

Wave 2 Resilience Preparations Update for Group Leaders

11 August 2020



Overview

- Purpose of the meeting
- Route Map through and out of the crisis approved by Council in June 2020
- Resilience update in the event of a local, second wave or any future “lockdown”
- Governance arrangements required in the event of a local, second wave or any future “lockdown”

Purpose of the meeting

The purpose of today's meeting is to discuss arrangements which will be required in the event of a local, second wave or future "lockdown".

Route Map through and out of the crisis approved by Council in June 2020

- The Route Map was approved at Council in June 2020:
<https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/>
- We are currently in Phase 3 with Schools returning for staff yesterday (10 August 2020) and for pupils from 12 August 2020.
- There is no sign yet of moving to Phase 4 but indicative dates have been shared by Scottish Government in relation to additional service restarts.
- We are being vigilant particularly with the events reported in Aberdeen

Resilience update in the event of a local, second wave or any future “lockdown”

- In the event of a local “lockdown” or second wave “lockdown”, it is proposed to implement the phase required from the 4 phases of Midlothian Route Map <https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/> depending on the gravity of the “lockdown” and advice received from Public Health and the Scottish Government. It may be that we are required to go back to the Emergency Phase should any outbreak be severe enough for us to be required to do so. The four phases are:
 - Emergency Phase: In the event of “lockdown” we may need to revert back to this phase which was initially implemented at 15:30pm on 20th March 2020. This phase meant that we were only delivering critical services as agreed on 16 March 2020
 - Phase 1: In line with the route map with further guidance as directed by Public Health or Scottish Government
 - Phase 2: In line with the route map with further guidance as directed by Public Health or Scottish Government
 - Phase 3: This is the phase we are currently in
 - Phase 4: This phase has not yet been implemented as we are still in phase 3

It is proposed that we would then - as part of our recovery out of a local, wave 2 or any future “lockdown” - follow the remaining phases in forward motion when it is safe to do so, following Public Health and Scottish Government advice.

Governance arrangements required in the event of a local, second wave or any further “lockdown”

On 16 March 2020, we agreed to implement Standing Order 19.2 as the decision-making process, do we wish to utilise this again in the event of time critical emergency decisions or do we wish a different mechanism?

Given we now have virtual meetings in place, I propose in the event of “lockdown” that we continue with the virtual meetings cycle for Council, Cabinet, PRS, etc.

In the event of “lockdown” that we also update Group Leaders every Tuesday on progress as we did during the months of March – June and offer weekly updates to each of the Political groups if groups would find this useful.