

Escalation Framework

	Outbreak prevention and containment	Raised local alertness	Raised local concern	National oversight
Potential triggers include	<p>Early Warning indicators are stable/improving or not presenting a cause for concern.</p> <p>Cases and outbreaks managed within existing mechanisms</p> <p>No identified additional concerns about specific vulnerable or under-served communities.</p>	<p>Analysis of the early warning indicators suggests the need for raise local alertness</p> <p>At least one outbreak in a complex setting that is not managed within routine outbreak control arrangements e.g. due to high numbers of contacts, high media interest etc.</p> <p>Specific concerns / outbreaks in vulnerable communities (e.g. Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Communities).</p>	<p>Sustained concern regarding early warning Indicators and increasing trend in overall numbers of cases in an area.</p> <p>Multiple outbreaks in complex settings, potentially combined with community spread.</p>	<p>Central Govt Watchlist is published weekly highlighting local authorities of greatest concern, within one of three categories: Area of Concern; Area requiring Enhanced Support; Area requiring Intervention.</p> <p>The latter includes situations where either ESCC requests national intervention, resource prioritisation is required by Ministers as local systems cannot meet need (eg PPE; staff), or Local capabilities and controls are exceeded.</p>
Event Determination	<p>Review of Early Warning Indicators and all other available data by ES Public Health and discussed at daily PH COVID call)</p> <p>East Sussex COVID-19 Operational cell (weekly)</p>	<p>Escalation by the Director of Public Health (DPH) and discussed at weekly ESCC COVID-19 Health Protection Operational cell.</p> <p>If threshold met in-between the weekly ESCC Operational Cell, then escalation by DPH in consultation with, at a minimum, Environmental Health and Public Health England.</p> <p>Consideration given to consultation with SRF and other agencies depending on the specific circumstances.</p>	<p>Escalation to raised local concern by DPH, following consultation with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ESCC COVID-19 Strategic Group - East Sussex Health Protection Board (weekly). - Sussex Resilience Forum (SRF), including whether any Sussex wide/neighbouring LRF action; mutual aid; coordination with government - Public Health England, and District / Borough 	<p>Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, at the Local Action Committee, drawing on advice from the CMO, NHS Test and Trace, Joint Biosecurity Centre and PHE.</p>
Notifications & Communication	<p>Weekly COVID-19 surveillance report sent to partners</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESCC Health Protection Board • ESCC COVID-19 Tactical Group • ESCC COVID-19 Strategic Group • NHS Silver • Sussex ICS Monitoring Group • Member briefing • SRF • Weekly COVID-19 surveillance report sent to partners <p>Consideration to notify neighbouring areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESCC Operational Cell • ESCC COVID-19 Tactical Group • ESCC Health and Wellbeing Board • NHS Silver • Sussex ICS Monitoring Group. • SRF. Consideration given to need for Tactical Coordinating Group. • Formal briefing to members and local MPs <p>Consideration to notify neighbouring areas</p>	<p>As for <i>Raised Local Concern</i>, with Frequent briefings to members and local MPs, and assurance to Government as required.</p> <p>Daily briefings with the media.</p>
Potential Actions (each level describes additional actions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing implementation of Outbreak Control Plan • Individual cases / routine outbreaks usually with support as required. • Comms focus on prevention and preparing reactive statements as required of managed outbreaks. • Ongoing preventative and reactive support to businesses and events to ensure they are COVID-secure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHE establish Outbreak Control Team (OCT) for specific outbreak(s) • Formal local investigation including retrospective audit into potential community spread, (Regional PHE or local) • Multi-agency discussion with Public Health, Environmental Health, PHE, CCG, ESHT, Emergency Planning and Comms • Development of proactive and reactive comms increases. • Targeted community communications emphasizing the standard COVID-19 messages, as per COMS plan. • Increasing testing capacity • Consideration given to enhanced business inspection regime 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outbreak Engagement Board reviews and comments on effectiveness of active public communication and engagement. • Multiple OCTs led by PHE with support from relevant agencies • Specialist support from PHE Field Epidemiology Service. • Public communication to request local changes in behaviour, e.g. home working; avoid public spaces; enhanced social distancing etc • Consider measures to protect vulnerable members of the affected community, e.g. restricting visits to care homes • Additional stakeholder COMS • Further targeted testing capacity • Enhanced business inspection regime 	<p>Area of concern: ESCC leads with support from PHE, NHS Test and Trace, and JBC. Potential actions: targeted testing; enhanced comms; specialist epidemiological analysis.</p> <p>Area of enhanced support: Increased national support and oversight including resources. Potential actions: widespread testing; local restrictions; detailed engagement & comms.</p> <p>Area of intervention: Decision making referred to national level. Potential actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive comms and community engagement • Expanded testing inc asymptomatic • Closing some businesses, venues, public areas • Limiting years or closing schools • Restricting travel or movement • Bespoke measures for shielding population
De-escalation	<p>Sustained period - DPH to consider moving to business as usual</p>	<p>DPH & ESCC Operational Cell</p>	<p>DPH & Health Protection Board</p>	<p>Nationally determined</p>