

Mobile Unit guidance notes

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Process for large local outbreaks

1. LCRC (IMT) identifies a situation (either through data or notification from DPH) where enhanced investigation will be required
 - Schools
 - Universities / halls of residence
 - Other educational settings
 - A complex workplace
 - Possibly a place of worship, place of mass gathering – once these are allowed
2. LA/ LCRC outbreak response identifies a need for local testing at scale as per SOP and joint agreement, taking into account speed, convenience and accessibility.
3. If LA teams are unable to support scale of testing
 - LA DPH notifies mobile testing unit (MTU) cell of the number of tests needed and confirms the day (can be as early as the following day). People attending the MTU with a letter will be provided with a test kit by the MTU.
 - LA or school, workplace, or other setting leads contact all people or parents of children requiring testing in writing ideally by email
 - LA confirms with mobile testing cell that the site meets the requirements

Note to assist Local Authorities to identify sites for alternate day deployment of Mobile testing units

1. Local Authorities should identify a network of sites that cover all areas of the Borough as possible sites so that, should larger outbreaks occur where an MTU might be needed, there would have been some pre-thought given to where these could be placed. There may of course be outbreaks in settings which are themselves large enough to 'host' an MTU such as a large workplace, a secondary school, a larger care home etc? This work could also review sites suitable for alternate day deployment of MTUs using the following criteria
 - Accessible for all – fit with existing outreach services/ JSNA priorities
 - Social vulnerability – link to find and treat service
 - Hard to reach groups
 - Lack of digital access
 - Language barriers
 - HMOs/overcrowding
 - Physical access to testing sites – low car ownership
 - Meets potential local surge in prevalence
 - High demand in local areas
 - Communities with outbreaks
 - Workplaces

- Population needs and behaviour/ any groups less likely to comply with social distancing
- Suitability of the site itself.