

SBAR on Test & Protect Programme

The purpose of this SBAR is to update the Board of the progress being made to augment the Test & Protect programme in line with the requirements set out by Scottish Government.

Situation

Scottish Government have set out a clear requirement for NHSL to provide a Test and Protect workforce which meets the following requirements. The letter from Mr John Connaghan, Interim Chief Executive NHSScotland, sets this out and is attached as Appendix 1 for information.

This paper aims to:

1. Identify a sustainable model to deliver a world-class Test and Protect service for the people of Lanarkshire over the next 18-24 months.
2. Quantify in financial and people terms the requirements to do so.

Background

Identifying the required workforce

Scottish Government have two definitions for the Test and Protect workforce – Core and Surge. The core workforce are those staff who are employed wholly to deliver the Test and Protect service across 7 days. Surge are staff who are trained in contact tracing and available with 24 hours' notice to support contact tracing.

Assessment

For NHSL the requirements for each are as follows:

The proposed structure falls into two groups – one which is the contact tracing side, and the other which is the investigating officer/clinical side.

In addition to the core team – there are additional support roles, supporting the Service Lead and/or the Consultants.

- General Administrative Support (Band 3 x 1 WTE)
PA/Loggist Support (Band 4 x 2.5 WTE)
Data Analyst (Band 5 x 1 WTE)

Indicative Costing and Funding

John Connaghan's letter (Appendix 1) sets out funding in line with the following:

FY	TOTAL	NHSL Share
2020/21	3.5M	430,991
2021/22	6.0M	738,841
2022/23	2.5M	307,850
FY	TOTAL	NHSL Share
2020/21	6.5M	800,150
2021/22	6.5M	800,150

NHS Lanarkshire Board meeting - 30 September 2020

Identifying the Workforce Supply

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.

Recommendation

The Board is asked to:

- note the plans in place to augment the Test & Protect Service.

Name Paul Cannon
Title Board Secretary
Date 29 September 2020