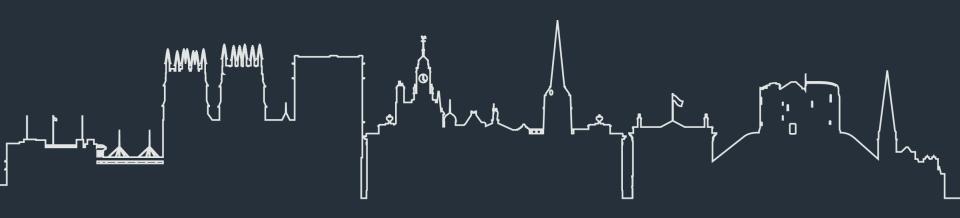


# YORK OUTBREAK CONTROL Communications plan

Supporting the Outbreak Control Plan





# Key messages

Stopping the spread of the virus is in all our hands:



Wash them regularly



If you have symptoms stay home and get tested



Wear a face covering



Socially distance - 2m is best



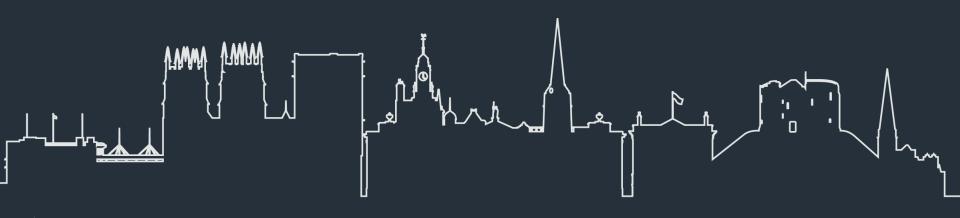






# **Our Big Conversation**

Results and recommendations





#### **Temperature Check**



#### Ward responses

Consultation took place throughout August, asking residents to tell us their understanding and confidence in the public health measures and restrictions in place.

Received 1,486 online responses - around 150 paper versions to include

#### Age breakdown

Prefer		
not to say	0.50%	
Under 16	0.10%	
16-24	2.30%	
25-39	16.90%	H
40-55	29.70%	
56-59	9.30%	
60-64	13.30%	
65+	27.90%	



Working together to improve and make a difference

### Headline results and recommendations



Treading results and recommendations & A south			
Results	Recommendations		
Understanding of symptoms and knowing what to do c85% very or extremely confident they understand (more than 99% extremely, very or somewhat confident)  c87% know what to do if they display symptoms (over 98% extremely, very or somewhat confident). Around 1% lack confidence on this.	Continue multi-channel approach with continued consistent, persistent messaging, working with partners across the city.		
Understanding social distancing guidance 5% not confident about social distancing guidance 16% not confident about who you can socialise with and rules on returning to work	Social distancing advice in next issue of <i>Our City</i> . Will continue to share advice via our channels.  Promote "around 2m is best for social distancing"		
Following rules  96% are confident they are sticking to the rules, 68% lack confidence that others are observing them correctly	"We've got it covered" campaign shows people across York taking steps to keep each other safe, this includes businesses and public transport representatives and launches 7 September 2020.		
Measures in place I in 5 people lack confidence that shops have the right measures in place, while I in 4 have similar concerns about public transport.	New version of "lets be York animated video developed by universities and colleges to explain safety measures in place		
Welcoming visitors  Over half of respondents express concern at seeing regional or international visitors in York	Community cohesion campaign planned to help address underlying tensions.		



#### **Quality of information**

C95% felt informed about how to stop the virus spreading, with around 5% feeling uninformed.

C90% feel informed (10% felt uninformed) about the risk to them/their family and how to stay healthy

Council guidance (84%) is slightly more understood than government guidance (80%).

Most useful sources of information: NHS websites, National broadcast media and then both printed and digital council publications

A multi-channel approach is essential as all respondents identified several channels which a significant % of people found useful.

#### Impact on physical and mental health

21% feel physically healthier and 10% feel emotionally/mentally healthier than the three months prior to lockdown

Higher numbers feel lockdown had a negative impact in these areas:

33% feel physically less healthy49% feel less healthy mentally57% feel less optimistic about the future.

Continue consistent, persistent messaging

Work with partners and community groups to identify and reach those who feel uninformed using additional channels.

Use insight from where people are accessing information and if we aren't already, include those channels.

Promotion of health trainer support for health and wellbeing advice.

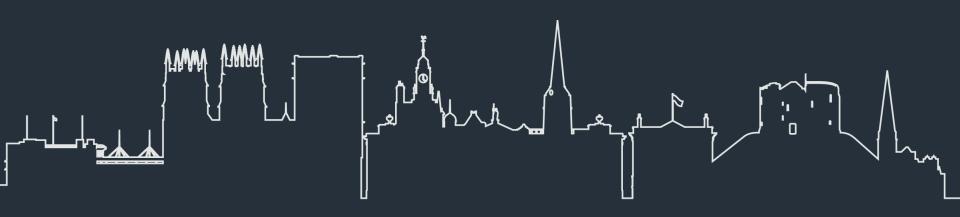
Continue promoting community support lines (including mental health) for people of all ages.

Deliver a city-wide partnership campaign to address physical and emotional health impacts

Working together to improve and make a difference



# **Outbreak communications**







#### Phase I

 Prevent - Provide updates about the current situation to prevent outbreaks

#### Phase 2

Respond – Share information in responses to an alert following increased cases

#### Phase 3

Manage the outbreak





# Communications objectives:

- 1. Share public health infection control advice to prevent the spread
- 2. Establish confidence in the response.
- 3. Support communities and the economy to return to business as usual safely through recovery.
- 4. Correct misinformation to build trust in our response
- 5. Promote and explain the test and trace system.
- 6. Explain the outbreak warn and inform without frightening.
- 7. Help reduce the spread of infection and save lives.



#### **Communications plan**

#### **Objectives**

**Think** –Systems are in place to protect residents and their families. Swift action is taken by trained professionals.

Audiences are part of the citywide effort to reduce levels of Coronavirus in the city.

**Feel** – all audiences feel we are taking a consistent and timely approach to support residents and protect their health.

Residents and businesses feel involved and supported. They know what to do.

Do – residents and partners share accurate and timely public health messages to protect the city.

Audiences follow the local advice and share factual messages and don't spread misinformation

#### **Strategy**

#### Share accurate and timely updates

Share key public health messages and updates about the current situation in York, quickly addressing inaccuracies.

#### **Build advocacy**

Work closely with partners to ensure consistent messaging across the city Share public health actions taken by city partners and public health

### Build confidence in the steps taken and what people need to do

Share what the city is doing to protect residents and what they need to do.
Use data to update residents and businesses on the current position.
Demonstrate partnership approach being taken.

### **Build** engagement through conversation

Share messages and updates with residents Engage them with 'Our Big Conversation' to find out how they are feeling and what they need. Work closely with our partners to share messaging and ideas

#### PRIORITIES/HIGHLIGHTS

- Work closely with partners, including the Local Resilience Forum to ensure consistent messaging and advice across the city.
- Work with partners on discrete control management issues, eg. face coverings, return of students, visitors
- Use all available channels to reach our communities
- Continue to inform public and encourage safe following of public health measures
- Inform people of the local test and trace programme
- Share the latest public health advice

#### Outbreak control communications plan -

**OBJECTIVES** 

**Think** – Systems are in place to protect them and their families. They are a part of the citywide effort to reduce levels of Coronavirus in the city.

**Feel –** all audiences feel the council is taking a consistent and timely approach to support residents and protect their health. Residents and businesses feel involved and supported in the recovery work.

**Do** – residents and partners advocate and share messages which come from this group and work collectively to protect the city.

**AUDIENCE** 

- Residents
- Businesses/ networks/representatives
- Stakeholders and partners

- Members and Parish Councillors
- MPs
- Council staff

- Media
- Visitors / university students
- Employees / employers

**STRATEGY** 

I. Share timely and regular updates

- 2. Build advocacy
- 3. Build confidence
- 4. Build engagement

**IMPLEMENTATION** 

#### Share timely and regular updates

- Publish case information on the open data platform and social
- Send partners, members, MPs, parish councils twice weekly updates, and residents twice weekly updates or businesses via the weekly business bulletin (opt-in <u>e-newsletters</u>)
- Update residents and partners via the Outbreak Management webcast (every 3 weeks)
- Provide a weekly wrap-up PR for local media
- Provide a weekly <u>PH video</u> on the current key issue
- Publish the latest position in Our City or direct mail leaflets / letters
- Update the CYC website with accurate information

#### **B**uild engagement through conversation

- Run a quarterly "temperature check" to assess residents confidence in the public health messages and safety of the city as part of Our Big Conversation
- Monitor feedback from <u>Our Big Conversation consultation</u> and community feedback and share findings to inform approaches
- Hold regular <u>facebook live Q&A</u> with PH officials to provide opportunities to ask questions
- Work with local radio to host radio call-ins and interviews

#### Build confidence in the steps taken / actions to take

- Maintain and update /recovery and /covid19 webpages
- Repeat "the big 4" PH messages as often and as clearly as possible
- Challenge misinformation with PR, social and support from PHE
- Provide <u>partner packs</u> to ensure consistent messaging and to support safety-led recovery work (for example <u>Let's be York</u>)
- Promote how people can take easy steps to stay safe in social, outdoor signage, posters and adverts, as part of <u>Let's be York</u>
- Inform people about outbreak management control measures via the <u>Outbreak control advisory board</u>
- On the event of a lock down, initiate the <u>Covid-19 incident</u> <u>comms plan</u>, including weekly head of Comms group meetings
- Prepare <u>lockdown comms products</u> in advance, ready to "take off the shelf" inc. press briefings, FAQs and web-ready pages

#### **Build advocacy**

- Provide twice weekly partner updates (via e-mail) sharing central government advice and guidance
- Provide partner packs as the situation changes
- Facilitate discussions and task and finish groups on discrete issues, such as face coverings, students returning, visitors returning, etc
- Hold regular Head of Comms group meetings to discuss PH issues

EVALUATION (meas Busin

Residents and businesses are aware of the messages and rules (measured through OBC) and are confident in the measures Businesses and partners share messages via their channels Partners share information from the partner packs or updates

# A phased approach

	CITY OF
*************************************	YORK
X	COUNCIL

Phase		Approach (including aims)	Timing
Phase I	Regular updates of current situation to try and prevent outbreaks	Keep residents, businesses and partners informed Ensure consistent messaging and build advocacy through the Let's be York campaign. Show how keeping city safe for different audiences, eg. visitors  -Visit York/Feel at Home in York Share case data regularly so people understand current situation Continue partnership approach including working together on discrete issues Develop specific messaging for target audiences Maximise reach and understanding of what to do. Embed public health messages in recovery work and communications	Current work in progress
Phase 2	Alert following spike in cases	Public health warning following increase in cases Reiterate public health messaging in clear way Offer guidance and practical support. Share message widely Share video content from public health professionals to explain latest advice in an engaging way Address inaccuracies/provide context	
Phase 3	Manage outbreak (more details in subsequent slides)	<ul> <li>Initiate the covid-19 incident comms plan (see annex A)</li> <li>Deliver a regular drumbeat of accurate / up-to-date information as directed by cobra and relevant phase</li> <li>Signpost support</li> <li>Promote unity and community cooperation</li> <li>Target information</li> </ul>	



# Phase I Regular update of current situation to try and prevent outbreaks

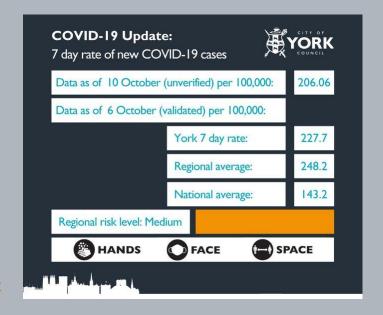




# Share accurate and timely messaging

The most up to date case data is shared via:

- Daily case tweet and social media posts
- Daily radio show on Jorvik Radio at 10.30am
- Weekly updates published every Friday on York
   Open Data:
   <a href="https://data.yorkopendata.org/dataset/covid-19-daily-data-tracker">https://data.yorkopendata.org/dataset/covid-19-daily-data-tracker</a>
- Share safety information with partners
   https://www.visityork.org/explore/feel-at-home-in-york





# Share accurate and timely messaging



Quickly address inaccurate information

For example: W/c 29 June 2020

York was one of several areas reported in the national press as a place at risk of local lockdown.

In York, this was entirely inaccurate.

With partners, we immediately addressed this and shared accurate information as

widely as possible.



Local lockdowns may be about to take place in some areas of England



Working together to improve and make a difference

City of York Council

### **Build confidence in the steps taken** and what people need to do

The council is working closely with partners and using a variety of channels to reach as many people as possible. Examples include:

- 2x weekly email updates to members and partners
- 2x weekly resident e-newsletter
- Weekly business e-newsletter
- Weekly families e-newsletter
- Regular press releases and media interviews

help prevent the spread of the

Direct mail/booklets

Let's be York

- Social media campaigns / weekly public health video
- Targeted communications





YORK



# Build confidence in the steps taken and what people need to do



Saturday 4 July saw more of our businesses reopen, particularly in the hospitality sector. To support businesses and residents we issued:

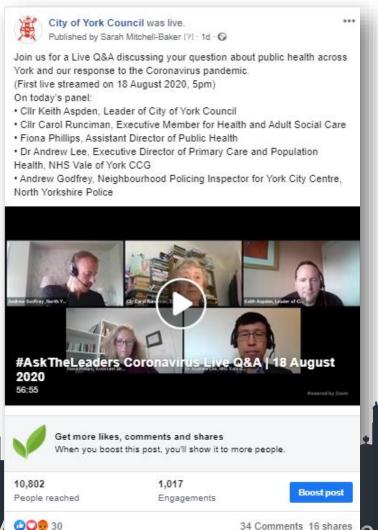
- Business toolkits, with guidance, information and resources to help reopen safely
- E-newsletter updates with advice
- More signage in the city centre
- Social media campaign and animation
- Joint statement with partners (Police, NHS, York BID) re supporting local businesses safely



### Build engagement through conversation



#### 18 August: Ask the Leaders **Q&A** Public Health



#### 2 September: Ask the Leaders Q&A Back to School



Join us for a Live Q&A discussing your question about returning to schools and early years settings across York.

(First live streamed on 2 September 2020, 5pm)

On today's panel:

- · CIIr Paula Widdowson, Executive Member for Climate Change (Chair of the panel)
- Cllr Ian Cuthbertson, Executive Member for Children, Young People and Education... See more

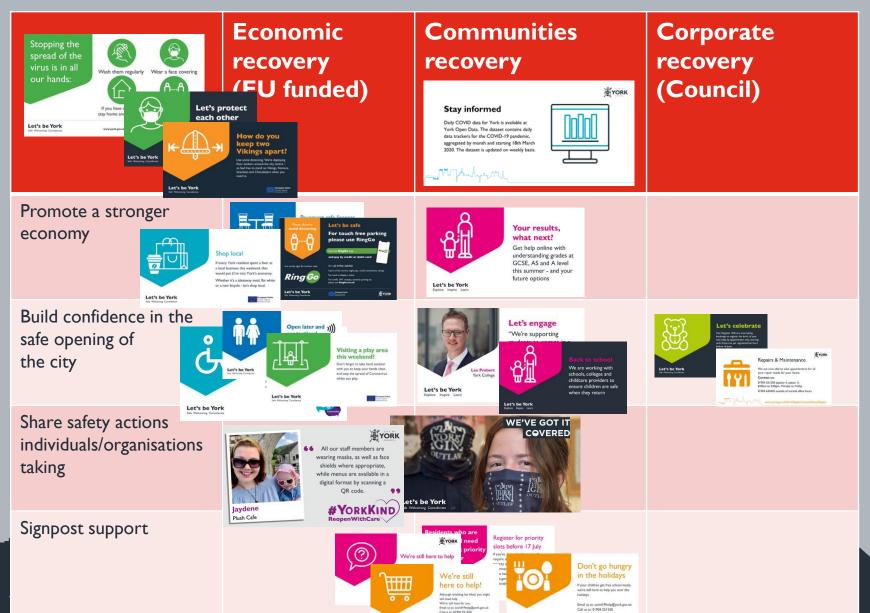


11.760 1.115 People reached Engagements

Boost Post

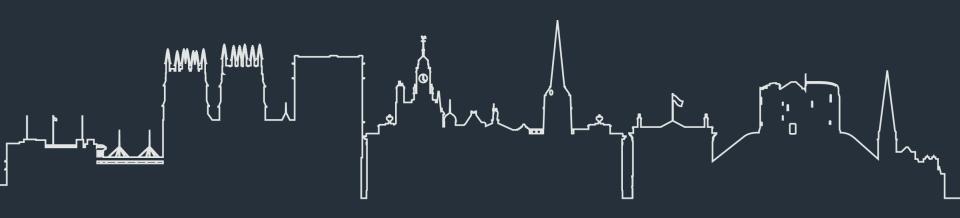
#### Safely reopening the city – one year recovery campaign







# Phase 2 Alert following increase in cases



# We've got it covered campaign

#### Launched partner campaign





Search words Search

Home About us Your health and local services

Campaigns

Get involved

News

You are here: Home > Campaigns > We've got it covered

#### We've got it covered

Whether you are shopping in the city, attending university or college, visiting your GP or enjoying the public spaces that York has to offer, we want to ensure that everyone is taking part in the 'We've got it covered' safety message.

This encourages the important ways to help keep you and those around you safe:

- Face coverings
- > Hand washing
- Social distancing of at least 2m
- Staying at home and getting tested if you think you have symptoms

The above safety measures are in place in a number of recognisable settings across the City of York, including GP practices, care homes, schools, university, college, public spaces, public transport, retail outlets, hairdressers, restaurants, canteens/kitchens and libraries.

#### 'We've got it covered' - Face coverings

There is growing evidence that face coverings can stop the spread of coronavirus and it has become compulsory/UK Law to wear them in many settings across the city including supermarkets, shops and public transport. 'We've got it covered' encourages you to wear a face covering when appropriate to do so as it will reduce the likelihood of transmitting any infections.

Importantly, those exempt from wearing a face covering, should not face discrimination from other members of the public or retail staff. This includes not being able to put on, wear or remove a face covering because of a physical or mental illness or impairment, or disability.

In the UK, you do not need to wear a face covering if you have a legitimate reason not to. This includes:



17 7





# With partners, promoted "warning" public health messaging across the city

Shopping areas, including Designer outlet







Lamp posts



Guildhall



Ward notice boards



Racecourse

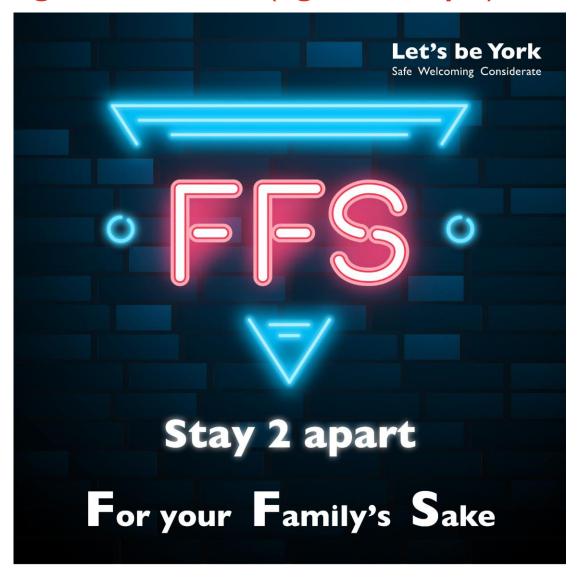


Hospital



Schools

Worked with younger age partners, to engage and target younger audience (age 18-30yo)





# Phase 3 Manage outbreak

## **Planning stage**





# Planning outbreak communications

- Learning from other local authorities
- Incident wash-up for response communications
- Learning from partners, including Human Rights
   Steering Group submission
- Community partner briefing sessions
- Toolkit of communications materials





# Build advocacy

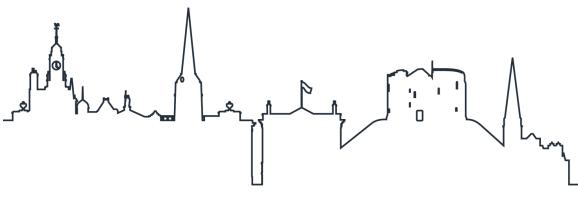
We are working with different partner and stakeholders:

- Head of Communications group
- Schools, academies and early years providers
- Universities and colleges
- Businesses and voluntary sector
- NYLRF

Delivering different engaging communications with partners:

- Facebook live Ask the Leaders Q&A
- Joint press releases and statements
- Partner campaigns (eg. face coverings, emotional health)
- Joint outbreak communications planning sessions



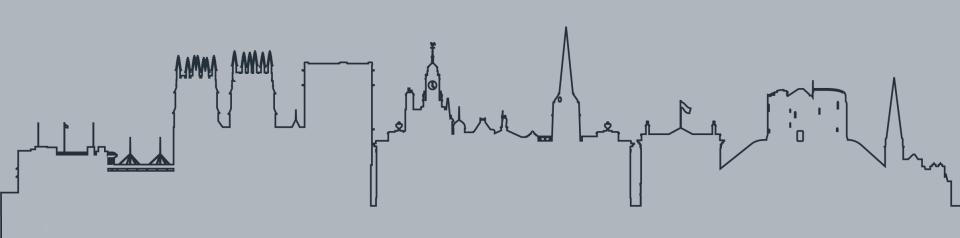




# Annex A

# Coronavirus incident communications plan

To support residents to prepare and during an incident



# Coronavirus incident communications plan

#### To support residents to prepare and during an incident

#### **Objectives**

Think – residents believe we are meeting their immediate and longer-term needs, all residents and visitors know what to do to protect each other (esp elderly/underlying health conditions), stakeholders are aware of how they can support

**Feel** – all audiences feel CYC are responding appropriately and that the council, city and country work together to be prepared and continue essential services.

**Do** – residents access the support they need using appropriate channels, residents and businesses access appropriate services and stakeholders signpost the right support/service at the right time

#### **Strategy**

Deliver a regular drumbeat of accurate / up-to-date information as directed by cobra and relevant phase Initiate incident comms toolkit, assign roles and establish the rhythm of the incident, with regular member/CLG/partner/media comms and resident/staff and targeted comms and ongoing social media and website updates.

#### Signpost support

Update CYC website and signpost support through all channels, responding to social media and providing information for partners (esp .Head of Comms and Outbreak Management Advisory Group) to distribute through their channels

#### Promote unity and community cooperation

Put people first, share stories of people coming together and showing the very best of themselves, being mindful of sentiment and needs

#### **Target information**

Provide residents with targeted information about service changes, signpost relevant support services, coordinate information through targeted networks for partners to distribute to their channels – targets are education, public transport, economic/business, social care communities

#### **PRIORITIES**

- This plan is "live" whilst the incident remains "live"
- Initiate incident comms toolkit, assign roles and establish rhythm, set up social media monitor report
- Update CYC website and CYC social media channels
- Provide information for partners, members, CLG, staff, managers, residents
- Provide updates for staff, residents and targeted partners (schools and social care)
- Manage and engage key stakeholders
- Escalate communications if situation worsens/scope widens

#### Incident response communications plan – for duration of response. Escalated at different stages

#### **OBJECTIVES**

**Think** – residents believe we are meeting their immediate and longer-term needs, all residents and visitors know what to do to protect each other (esp elderly/underlying health conditions), stakeholders are aware of how they can support

**Feel –** all audiences feel CYC are responding appropriately and that the council, city and country work together to be prepared and continue essential services.

**Do** – residents access the support they need using appropriate channels, residents and businesses access appropriate services and stakeholders signpost the right support/service at the right time

#### **AUDIENCE**

**STRATEGY** 

- Affected (elderly/underlying health conditions) residents
- All residents
- Members / parish councillors
- I. Deliver a regular drumbeat
- 2. Signpost support
- 3. Promote unity and community cooperation
- 4. Target communications

#### **IMPLEMENTATION**

Refer to business continuity plan to maintain 24/7 services

**EVALUATION** 

#### Deliver a regular drumbeat of accurate /up-to-date communications (escalate comms if situation worsens)

- •Attend command briefings /establish the rhythm of the incident, messaging and initiate comms toolkit / assigning roles
- •Maintain the single version of the truth (SVOT) use this to brief internal management teams and spokespeople
- •Distribute comms update after gold/cobra SVOT, partner update, members update, internal message, managers brief
- •Share weekly media statement and manage media response
- •Provide daily update about current situation to staff/residents
- •Update press / members with any new confirmed cases (only)
- •Address inaccuracies on social media
- •Produce comms to support SVOT as identified
- •Maintain list of FAQs for media/leader/spokespeople

#### Promote unity and community cooperation

- •Share stories of people coming to help others case studies, retweets, arranging media opportunities (as spokespeople for the York response to an incident), sharing community resilience
- ${}^\bullet Monitor\ media\ sentiment\ as\ a\ proxy\ for\ resident\ sentiment\ and\ align\ tone\ (via\ Meltwater)\ -\ share\ with\ command\ group$

- Partners / Outbreak control / HOC group •
- Businesses
- Staff / managers
- CLG

•Ensure all content links back to official sources (usually NHS/gov.uk)

Daily targets: adult social care/education

social care, communities, public transport

· Audience segments: education, economic,

- •Provide content for CYC website with all support available
- •Develop FAQs for CYC website and publish in partner brief
- •Share signposts with managers

Signpost support

- •Provide FAOs to customer services centre
- •Provide partners with targeted toolkits/tweets to share signposts
- •All media statements to include signposts for support
- •Monitor social media and signpost responses on official channels
- •Collate staff/partner/resident concerns and identify appropriate signpost for future comms
- •Develop business comms to support grant applications etc for budget 2020 measures

#### **Target communications**

- •Share daily update from NYLRF with key messages to CYC education and adult social care heads of service
- •Provide targeted information via partners with tailored content for education, economic/businesses, social care, communities and public transport
- •Provide media response for confirmed cases (with clear roles for spokespeople (PHE case, Leader city, DPH health protection)
- •Provide comms products for partners to distribute via their employees and through their channels, with specific information for different areas
- •Update target groups with changes to services as appropriate
- •Encourage channel shift to reduce F2F visits, including information for meetings
- •Provide infection control updates in Hazel Court and West Offices

Increased number of residents go to CYC channels for information, content shares (through retweets, media, partners, etc.), accuracy of information, increased visits to signposts, increased use of telephone or web, complaints mitigated

Objective	Task	Audience	Comms product
Regular drumbeat	Make sure command know current situation and have easy access to scope of information	CLG, Leader, Dep Leader, JP Emergency Planning, Comms – members	Single version of the truth
	<ul> <li>Keep staff updated with latest advice and information</li> <li>Share latest information</li> <li>Review manager advice and update following gold/silver</li> </ul>	Internal	Daily staff update / silver linings Weekly staff briefing Intranet
	<ul> <li>Public Health officers reassure residents, offer latest health advice - York is prepared.</li> <li>Regular update on local impact.</li> </ul>	<ul><li>York Residents</li><li>Local media</li></ul>	Media interviews and statements Website Social media (and responses) Update existing signage
	<ul> <li>Keep councillors updated with latest advice and information about York preparedness</li> <li>Share latest information for partners</li> </ul>	Executive Ward councillors Parish Councillors MPs	Twice a week members brief Media statements Ward level briefings if hyper local
Signpost support	Provide updated advice and resources from NYLRF to key internal stakeholders so they can support partners	Commissioning (to share with independent care providers), independent living and housing - Schools to update parents. Brief headteachers. Early years providers and childcare providers.	Daily update
	Share latest advice and signpost information Keep stakeholders informed Share local impact of national advice	Partners – HOC group, outbreak group	Twice weekly partner brief
Promote unity and cooperation	<ul> <li>Continue to share latest information and advice</li> <li>Promote good meeting practices (infection control)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>HOC group</li> <li>Partners</li> <li>West Office/Hazel court visitors</li> <li>Members</li> </ul>	Head of Comms group meeting (monthly) Twice a week partner brief
Target information	Share latest advice and signpost information Keep stakeholders informed Share local impact of national advice	Targeted networks (as listed)	Partner toolkits (targets only) Website Business bulletin

Escalation		
Objective	Task	
Regular drumbeat	Make sure command know current situation and have easy accesto scope of information	
	<ul> <li>Keep staff updated with latest advice and information</li> <li>Share latest information</li> <li>Review manager advice and update following gold/silver</li> <li>Demonstrate support</li> </ul>	
	Public Health officers reassure residents, offer latest health advice and Leader states that York and the country is	

Signpost support

Promote unity

Target information

and cooperation

prepared.

Regular update on local impact.

Share latest information for partners

Demonstrate civic leadership

about York preparedness

Task	
Make sure command know current situation and have easy access to scope of information	

Keep councillors updated with latest advice and information

Provide updated advice and resources from NYLRF to key

internal stakeholders so they can support partners

Share latest advice and signpost information

- Continue to share latest information and advice

- Anticipate comms needs from different groups

Share latest advice and signpost information

- Promote good meeting practices (infection control)

Keep stakeholders informed

Keep stakeholders informed

Share local impact of national advice

Share local impact of national advice



York Residents

Local media

Ward councillors

Parish Councillors

include partners

Extend partner list

HOC group

**Partners** 

visitors Members

information

West Office/Hazel court

Targeted networks – opt into

Extend recipient list - could

Executive

MPs

Audience

Internal

**Comms product** 

Hold team meetings

Paid-for advertorials

Facebook live Q&As

Direct mail / Our city

Daily members update

Daily update

Daily partner update

Channel shift campaign

needs

E-newsletters

Weekly Head of Comms group meeting

Provide comms tools to support specific

Case study campaign "York Kind"

Team visits

Single version of the truth

Daily updates / silver linings

Telephone auto-messaging

Paid-for social including videos

Additional public space signage