

**Report to:** Trust Board 19 June 2020

**Report title:** COVID-19 Update Report

**Responsible Director:** Chief Executive

**Responsible authors:** Senior Management Team

**Purpose of this report:**

This report is to update on Board on the current situation with COVID-19.

**Clinical issues: including PPE**

Care Homes:

- The situation across the city regarding care homes is much improved with only 2 homes reporting outbreaks at this time
- A number of teams are still experiencing challenges around the input required to care homes but this is improving
- There LCH has now made contact with all 151 care homes across the city to determine what support may be required from LCH. In the main we are providing the support that is requested but a couple of areas have been highlighted where care homes would benefit from further training etc. This is currently being scoped.
- Following the discussions there is no immediate requirement for LCH to provide any staffing into care homes. This will be kept under review.
- LCH continues to work in partnership with primary care across a number of PCN's to ensure effective multi-disciplinary working in care homes across Leeds.
- IPC training is continuing into care homes.

General

- The weekly clinical drop in session is continuing led by the Director of Nursing for clinical staff to raise concerns/ask questions via MS Teams. This is proving popular and the numbers attending are growing week on week.

PPE – clinical

- The IPC team continue to support clinical teams with advice regarding appropriate use of PPE, general IPC advice and support with donning and doffing and correct fit of PPE.
- New advice re wearing of masks in clinical and non-clinical areas has been sent out in the Trust's lunchtime brief including advice that patients' attending our health centres etc. will be required to wear a face covering. We will ensure that all

staff, and Clinic patients who do not bring their own face covering will have access to a mask where required.

- National push stock now includes Type II masks.

### **HR and workforce: including health and well-being of staff**

- Supportive conversations & risk assessments continue for groups known to be particularly vulnerable / at risk from COVID-19, with underpinning guidance documents and sessions available. For BAME colleagues, 72% of risk assessments are known to have been completed.
- The Safer Working Environments project is due to conclude all remaining COVID-19 risk assessments on LCH bases by the end of June 2020. Individual risk assessments are being undertaken by staff working from home. Accompanying guidance and support for staff underpins both processes.
- The Nominations & Remuneration Committee has this month formally approved a small number of temporary local changes to terms & conditions: specifically, the introduction of additional hours payments for AFC Bands 8-9 in certain circumstances; and the introduction of a local pay rate for GPs returning to the LCH workforce in support of the COVID-19 efforts.
- The health & wellbeing of all LCH staff of course continues to be of highest priority, with further tailored support offers in development to address the needs of specific groups. Whilst reported sickness rates are currently lower than those seen in LCH in recent years, the actual and potential impact of COVID-19 on staff health & wellbeing both during and after the pandemic is paramount in our health & wellbeing planning and interventions.

### **Equality and Diversity**

- COVID-19 has had a disproportionate effect on people from Black, Asian and Ethnic Minorities and the additional pressures faced by these groups following the murder of George Floyd has shown that it is even more important to continue and to deepen our conversation about race and inequality within the Trust.
- We have been able to do this via our weekly meetings with the Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic network - who now have 100 members and is brilliantly led by Kulvant Sandhu. Conversations have been had at Leader's Network and the CEO wrote a Blog on the subject to the whole organisation as did Kulvant.
- Next steps are about creating an ally-ship programme and work to deepen the understanding of staff about structural inequality and the nature of racism within health and within the provision of health services.
- This sits within our wider commitment to equality and diversity and grows on our work during the year on both race and disability.