

SUNDERLAND HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

30 September 2022

COVID-19 IN SUNDERLAND – UPDATE

Report of the Executive Director of Health, Housing and Communities

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To provide the Health and Wellbeing Board with an update of the Covid-19 situation in Sunderland.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The Board will be provided with an update of the Covid-19 situation in Sunderland. This will include a summary of the current position regarding estimated prevalence and actions being taken to combat the pandemic locally.

3.0 Current Position

- 3.1 The current guidance on Covid-19 is focused on living safely with respiratory infections, including Covid-19. The government has removed all domestic restrictions in England. Testing is paused in NHS establishments and Care Homes. There are still steps that people can take to reduce the risk of catching and spreading Covid-19.
- 3.2 It was agreed by Board in July that a brief 'for information' report with key data would be brought to future meetings. If there are significant changes then a more in-depth paper will be brought to the Board in future.
- 3.3 The vaccination offer continues to be promoted and public health advice on the council website is kept under review.
- 3.4 Vaccination is a key priority and take-up of vaccines for Covid-19 and flu will continue to be monitored through existing partnership mechanisms, and as part of winter planning.
- 3.5 Modelling data from UCL suggests the next peak is anticipated in November 2022 (previously anticipated in October 2022), with a subsequent peak in March 2023.
- 3.6 At the time of writing (12/09/2022), the ONS weekly estimated prevalence of Covid-19 has fallen to 1 in 75 in Sunderland, South Tyneside and Gateshead sub-region. The national figure is 1 in 70.
- 3.7 Confirmed specimens show that the Omicron sub-lineages (predominantly BA.5) are the most common variants between 13 August to 9 September 2022.

4.0 Recommendation

- 4.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to receive the update on the Covid-19 pandemic.