

## **NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE SHADOW AUTHORITY**

### **SHADOW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**29<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

<b>Report Title</b>	<b>Covid-19 Response Operating Model</b>
<b>Report Author</b>	<b>Lucy Wightman, NCC Public Health</b>

#### **List of Appendices**

None

#### **1. Purpose of Report**

---

- 1.1 To recommend an amendment to the blueprint, retaining public health and emergency planning services on a county wide basis for the first year of both unitaries.

#### **2. Executive Summary**

---

2.1 This proposal is intended to ensure that :

1. Northamptonshire can continue to prioritise its response to Covid-19 and can respond effectively to any second wave of infection during the winter period.
2. A safe and legal service is delivered for 1 April 2021.

#### **3. Recommendations**

---

It is recommended that the Shadow Executive agree :

- 3.1.1. To adopt a hosted model for Public Health and Emergency Planning services for a one-year period.
- 3.1.2 For a wider review of service disaggregation and resource requirements to take place during 2021/22.

*Reasons for recommendation – to minimise risk to local service delivery during the current pandemic.*

## **4. Report Background**

---

- 4.1 Current plans for the Public Health service are for one Director of Public Health (DPH) to have responsibility over the statutory duties and functions of Public Health, as outlined in the Health and Social Care Act 2012, across both North and West Northamptonshire.
- 4.2 Assistant Directors of Public Health (ADs), will deputise on behalf of the DPH within each local authority, to ensure effective delivery of health improvement, healthcare public health and health protection. They will lead the two disaggregated teams within the new local authorities, overseen by the DPH.
- 4.3 Responding to the Covid-19 pandemic remains our priority. It is recognised that the response to Covid-19 is a partnership effort involving all services within the Council. Public Health and Emergency Planning play an integral role in managing the pandemic response system-wide.

## **5. Issues and Choices**

---

- 5.1 The intended host authority would be North Northamptonshire, which is already proposed to be the host authority for the Director of Public Health
- 5.2 To ensure strong links with the new unitaries, it is proposed that whilst all staff would be employed by the host authority, they would be assigned to West or North Northamptonshire to ensure there is an identifiable team in each.
- 5.3 The proposed hosted model allows for Public Health and Emergency Planning to maintain their system roles in the current pandemic, winter flu planning for 2020/21 and in any future incidents, affecting areas across North and West Northamptonshire. This avoids the risk of disrupting ongoing work that ensures the safety those who live and work in North and West Northamptonshire.

## **6. Implications (including financial implications)**

---

### **6.1 Resources and Financial**

There are no additional resource implications from these recommendations

### **6.2 Legal**

There are no legal implications arising from the proposals.

### **6.3 Risk**

The purpose of this report is to minimise risk during the current pandemic, which has and will consume all the resources of both public health and emergency planning teams. This is critical to the safe and legal test being applied to the authorities' functions on vesting day. Progressing with disaggregation activity at the current time creates significant risk of fracturing the Covid-19 response

#### **6.4 Consultation**

Consultation has been carried out within the programme and with leading members in the county to ensure understanding of how the services will function and be resourced and managed under a hosted model.

#### **6.5 Consideration by Overview and Scrutiny**

None

#### **6.6 Climate Impact**

None

#### **6.7 Community Impact**

These proposals are intended to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all Northamptonshire residents are maximised

### **7. Background Papers**

---

Report to JIE 15/10/20