

**Report of: Director of Public Health**

<b>Health and Wellbeing Board</b>	<b>Date:4<sup>th</sup> of November 2020</b>	<b>Ward(s):</b>
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<b>Delete as appropriate</b>	Exempt	Non-exempt
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**SUBJECT: COVID-19 impacts in the borough to date including disproportionate impacts.**

**1. Synopsis**

- 1.1 The attached report is a descriptive review of data on COVID-19 testing, cases, deaths and hospital admissions for Islington residents since the start of the pandemic to date. The review provides an analysis based on age, gender, ethnicity and deprivation where these data are available locally and also refers to key national findings. The analyses of data on testing and cases focuses in particular on the most recent weeks of the pandemic, as we have seen an increase in COVID-19 cases and community transmission.
- 1.2 In addition to the quantitative analysis of testing, cases, deaths and hospital admissions, to understand the impact of COVID19 from a more qualitative, resident perspective, a resident survey has also been carried out.

The resident survey (ran between late June and mid-August 2020). The final survey sample included a total of 555 responses (incomplete responses and entries submitted by non-Islington residents were excluded from the analysis, n= 248). Targeted engagement through focus groups and interviews took place between August-September 2020. The engagement work includes the following broad areas:

- Awareness and adherence of specific government advice and guidance, e.g. social distancing, face covering in public spaces, test and trace
- Impacts of Covid-19 and residents' concerns during the pandemic
- Coping strategies

- Loneliness and sense of community belonging
- Community cohesion and assets
- Access to information, services and support
- Future and 'new' normal

Targeted engagement mainly focused on gathering insights from those who were most vulnerable to COVID-19 infection or poorer outcomes, or those disproportionately impacted by the control measures and restrictions, e.g. those from Black, Asian and ethnic minority communities, carers, those affected by physical/ learning disabilities, refugees and asylum seekers. Many of these residents face multiple disadvantage.

Preliminary findings from this resident engagement work are summarised in slide 19-22 of the main report.

## **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 To receive the report on COVID-19 impacts in the borough, to discuss the impacts of COVID-19 on Islington residents and how these insights should shape our response to the pandemic going forwards.

## **3. Implications**

### **3.1 Financial Implications:**

There are no financial implications arising from this report. The measures and recommendations proposed in this report are not currently quantifiable. Any recommendations from this report, if adopted, will need to be expanded upon and reviewed with the financial implications assessed.

### **3.2 Legal Implications:**

There are no legal implications arising as a direct result of the report. The Coronavirus Act 2020 (the "Act"), obtained royal assent on the 25th March 2020. It introduced a number of temporary emergency measures to deal with a range of issues associated with the pandemic. The Governments Explanatory Notes says the Act aims to fight the virus by

1. Increasing the health and social care workforce
2. Easing the burden on frontline services
3. Containing and slowing the spread of the virus
4. Assisting the death management system; and
5. Supporting individuals and business

### **3.3 Environmental Implications and contribution to achieving a net zero carbon Islington by 2030:**

There are no environmental impacts related to this review.

### **4.4 Resident Impact Assessment:**

The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps

to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

## 5. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

- 5.1 COVID-19 has had a significant impact on inequalities. A consistent and systematic focus on mitigating further disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 on our diverse communities is required.

### Appendices

- Please list all appendices and specify if any are exempt.

### Signed by:



Julie Billett  
Director of Public Health

Date 8 October 2020

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**[THE BELOW IS FOR INFORMATION AND SHOULD BE DELETED FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE REPORT BEFORE SUBMISSION].**

**Heading for the exempt appendix (which must be a separate document)**

**THIS APPENDIX IS EXEMPT AND IS NOT FOR PUBLICATION**

This Appendix is not for publication as it contains the following category of exempt information as specified in Paragraph [insert relevant paragraph number from Appendix 5 to the Constitution ], Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, namely: "[ Please insert heading for relevant category from Appendix 5 of the Constitution]

If you require any assistance or information about exemptions and exempt appendices please contact Democratic Services.

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**Resident Impact Assessments (RIAs)/Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs)**

**If an RIA has been completed it must accompany the report as an appendix.**

Resident Impact Assessments (RIAs) have replaced Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) in Islington. Although there is no longer a legal requirement to carry out EIAs, public bodies still have to demonstrate that they are taking the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) into account when making decisions. Local authorities also have obligations in relation to safeguarding and human rights. The main focus of RIAs is on drawing out the equality impacts of proposals with additional sections for highlighting safeguarding risks and potential human rights breaches.

**Process**

The following wording must be included in the RIA section in Committee Reports:

*" The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding. "*

This should then be followed by:

A Resident Impact Assessment was completed on..... (date) and the summary is included below. The complete Resident Impact Assessment is appended.

or

A Resident Impact Assessment has not been completed because.....

**For further assistance with RIAs please see:**

<http://izzi/me/staff-essentials/project-management/eia/Pages/Resident-Impact-Assessments.aspx>

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## **Guidance on Environmental Implications**

Committee reports need to consider the impacts that that proposals will have on the environment. An **impact** is defined as any change to the environment, whether positive or negative, wholly or partially resulting from Council activities. Almost all human activity has some impact on the environment, and it is very unlikely that any activity will not have any implications.

Please consider:

- energy use and carbon emissions
- the use of natural resources
- the generation of waste
- pollution

Major impacts are likely to be caused by:

- property procurement and disposal
- construction (new build, refurbishment and maintenance)
- all building services (heating, lighting and ventilation)
- transport and fleet expenditure
- major IT/appliance expenditure

Further guidance is available from Izzi or **[energyservices@islington.gov.uk](mailto:energyservices@islington.gov.uk)**