

The Council's response and plans to address the disproportionate impact of Covid-19 on Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities

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Overview

- Equality and Inclusion strategy published 2018-2023 – recognised significant inequality & lack of opportunity
- Covid 19 has exacerbated this
- Mayor commissioned rapid review – presented today
- Actions following the review and progress to date are set out in the commission paper

Key points

- Race Equality Steering Group, Chaired by the Deputy Mayor established June 2020 – policy recommendation implementation oversight
- Huge commitment from the community in taking forward plans
- Task group actions are embedded in the operational and strategic work of the council to ensure delivery

Headlines

- Plans started with evidence and data - key
- Advent of Covid 19 has expedited activity and actions
- New models of data have highlighted consistent ward level information
- Informed the work of the council teams in targeting support and action in partnership with community



- Built an integrated data model which provides ward by ward detailed analysis of trends in Covid 19 transmission
- Enabled community champions, Covid marshals to work in partnership with environmental health and the police
- Providing information, practical support, and enforcement where needed
- Daily reports analysing trends are monitored daily and a twice weekly detailed report is published on the BCC website

Action underway – Examples

- Focus on Barton Hill/Lawrence Hill, Avonmouth/Laurence Weston; plan for multi-agency task force
- Combination of speaking to & working with people outside schools, cafes, housing blocks, & social media - communications in Urdu & Punjabi
- Work with schools mainly Somali/ Sudanese families & with the Pakistani community - throughout the half term holiday with community champions from the Somali /Sudanese communities and key leaders targeting population around the school including business with messaging on testing and social distancing and self-isolating – reduced infection rates
- Meeting with Director of Public Health and faith leaders including imams and using local community social media to spear the message.
- Focus on local businesses – Covid marshals x16; visibility on buses, social isolation & face coverings advice, not legal enforcement but can refer to police re non compliance



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Recommendations

- **The committee is asked to;**
- Review and endorse the plans and priorities described in this paper
- Provide further advice on how we achieve and accelerate delivery of reducing the disproportionate impact of Covid-19 in health inequalities for people from Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities in Bristol.



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