Invest and grow primary and community care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Treat the whole person, mental and physical
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Standardise acute hospital care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Simplify urgent and emergency care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Develop our workforce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Use the best technology
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Create financial sustainability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Work with patients and the public to do		
<b>Are there any resource implications (including Financial, Staffing etc)?</b>			
N/A			
<b>Summary of key issues</b>			
This monthly paper from the System Lead of the South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Integrated Care System (SYB ICS) provides a summary update on the work of the SYB ICS for the month of October 2020.			
<b>Recommendations</b>			
The SYB ICS Health Executive Group (HEG) partners are asked to note the update and Chief Executives and Accountable Officers are asked to share the paper with their individual Boards, Governing Bodies and Committees.			

# South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Integrated Care System CEO Report

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### 1. Purpose

This paper from the South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Integrated Care System System Lead provides an update on the work of the South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Integrated Care System for the month of October 2020.

### 2. Summary update for activity during October 2020

#### 2.1 Coronavirus (Covid-19): The South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw position

The North East, Yorkshire and the Humber have been disproportionately affected by high levels of community transmission of Covid-19 and particularly so in our own regional system of South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw (SYB). This has led to increasing healthcare demand and a massive collective effort. SYB's primary, community, mental health, social care and secondary care teams are working extremely hard within this pressurised context but are continuing to cope.

As outlined in previous updates, all SYB health and care organisations have collectively planned for a second wave and thanks to the fantastic efforts of all staff and the measures that were put in place earlier in the year, patients are continuing to receive the care they need.

What is different this time is that GPs, community, mental health and acute hospital services are also trying to provide as much non Covid-19 care as they can, where it is safe and appropriate to do so. They are also very mindful of the demands that will be placed on their staff in the coming months given this is the second time they have dealt with a surge in Covid-19 cases.

The figures for deaths in hospitals remain low overall. Similarly, deaths in care homes also remain low, and have done since August, which is attributable to the much-enhanced infection control measures enacted by Local Authorities and care home providers.

Regional public health experts forecast that SYB will likely see a peak in new Covid-19 cases mid to late November which would then translate into hospital admissions and, sadly, some deaths.

More will be known about SYBs future approach once the national position on the lockdown restrictions is reviewed (2 December). It is currently thought that if the lockdown ends on schedule, regions would revert back to their original Regional Covid Alert Level restrictions, which for SYB, would be 'Very High' (Tier Three).

#### 2.2 National Update

In response to increasing coronavirus infections the Government and Parliament enacted a further set of national Covid-19 measures on 4<sup>th</sup> November. On the same day, the NHS reported projections for increased Covid-19 demand which led NHS England and Improvement Chief Executive Sir Simon Stevens to announce that the health service in England would be returning to its highest level of emergency preparedness, Incident Level 4, from 5 November.

This means the NHS has now moved from a regionally managed but nationally supported incident under Level 3, returning for the time being to one that is co-ordinated nationally.

#### 2.3 Regional Update

The North East and Humber Regional ICS Leaders continue to meet weekly with the NHS England and Improvement Regional Director to discuss the ongoing Covid-19 incident, planning that is

taking place to manage the pandemic and where support should be focused. Discussions during October focused on the ongoing extensive seasonal flu vaccination programme, planning for a Covid-19 vaccination programme, and preparations for asymptomatic testing of the health and care workforce. National priorities such as improving BAME inclusion, the People Plan and digital progress were also discussed.

## **2.4 Local Authorities**

Discussions with Local Authority Chief Executives have been taking place on working together to tackle health inequalities in SYB. The initial focus for the work is to identify some system-wide priorities with a particular focus on Covid-19, the most vulnerable and the widened health inequalities as a result of the pandemic.

It has been agreed to hold a workshop early in the New Year to share initiatives and examples of good practice in tackling health inequalities from the first wave of the pandemic from each place. This will enable partners to learn from each other about how they supported vulnerable populations, shielding, and what data and tools were used to best understand needs and respond to them.

This will hopefully lead to opportunities at scale across the ICS footprint and a SYB Health Inequalities Network of key people across the system who will continue to meet during the year to carry on the learning and sharing and identify work to take forward.

## **2.5 Sheffield City Region**

Mayor Dan Jarvis and the four South Yorkshire Local Authority Leaders negotiated an economic package of £41m for the region as part of the Tier Three discussions. £30m is to be allocated to support businesses and £11m to support ongoing public health requirements.

The new funding is in addition to the government schemes that are already providing some financial support to business and individuals that are temporarily out of employment. The agreed economic package will provide a range of vital resources to support our regional NHS partners and the local economy.

## **2.6. Wave Two Planning**

The SYB Wave 2 Plan is built on the Phase 3 Recovery Plan and therefore starts from a robust position thanks to the extensive testing that has been done.

In addition to managing the ongoing Covid-19 incident, the Plan also takes into consideration the management of non-Covid casework. In contrast to the first wave, partners have been maintaining as much elective work as possible and patients advised to attend for appointments or operations as planned unless they are informed otherwise. The resurgence in Covid-19 cases is more complex and challenging this time round as partners extremely hard to deliver routine care and treatment alongside Covid-19 care.

## **2.7 Long Covid**

An additional £10 million in funding towards long Covid-19 clinics across England was announced at the beginning of October and discussions are now underway to establish what the support should look like for the SYB population. The support will complement existing primary, community and rehabilitation care to ensure that patients get the best possible holistic care.

Increasing medical evidence and patient testimony is showing that a small but significant minority of people who contract Covid-19 cannot shake off the effects of the virus months after initially falling ill. Some estimates suggest that 10% of Covid-19 patients may still be experiencing

symptoms more than three weeks after infection, and perhaps 60,000 people nationally could be suffering from long Covid-19 symptoms after more than three months.

## **2.8 Flu vaccination programme**

SYB's delivery plans for the mass flu immunisation programme are progressing well. The immunisation of health and care workers has been a key priority with programmes well underway across SYB organisations.

Targeted communications have been taking place across social media starting with two-to-three year olds, followed by the Year Seven school age group and pregnant women. Radio advertising across SYB has focused on at-risk groups but with flexibility built into the approach to take account of the insight from the SYB Flu Board and alter messaging as appropriate.

Public Health England has published a leaflet to help explain the flu immunisation delivery process to the public. It aims to address questions around supply, staggered delivery and why some eligible individuals may be asked to wait or get their vaccine in another setting. Professor Stephen Powis has also sent a letter to Trust chief executives outlining some initial expectations around staff uptake.

## **2.9 Covid-19 vaccination programme**

The infrastructure for the national Covid-19 vaccination programme continues to be developed. SYB is expecting one regional vaccine hub for storage and distribution and which will be integral to implementation. Plans also include three levels of vaccination sites – fixed mass (big venues near major transport routes such as motorways), semi-fixed (reminiscent of mobile CT scanner sites) and mobile units. Early discussions suggest that SYB could have two fixed mass, 16 semi-fixed and 130 mobile sites across the patch. An SYB immunisation programme would span 10 months to cover all of the targeted population with an estimate of around 5000 vaccines being administered a day.

There are encouraging signs that a vaccine could be made available by late-December 2020. Should this be the case then SYB would follow the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) guidelines which currently recommend frontline health and care staff and care homes (residents and staff) would likely be among the first to receive the vaccine.

## **2.10 Workforce Testing**

SYB is likely to shortly receive several saliva testing facilities which will be able to deliver around 42,000 tests a week.

The initial focus will likely be in acute hospital settings (all hospital services, maternity, cancer-protected surgery hubs), and then mental health, community care, and primary care. The details of the logistical operations are being finalised but it is likely that the new facilities will be able to deliver asymptomatic testing of health and care workers in SYB.

Saliva testing can be delivered at pace, provide quicker results and is administered in much greater volumes than the Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) swab tests; public testing at-scale has already taken place in China and Slovakia on millions of people. Liverpool is to be the first UK city to use saliva tests for mass-testing of public groups as part of the Government's Operation Moonshot programme.

The availability and proximity of saliva testing among health and care workers will undoubtedly support those who are self-isolating to safely return to work, where otherwise, they are unable to do so, enabling Trusts to manage staff absences more effectively.

## **2.8 ICS Governance Review**

Following the Health Executive Group (HEG) support for proposals to review and refresh governance within the ICS, several next steps were outlined. These were: first, to seek feedback from partners; second, to co-produce the governance and an operating model; and third, to review and seek support from partners to adopt a model to be in place by April 2021.

The first step has been completed and Chief Executives and Accountable Officers discussed the feedback at a workshop on 13 October 2020. The insights and feedback from the first stage will now inform the co-production of governance and operating model with SYB leaders.

## **2.9 Brexit**

The UK exited the EU on 31 Jan 2020 and is now in a transition period until 31 December 2020. The government recently confirmed that the transition period will cease as planned on 31 December 2020 and there will be no extension.

The NHS will manage its operational readiness response to the EU Exit alongside the ongoing Covid-19 response and restoration of services, through established national and regional incident coordination centres.

## **2.11 Equality, Diversity and Inclusion**

SYB is advancing with commitments to improve leadership representations, career progression and workplace culture in the area of equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI).

The EDI leads in partner organisations met recently to share their approaches and initiatives that are already underway and discussed working together to take forward a set of agreed priorities from the collective promise that SYB leaders made. There are also early discussions taking place to form a network of BAME Network chairs from across the organisations.

In addition, there will be an increased focus on talent management pathways to support BAME staff to develop and progress into senior positions.

## **2.12 National AHPs Day – 14 October 2020**

Allied Health Professions (AHP) across SYB celebrated National AHPs Day on Wednesday 14 October, 2020. SYB is one of the first areas in the country to establish an AHP Council and partners took the opportunity to raise awareness of AHPs on the day to improve understanding of the different roles, the achievements made and the significant opportunities AHPs have to support integrated care.

## **3. Finance update**

The final ICS plan for Months 7 to 12 of 20/21 was submitted on 22 October and showed a significant reduction in the gap against the system financial envelope from £49.3m in the draft plan to £6.9m in the final plan. However there are significant risks within the plan that will need to be managed. There are a number of anomalies in the national financial framework that are currently being discussed with NHSE/I at a regional level.

A group has been set up to help inform the central team in their design of the 21/22 financial framework. This could involve 'road testing' the framework at a future point in time. The group includes Directors of Finance and Chief Finance Officers from partner organisations.

**Andrew Cash**

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**Date: 6 November 2020**