

OFFICIAL

Public Health Strategic Co-ordinating Support Group

Terms of reference



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Document Summary

Purpose and Summary of Document:	This document outlines the purpose and roles and responsibilities of the Public Health Strategic Co-ordinating Support Group
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**Public Health Strategic Co-ordinating
Support Group**

1. Purpose

To provide strategic co-ordination of public health advice, guidance and contingency arrangements for COVID -19.

2. Roles and Responsibilities

1. Provide a single point of communication to Strategic Coordinating Groups (SCGs) and ensure consistency in interpretation, guidance and strategic direction in relation to health protection, microbiology, epidemiology, and wider public health matters.
2. Work with SCGs to consider and provide guidance/response to local questions and challenges relating to the above, as they arise.
3. Facilitate the provision of and consistency in advice from local public health resource supporting individual SCGs.
4. Consider all aspects relating to the wider public health system workforce, including mutual aid (e.g. LA Environmental Health resource, public service occupational health workforce).
5. Identify and consider relevant strategic aspects of response including for example ethical considerations and other issues not yet identified.

3. Chair and Secretariat

Public Health Wales, is offering to chair this group through the Executive Director of Public Health Services (acting as PHW Strategic Director COVID -19 (and nominated deputy for resilience).

4. Membership

Membership will be determined by the changing requirements of the incident. Initial attendees to include:

- Public Health Wales
- 7 x Health Board, Executive Directors of Public Health
- Wales Ambulance Service and Velindre NHS Trust
- LA – Directors of Public Protection representative
- SCG representative – 1 x each SCG
- Police Force representative



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- Welsh Government (tbc including Chief Scientific Adviser as appropriate)
- Food Standards Agency Wales (as required)
- Natural Resources Wales (as required)

The group may co-opt additional members to provide specialist skills, knowledge and expertise as and when required.

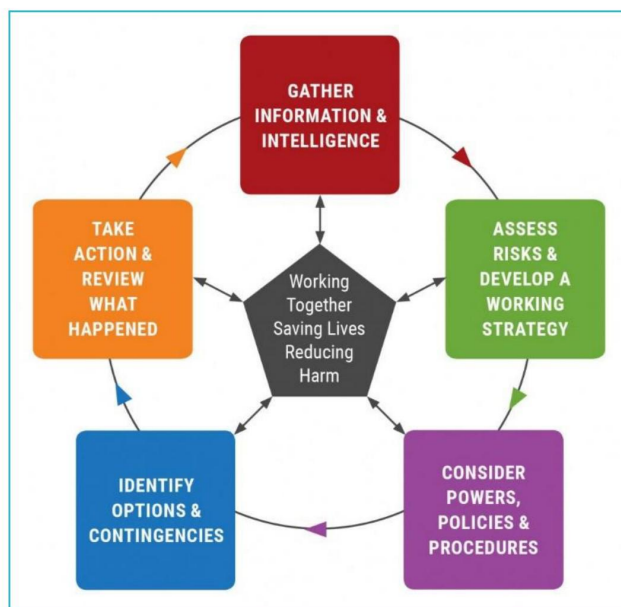
5. Governance

The Public Health Strategic Co-ordinating Support Group will liaise directly with Strategic Coordinating Groups and Health Desk in Emergency Coordination Centre Wales.

Respecting the Civil Contingencies Act principles of subsidiarity and responsibility for decision making, it is recognised that the Strategic Coordinating Group (SCG) remains responsible for the multi-agency management of the emergency and the strategic objectives and framework in which responders will operate.

6. Joint Decision Making

The Joint Decision Model (JDM) can help bring together the available information, reconcile objectives and make effective decisions – together.



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