

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH EBOLA KEY STAKEHOLDER GROUP: 31 OCT. '14

KEY DISCUSSION POINTS AND ACTIONS

Attendees

Listed below.

National Update

PHE updated the group on latest screening developments with screening commenced at Heathrow, Gatwick and St Pancras international Station as these are the major routes an individual from an infected country may travel from. Purpose of screening extends beyond identifying potential Ebola cases to sharing guidance and information to the public on Ebola and what to do if a situation arose. Efforts currently being carried out on local preparedness with local authorities, as well as continuing to support endeavours in West Africa e.g. currently in the process of deploying staff to Sierra Leone to set up laboratories.

Key discussion points

- ❖ Feedback from the national and local exercises (Clair Baynton)
 - National exercise 3 weeks ago with a patient presenting with Ebola. COBR discussed the scenario and decisions taken after. Queries raised at both a national and local level included the process of decontamination of public spaces/open areas, issues with pets exposed to Ebola and surge capacity if patient presents with Ebola. Queries raised at a local level also included NHS familiarity with algorithm, expectations around hospital isolation, PPE training and centralised guidance.
 - All the local exercises to be completed by the 21st November to allow for lessons to be drawn and NHSE/PHE to look at the implications across the healthcare system. Work on PPE training and guidance is being taken forward.

- ❖ DH Ebola health communications strategy (Steven Pollock)
 - Combined joint strategy with PHE/NHSE drawing on expertise
 - Strategy: Three key objectives:
 - 1) Public reassurance
 - 2) Professional/system engagement
 - 3) International action.There is a key role for stakeholders input in objective 1 and 2 in particular.
 - Strategy: Three key phases:
 - 1) Preparedness: Inform public about risks, staff confidence
 - 2) First case: Local/regional/national actions, low risk reemphasised,
 - 3) Ongoing Management: Handling, containment, contact tracing

- What has happened so far: CO cross-government team have been having daily conversations since the 10th October with DH, NHSE and PHE. Discussions around guidance on clinical management, educational settings, NHS111, police custody
 - What we are planning: To work on public/staff confidence over the next 3 weeks with myth-busting pages, CMO video blog, international focuses when Kerrytown facility opens and anti-stigma campaigns.
 - What we ask of stakeholders: Stakeholders to provide access to channels/ spokes people as voices of their organisations and to set up a stakeholder/comms group to allow for feedback and information sharing
- ❖ Feedback from the ICN Ebola Summit in Madrid (Rose Gallagher)
- [Presentation]
 - Key themes included recording and sharing experiences to ensure transparency, helping to create confidence in the system. Issues of stigmatisation are also significant for HCW and staff who are put at risk when caring for patients.
 - One size training does not fit all and this needs to be addressed to ensure successful training and constant communication
- ❖ Notes of the last meeting and action tracker (Felicity Harvey)
- DH now drawing issues that stakeholders have raised into an action tracker, with some issues already being actioned e.g. creating a single portal on the gov.uk website for Ebola

Agreed action points

- Each stakeholder to provide a key link for communications from their organisation (as requested by Steven Pollock) for the first meeting on Friday the 7th November in the boardroom, RH
- Weekly communication teleconference
- Stakeholder group to meet every 2 weeks for strategic plan and then every 3-4 weeks
- Stakeholders to visit gov.uk website and relay any further information requests to DH
- DfiD to brief the group on the in-country response at the next meeting on 14th of November.

Attendees

Felicity Harvey
Helen Shirley-Quirk
Gina Radford
Clair Baynton

Name Redacted

John Watson
Tim Baxter

Name Redacted

Name Redacted

Name Redacted

David Foster

Name Redacted

Rose Gallagher

Name Redacted

Steven Pollock

Name Redacted

On behalf of

Name Redacted

Name Redacted

Stephen Groves
Vivien Nathanson

Name Redacted

John Middleton

Tracey Gauci

Geordina Morgan

Name Redacted On behalf of

Name Redacted

Name Redacted

Director General Public Health, DH
Director, Ebola Response, DH
PHE
Deputy Director EPRR, DH
Principle Pharmaceutical Officer, DH
Deputy Chief Medical Office, DH
Deputy Director Public Health Development Unit, DH
Ebola Response Team, DH
Private Secretary to Felicity Harvey, DH
PHE
Deputy Director of Nursing and Midwifery Advisor, DH
Ebola Stakeholder Manager, DH
Ebola Stakeholder Team, DH
RCN
LGA
Deputy Director, Policy Communications, DH
Northern Ireland
RCGP
RPS
GMC
RCP
NHS England
BMA Medical Director
UNISON
Faculty of Public Health
Welsh Assembly
ADPH
TDA

NHSE
RCP
RCP

