Date Completed	September 2020	Prepared by:	Corporate Management Team

This report is designed to provide an overview of the various strands of activity being taken forward as a whole system in relation to Covid-19.

Issue	Update
1. Epidemiology	Between 18 and 24 September, the incidence of COVID-19 infection in Lanarkshire rose by 58.7% from 44.9 to 71.3 Laboratory confirmed cases per 100,000 population (rolling 7 day average, North Lanarkshire 80.0, South Lanarkshire 62.1).
	For a period, the rate in the North was rising much more rapidly than the south but the rates of growth are now similar. Increasing rates are especially marked in Airdrie, Motherwell and Clydesdale.
	The number of clusters has risen particularly in workplaces.
	Transmission has been noted in hospitality sector, schools, hospitals and care homes. Linkages among clusters is now being noted. Scenario modelling predicts that between 21 and 28 September, the number of new cases across Scotland could rise from 10,017 to 17,623, the main driver being the return of Universities and Colleges.
	There is no clear evidence that the social restriction measures put in place two weeks ago are having a significant impact in Lanarkshire.
2. Test, Trace, Isolate and Support	There is a separate paper on the Board agenda.

3. Care homes – the day to day support from our Health Protection Team, and the enhanced system of assurance	Five care homes have restrictions in place and are being managed by the Health Protection Team. The majority are positive tests in staff members participating in the weekly screening programme or where residents are displaying respiratory symptoms and are being tested for Covid as part of outbreak investigation processes. On 17/09/20, the Health Protection Team was made aware of 5 symptomatic staff members in a Lanarkshire care home. Restrictions were placed on the home pending further investigation and testing. A significant number of residents and staff have now tested positive for Covid (24 and 11 respectively). The Health Protection Team and Care Home Assurance Team continues to support the home with outbreak management and infection control practices. Indoor care home visiting remains under continual review. A range of supportive communications have been issued to care home managers and the wider public on essential visiting of family and friends, and essential health and social care visits. The Care Home Assurance Team will work with care homes to ensure visiting risk assessments are contemporary, in preparation for the re-introduction of indoor visits, when it is safe to do so. Weekly asymptomatic care home staff screening - NHSL has transferred 1200 care home workers in North Lanarkshire from the social care portal to NHS testing facilities, to support UK government testing capacity. NSS and others are working to develop a Scottish portal and regional testing hubs to support weekly asymptomatic care home staff screening going forward. Between 11-17 September, 4160 care home staff were tested as part of the weekly screening programme (target 3800).
4. Provision, utilisation and availability of PPE	There are no issues to highlight.
5. Flu Vaccination planning	Separate report on the agenda.

6. Workforce

On 4 September 2020, Scottish Government set out requirements for NHS Lanarkshire to provide a Test and Protect workforce of:

Core Workforce: 23 contact tracers per day (7.5hrs each) covering the operating hours of 8am to 8pm, Monday to Sunday. Surge Workforce: 46 contact tracers per day (7.5 hrs each) covering the operating hours of 8am to 8pm, Monday to Sunday.

A subsequent call with NHS Scotland Interim Chief Executive, John Connaghan, on Tuesday 15 September 2020, increased the target recruitment for NHSL of Contact Tracers to 100 WTE. A workforce model has been agreed to provide this level of Contact Tracers and appropriate wider Public Health staffing support structure.

486 applications were received for the role of Contact Tracer. Human Resources shortlisted, interviewed applicants and supported Public Health with training. As at 21st September and additional 43 (32.2 WTE) Contact Tracers have completed training and a further 30-40 Contact Tracers will complete training each week for the next 2 weeks. A proportion of the Contact Tracers are being employed on part-time contacts to afford surge capacity as required.

With this, it is anticipated circa 60 Contact Tracers will be available per day from week commencing 5th October 2020.

7. Communications	Schools/Other workplaces		
	 Ongoing communications support being provided with Problem Assessment Groups and Incident Management Teams; Schools FAQ developed and published on NHS Lanarkshire website; Standard letters developed for all parents, parents of close contacts and staff of close contacts. 		
	Targeted Community Messaging and Social Media Campaign		
	 Keep Lanarkshire Out Of Lockdown campaign launched on 4 September 2020 and additional restrictions for Lanarkshire announcement on 11 September 2020 achieved wide coverage across web, media and social media; Further targeted social media advertising carried out on Instagram; 		
	 Targeted messaging plan developed for key demographic groups and key messages shared directly with community groups across Lanarkshire; Social media content produced to reflect new Scottish Government restrictions announced on 22 September 2020; Targeted social media advertising taking place on Instagram. 		
	Care home communication strategy		
	 The implementation of the care homes communication strategy continues; Communications developed and delivered on indoor visiting restrictions including a new FAQ for care home managers; Communications are ongoing regarding testing for care home staff including an online toolkit that has been made available to support care staff and managers. 		
8. Finance	Derek Yuille will provide an update under the Finance item on the agenda at item 14.		
9. Digital	No significant issues to raise.		

10. Remobilisation

Due to time constraints, it has not been possible to share the draft Remobilisation Plan formally with the NHS Board or Area Partnership Forum and Area Clinical Forum ahead of submission to the Scottish Government. The draft Plan has subsequently been shared with Non Executive Board members at a briefing session on 12th August 2020 and was noted by the Area Partnership Forum on 17th August; consideration by ACF is being scheduled.

The draft Remobilisation Plan was considered by CMT on Monday 27th July 2020 and submitted to Scottish Government (SG), as a draft, on 31st July 2020.

Discussions relating to finance are on-going and the SG has indicated that the 2020/21 financial position is unlikely to be confirmed until late September 2020.

Since the Remobilisation Plan was submitted on 31st July 2020, three activity templates have been updated in response to requests from SG. SG representatives have since met with the NHS Lanarkshire Team (31st August 2020) to provide initial feedback. On 10th September 2020, a letter was received from John Connaghan commending NHS Boards for the extensive work undertaken to develop their Remobilisation Plans, indicating that the SG feedback process would be completed with any actions signed off by the end of September.

Thereafter, it is anticipated that a final draft Remobilisation Plan can be prepared for consideration by the NHS Board.

Going forward, the SG has indicated that Remobilisation Plans will be reviewed every four weeks as part of the iterative integrated planning process.

A draft Urgent Care Redesign Plan was prepared by the NHS Lanarkshire and Health & Social Care Partnership officers based on the principles shared with Board Members at the briefing session on 12th August and the questions and commentary by Board Members will be captured in a separate note. The draft Urgent Care Redesign paper has submitted to SG and will be shared with Board Members at a Development Session on 30 September 2020.