
**Customer and Corporate Services Scrutiny
Management Committee**

7 September 2020

Report of the Director of Public Health

The Health Impacts of Coronavirus in York

Summary

1. The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted the health of the York population in direct and indirect ways. In order to enable health, care and civic partners in their ongoing efforts to respond to the virus and enable the city to move forward into recovery, a Rapid Health Needs assessment was published in June 2020 on the impact of coronavirus on the health of North Yorkshire and York
2. This attached presentation summarises the key data relevant to York in the rapid HNA, which can be found in full on the York JSNA website.

Background

3. The rapid HNA uses a four 'wave' model to assessing the impacts of coronavirus on population health:

WAVE 1 – DIRECT IMPACTS

What are the immediate mortality and morbidity effects of COVID-19 on our population? What known and unknown factors could be driving these trends, and what can be done to mitigate them?

WAVE 2 – IMMEDIATE IMPACTS

What impacts are we seeing on the immediate health needs of our population, including those due to resource restrictions and changes in primary, secondary, community and social care services?

WAVE 3 – CHRONIC IMPACTS

What has been the impact of the pandemic on the prevention, incidence, detection and treatment of chronic conditions in our population? What new chronic social and public health challenges are emerging?

WAVE 4 – LONG TERM IMPACTS

What are the wider social impacts on health which are emerging from this pandemic, including the effects of lockdown but extending to the economic and structural strains this period is placing on society? Are they short, medium or long term? How can we mitigate against them?

4. The assessment concludes that by June 2020 COVID-19 had already caused:
- Significant impact on all-cause mortality, enough even to change the demographic shape of the region
 - Significant impact on morbidity which will create a new category of clinical need (post-COVID care) for a large number of people
 - Significant unintended consequences of the system response to COVID-19, including deferred and delayed care, missed prevention opportunities and healthcare-avoiding patient response
 - Significant unintended consequences of the policy response to COVID-19, including economic threat, mental health worries due to lockdown, educational disadvantage, all of which threaten the poorest and most marginalised communities the most.
5. In considering on-going response, adjustment and recovery from the pandemic, this HNA highlights:
- The key role for understanding and accounting for population health need at the heart of planning
 - Four priority areas: infection minimisation, mental health, healthcare access, and prevention
 - The resilience of our local communities, and many grounds for optimism that we can 'build back better'

Implications

- **Financial**

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused significant economic stress on the population of York, and has also had a detrimental effect nationally on local government finances.

- **Human Resources (HR)**

Council staff members are for the most part citizens of York and will have been affected, directly or indirectly, by the pandemic.

- **Equalities**

This report aligns with national research which finds that COVID-19 has had a disproportionate impact on people from Black and Minority Ethnic backgrounds, on healthcare workers and frontline staff members, and on those living in deprived areas.

- **Legal**

There are no Legal implication of this report

- **Crime and Disorder**

There are no Crime and Disorder implication of this report

- **Information Technology (IT)**

There are no IT implication of this report

- **Property**

There are no Property implication of this report

Recommendations

Members of Scrutiny are asked:

- to note and discuss this report and associated issues in the context of the council's COVID-19 recovery planning.

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