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**COVID OPERATIONS COMMITTEE (98) MEETING**

12:15-13:00 - 23 December 2020

Dial In

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**DECISIONS**

1. COVID-O agreed to the following Gold recommendations:
  - a. East Midlands
    - i. Northamptonshire County Council – escalate to Tier 3
  - b. East of England:
    - i. In Essex County Council (Colchester Borough, Tendring District, and Uttlesford District Councils) – escalate to Tier 4
    - ii. Suffolk County Council – escalate to Tier 4
  - c. North West:
    - i. Cheshire East Council – escalate to Tier 3
    - ii. Cheshire West and Chester Council – escalate to Tier 3
    - iii. Warrington Borough Council – escalate to Tier 3
  - d. South East:
    - i. East Sussex County Council – escalate to Tier 4
    - ii. West Sussex County Council – escalate to Tier 4
    - iii. Brighton and Hove City Council – escalate to Tier 4
    - iv. Hampshire County Council - (Basingstoke and Deane Borough, East Hampshire District, Eastleigh Borough, Fareham Borough, Hart District, Rushmoor Borough, Test Valley Borough, Winchester City Councils) - escalate to Tier 4
    - v. Hampshire County Council - (New Forest District) escalate to Tier 3
    - vi. Isle of Wight escalate to Tier 3
    - vii. Southampton City Council – escalate to Tier 4
    - viii. Oxfordshire County Council – escalate to Tier 4
    - ix. Surrey County Council (Waverley Borough Council) – escalate to Tier 4
  - e. South West:
    - i. Cornwall Council – escalate to Tier 2
    - ii. Swindon Borough Council – escalate to Tier 3

2. COVID-O also agreed the following marginal escalations:
  - a. East of England:
    - i. Cambridgeshire County Council - escalate to Tier 4
    - ii. Norfolk County Council - escalate to Tier 4
  - b. West Midlands:
    - i. Herefordshire County Council - escalate to Tier 2
  - c. South West:
    - i. Bristol City Council - escalate to Tier 3
    - ii. North Somerset Council - escalate to Tier 3
    - iii. Gloucestershire County Council - escalate to Tier 3
    - iv. Somerset County Council - escalate to Tier 3
3. COVID-O agreed the above escalations would come into force at 0001 on 26 December.
4. COVID-O agreed to introduce shielding guidance in all Tier 4 areas.
5. COVID-O noted the actions proposed on addressing the new variant found in South Africa.
6. COVID-O agreed that the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care would announce the escalations later in the day.