

**Executive Decision
Individual Decision Notice**



Decision Maker: Cabinet, 24 Mar 2021

Classification:
Unrestricted

Direct Award of Contract for Delivery of Covid-19 Asymptomatic Testing

Under the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 – notice is required to be given of the intention to take Executive Key Decisions.

Notice is given either through an Individual Decision Notice or through the Forward Plan. Notice must normally be given 28 Days' before the decision can be taken.

<p>Key Decision? No</p>	<p>Ward(s) All Wards</p>
<p>Summary of Decision</p>	<p>The Government's roadmap for lifting national Covid-19 lockdown restrictions published in February 2021 includes a requirement for local authorities to extend asymptomatic community testing until the end of June, and to expand the service by offering Lateral Flow Test (LFT) home testing for eligible groups via a system called 'Community Collect'.</p> <p>Alongside the rollout of the vaccine, the ongoing provision of asymptomatic community testing will play a vital role in ensuring that the lifting of restrictions is delivered safely and sustainably. As lockdown eases, asymptomatic community testing will expand to focus on new groups of people as relevant national restrictions are eased, following the initial focus on the return of schools. Other groups will follow in accordance with the timetable set out in the roadmap.</p> <p>All of our current Asymptomatic Test Sites (ATS) are currently operated by a provider, Hub Logistics, who were appointed by the Greater London Authority in December 2020 to deliver community mass testing for all 8 boroughs in North East London.</p> <p>The Council was informed in February 2021 that this arrangement would cease at the end of March 2021, with a possible extension until the 12th April where boroughs could demonstrate robust transition plans were in place.</p> <p>This paper proposes a contract award to Hub Logistics for the continued provision of four fixed Asymptomatic Test Sites (ATSS) in Tower Hamlets over a three month period until the end of June 2021, operating 9 hours per day, 7 days per week and offering</p>

	<p>enhancements to the existing service such as 'Community Collect' points for home test kit collection.</p> <p>The estimated value of this contract is £715,000 with the flexibility to expand provision should the need arise. These costs will be funded by the Department of Health & Social Care up to the lower of £14 per test delivered or costs.</p> <p>During this three-month period the Council will also assume direct management of the Blackwall Depot staff testing site, as well as developing a longer term delivery plan for community asymptomatic testing.</p>
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Community Plan Theme	TH Plan 3: Strong, resilient and safe communities
Cabinet Member	Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing (Councillor Rachel Blake)
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	CLT Gold
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	No
Contact details for comments or additional information	Dr Somen Banerjee (Director of Public Health) somen.banerjee@towerhamlets.gov.uk
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	Cabinet paper
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why (Paragraph number – see notes section)?	No, Unrestricted

NOTES

Advance notice of Key Decisions

Key decisions are all those decisions which involve major spending, or savings, or which have a significant impact on the local community. The precise definition

of a key decision adopted by Tower Hamlets is contained in Article 13.03 of the [Constitution](#). Key Decisions are taken by the Mayor, or the Mayor in Cabinet.

Individual notices of new Key Decisions will be published on the website as they are known, whilst a Forward Plan collating these decisions will be published 28 days before each Cabinet meeting. The Forward Plan will be published on the Council's website and will also be available to view at the Town Hall and Libraries, Ideas Centres and One Stop Shops if required. [The Committee pages](#) on the Council website include copies of the Forward Plan, Cabinet and other meeting dates and the publication dates of the Forward Plan.

If, due to reasons of urgency, a Key Decision has to be taken where 28 days' notice have not been given. Notice will be published (including on the website) as early as possible and Urgency Procedures as set out in the Constitution will have to be followed.

The most effective way for the public to make their views known about the issues listed in the Forward Plan is to examine the consultation column of the Forward Plan, and/or contact the report author or Cabinet Lead Member as soon as possible, and no later than 10 working days before the decision is expected to be taken.

Reports, appendices and background papers will be available on the Council's website 5 clear working days before the Cabinet meeting. For all other information or to submit documents in relation to any issue, please contact the relevant officer.

Notice of Intention to Conduct Business in Private

The Council is also required to give at least 28 days' notice if it wishes to consider any of the reports on the agenda of an Executive meeting (such as Cabinet) in private session. The last row of each item below will indicate any proposal to consider that item in private session. Should you wish to make any representations in relation to an item being considered in private please contact Democratic Services on the contact details listed below. Note that this applies to Cabinet but not to Individual Mayoral Decisions outside of Cabinet.

The notice may reference a paragraph of Section 12A of the 1972 Local Government Act. In summary those paragraphs refer to the following types of exempt information (more information is available in the Constitution):

1. Information relating to any individual
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority handling the information)
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matters arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
6. Information which reveals that the authority proposes:-
 - a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
 - b) to make an order or direction under any enactment.
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

Democratic Services Contact Details:

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