Report to:	Inclusive Growth and Public Policy Panel
Date:	8 March 2021
Subject:	**COVID-19: Update on data and impacts**
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1. Purpose of this report

1.1 To provide an update to the Panel on the current impacts of Covid-19.

2. Information

2.1 A presentation of the latest data (predominantly as at 17 February) on the COVID-19 pandemic is included in Appendix 1. The following are some of the main messages:

- The 7-day moving average West Yorkshire COVID-19 rate is 179.4 cases per 100k, down from 194.4 per 100k the week before (-8%).
- There are 4,185 new cases in the 7 days to the 17 February, down from 4,535 the week before.
- West Yorkshire rate remains above the Yorkshire and the Humber (Y&H) rate and England rates (151.3 and 125.5 per 100k respectively).
- Importantly, rate changes in the previous week (-8%) are in line with Y&H average (-9%), but falling much slower than England overall (-21%).
- Within West Yorkshire, rates are lowest in Leeds (163 per 100k) and highest in Bradford (199.3 per 100k).
- Within Yorkshire and the Humber rates are highest in Doncaster and Bradford (around 200 per 100k) with rates lowest in Scarborough (57 per 100k).
- Most Y&H districts saw a fall in COVID-19 rates over the previous week.
- The regional picture continues to show that the South West of England is generally performing best in terms of COVID-19; it has the lowest rates overall (76 per 100k) in the over 60's, the lowest positivity % and the highest testing rate. In contrast, the highest rates are in the East Midlands,

West Midlands, North East and Yorkshire and the Humber (around 150-180 per 100k).

- The updated Upper Tier Local Authority (ULTA) chart (which ranks case rates from high to low) highlights that although almost all areas have continued to see a decline in COVID-19 case rates, the rate of decline has slowed. Importantly, COVID-19 rates in West Yorkshire districts are now relatively high compared to other UTLAs. Their position continues to move up the curve as rates have not fallen as much as other areas.
- Looking at the relative fall in COVID-19 rates from the 3rd wave peak to now, all 5 West Yorkshire districts are amongst the areas with the lowest proportionate fall out of all UTLA’s (i.e. their relative % case rate fall is less than a lot of other areas).
- COVID-19 rates amongst over 80s in West Yorkshire and other MCAs appears to be falling faster than for the other age bands, a potential sign of the vaccination rollout working.
- As of the 16 February, 523k people living in CCG’s covering West Yorkshire had been vaccinated with the first dose.
- **Within West Yorkshire, the most deprived areas have had a greater proportionate share of COVID-19 cases; since June, 40% of all COVID-19 cases have occurred in people who live in areas in the most deprived 20% in England. Importantly, within West Yorkshire, the most deprived areas have seen the slowest changes in COVID-19 rates; rates from the January peak to 13 February have fallen by 36%, however the least deprived areas have seen falls of around 68%.**
- Analysis of current COVID-19 rates in relation to deprivation across England reveals a strong relationship. COVID-19 rates are higher in UTLAs where a greater proportion of the population lives in deprived areas.
- In England, new COVID-19 related hospital admissions (in a 24-hour period) continue to fall and are currently at similar levels to mid-late Oct. In relative terms, the weekly rate of decline in the North East & Yorkshire is around 20% compared to 25.7% nationally. Locally, West Yorkshire new admissions fell by 20% in the last week.
- In England on the 22 February there were just over 14,000 occupied COVID-19 beds in England. This is now fewer than the November peak. In West Yorkshire, the number of hospital beds occupied by confirmed COVID-19 patients in reduced by 19% in week to 16 February (slower than England average, 22%), however the number of people with COVID-19 requiring mechanical ventilation increased.

3. Tackling the Climate Emergency Implications

3.1 There are no Climate Emergency implications arising directly as a result from this report.

4. Inclusive Growth Implications

4.1 The report identifies our most deprived areas have had a greater proportionate share of COVID-19 cases and therefore impacts on personal wellbeing.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

6. Legal Implications

6.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

7. Staffing Implications

7.1 There are no staffing implications directly arising from this report.

8. External Consultees

8.1 No external consultations have been undertaken.

9. Recommendations

9.1 The Panel is requested to note and discuss the findings of the latest data on Covid-19

10. Background Documents

None.

11. Appendices

11.1 Appendix 1 – Covid-19 update