

Local Outbreak Engagement Board

6 October Month 2020

Questions from the public

1. Purpose

To provide answers to questions received from Members of the public.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the answers to the questions received from the public be noted.

3. Report detail

As part of the government's national strategy to reduce infection from COVID-19, every council in England was required to create a local outbreak plan by the end of June and to create an elected member-led Local Outbreak Engagement Board.

Walsall Council Cabinet considered the arrangements for a Local Outbreak Engagement Board on 17 June and, at the meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board on 23 June, the creation of a sub-committee as the Local Outbreak Engagement Board was agreed. The purpose of the board is to provide political ownership and public-facing engagement and communications in relation to an outbreak response.

Members of the public can ask the Local Outbreak Engagement Board questions which are within its remit and it will be answered when the board next meets. Members of the public need to submit their question(s) at least seven clear days before the meeting (clear days are working days and does not include the day the question is received or the day of the meeting).

Since the last meeting two questions have been received. They are:

1. *Having been to Walsall Town Centre for the first time in months. My question is about why no one is enforcing the rules wearing masks in shops. At least 50% of the people in a shop were not wearing masks. When I asked the duty manager why the rules were not being enforced his reply was it's the Polices job to enforce the rules as they are not going to turn away paying customers. So how are you going to prevent Walsall becoming an area of interest to the Government?*
2. *Can you please tell me and almost everyone why shops are still keeping their toilets closed when we are all being encouraged to use the shops and other businesses? After all it's at least another chance to wash our hands.*

Answers will be provided to the above questions at the meeting.

Background papers

None.

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