

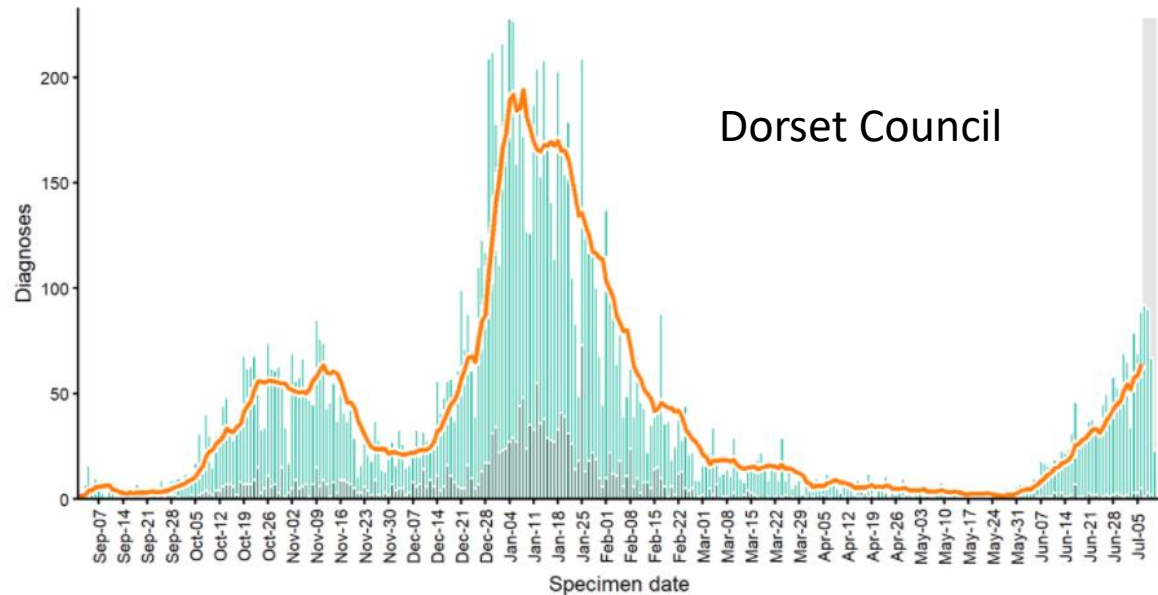
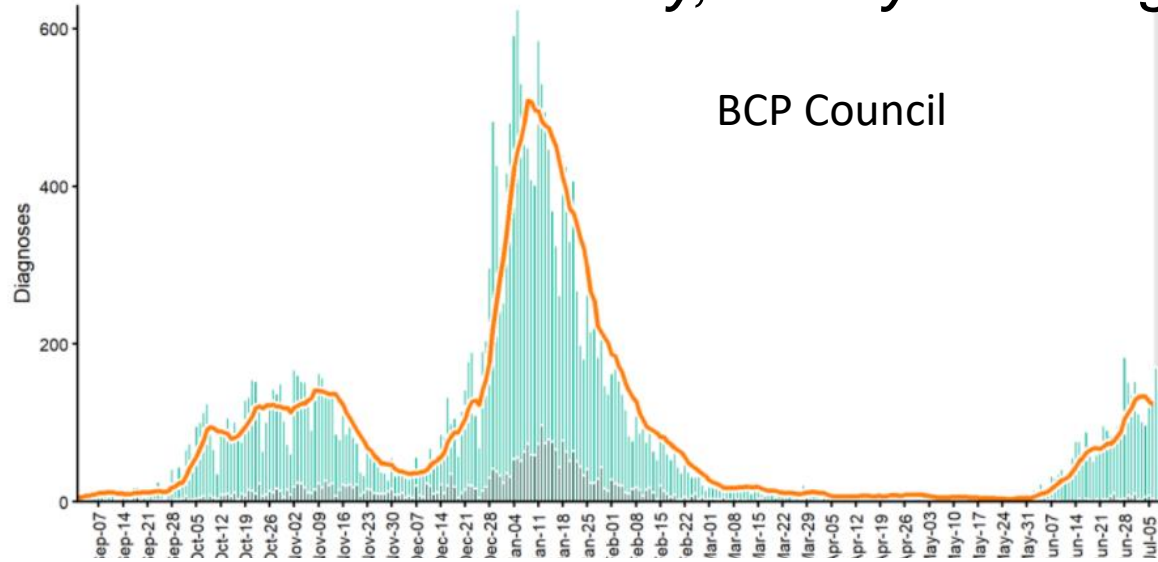
COVID-19 and public health update

Joint Public Health Board

15 July 2021

Coronavirus: current situation

Third wave well underway, mainly affecting 16-29 year olds



150 cases per day, BCP Council; 90 cases per day in Dorset Council

Incidents are ramping up – mainly schools – more than 60 per week so very busy on the day response and out of hours teams

Hospital occupancy remains low – 19 people in hospitals with COVID-19

Rise in people needing support at home through oximetry monitoring

Regional/national picture

BCP Dorset Devon Hampshire Somerset Southampton Wiltshire

7-Day Case Rate per 100,000 Population

Including Dorset neighbours



SW rate 279, England 343 per 100K; Bristol, Plymouth, S Gloucs 400+

Step 4 of the roadmap from July 19th

- Removes all legal restrictions on social distancing in all settings
- Work safely guidance replaces previous rules on COVID-secure settings
- No requirement for fully vaccinated or under 18 contacts to self-isolate from August 16th – still advised to take a PCR test
- Positive cases will still have to isolate
- Contact tracing and bubble system ends in schools
- No requirement to 'check-in' to venues using app
- DsPH still able to re-introduce measures in exceptional circumstances e.g. in response to serious outbreaks- unclear how to do this

Health protection – impact on the team

- Day response and out of hours remains very busy – multiple incidents and requests for support
- Unclear what responsibilities will remain for public health team as restrictions are lifted – we are finding this difficult
- Still need to support workplaces and settings reporting multiple cases
- Testing – significant issues in deploying mobile units, new community testing programme until at least end September
- Vaccination – support with inequalities work is considerable
- Local contact tracing work continues under both Councils
- Communications and guidance role will continue
- Epicell modelling and intelligence role continues

Health protection: recruitment and planning

- Number of fixed term roles being recruited to in support of health protection work
- Planning to continue day response and out of hours teams
- May become much busier in early autumn
- Pushing for national response around wider health protection responsibilities of Councils – as UK Health Security Agency forms
- Health Protection Board will pick up wider / other HP issues e.g. flu, RSV, other outbreaks of infectious disease
- Testing cell – key people now returning to their substantive roles – still need support from both LAs with mobile units site management

Business plan update

System work and recovery

- JSNA narratives refreshed for each Council
- Prevention at scale stock take completed – working with ICS to hold a strategy workshops
- Contributing to ICS workstreams on commissioning, place-based partnerships

COVID-19

- Outbreak plan stock take to reflect changes to regulations in Step 4
- Supported both Councils to deliver local zero contact tracing
- Outbreak management fund investments for 21-22 – focus on resilient communities
- VOC surge testing plans in place
- New community testing programme from 1 July – focus on vulnerable people

Our organisation

- Re-design work completed to begin consultation on moving to single set of terms and conditions
- Consultation will run from mid-July, implement new structure in September

Priority work over the next 6 months

System work and recovery

- Support developing priorities for the ICS, embedding JSNA and population health management programmes in new functions
- Continue to develop Health Inequalities Interim strategy, Long Term Plan work on smoking cessation in hospitals, new funding for healthy weight

COVID-19

- Focus on protecting most vulnerable, ensure good vaccine coverage, surveillance and response for Variants

Our organisation

- Recovery and wellbeing of the public health team
- Induction for new fixed term roles
- Complete business planning and prioritisation

Programmes

- Review NHS HealthChecks delivery model, increase weight management offer, and deliver LiveWell Dorset service plan