

Governing Body Meeting			
Date:	Tuesday 22 May 2020	Time:	2:30 pm
Venue:	Skype Conference Call		
Questions from the general public received in advance			

Q1: Why did the intensive infection prevention and control strategy fail to prevent outbreaks in 39 care homes and the deaths of 128 residents in Liverpool by 8 May?

It has been recognised, both nationally and locally, that the impact and outcomes for those who develop COVID19 is felt most severely on those with increased frailty and other underlying health conditions. The reasons for the number of cases, and sadly the number of deaths in care homes, are multi-factorial. Reviews of what happened during the early stages of the pandemic suggest that there were some common themes that may have contributed to outbreaks:

- Supply and training in use of PPE
- The challenge in isolating residents who may have cognitive difficulties
- Implementation of visitor restrictions
- Training and educational support for care homes in infection prevention and control
- The impact of sudden increases in staff sickness and absence

All of these themes have been used to support in quality improvement and form part of the social care action plan for care homes. Further information regarding support for care homes can be viewed here:

<https://liverpool.gov.uk/communities-and-safety/emergency-planning/coronavirus/community-support-carers-and-care-homes/support-for-care-homes/>

Q2: How many of the 270 patients discharged from Liverpool University Hospitals before Easter were tested for coronavirus before being placed in care homes?

Only a small number of the 270 patients will have been care home residents. The CCG has requested further information from Liverpool University Hospitals.

Q3: Why is PPE not supplied to all staff in Care Homes, rather than “in so far possible”?

Adequate and appropriate supply of PPE is the responsibility of the employing organisations, however it was recognised both nationally and locally that there were challenges for homes in accessing PPE. Liverpool City Council responded in setting up a mutual aid scheme with local system partners to support homes in accessing PPE supplies in line with national guidance.

Q4: Will Liverpool CCG exercise its influence to ensure that contact tracing in Liverpool is led by local public health teams and public sector partners without the involvement of Serco, Capita, or G4S, bearing in mind their track record of failure?

Liverpool has recently developed a local outbreak plan, which sets out our approach to managing the next stage of the pandemic in Liverpool, working alongside the NHS Test and Trace programme.

<https://liverpool.gov.uk/communities-and-safety/emergency-planning/coronavirus/liverpools-covid-19-outbreak-control-plan/>