



Title of Report:	Consideration of Locations for Local (LTS) or Mobile (MTS) Test sites for Covid National Testing Programme
Committee Report Submitted To:	Corporate Policy and Resources
Date of Meeting:	25th May 2021
For Decision or For Information	For Decision

Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)	
Strategic Theme	Healthy, Active and Engaged Communities
Outcome	Identification and Agreement for approval of Test sites
Lead Officer	

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	N/A
Included in Current Year Estimates	YES/NO
Capital/Revenue	N/A
Code	N/A
Staffing Costs	N/A

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes/No	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise members of approaches received from the Department of Health & Social Care (DHSC) and Public Health Agency (PHA) for the provision of test sites for the detection of Covid-19 cases and to agree a streamlined procedure for approval.

2.0 Background

2.1 A Local Test Site (LTS) is a small test sites ranging from 0.08-0.2 acre. They are meant to serve potentially more vulnerable people who may only be able to access a test site by walking locally or require a more in-depth and guided approach in taking a test.

2.2 The sites will be active for a 6–9-month period with exceptions considered.

2.3 LTS comprise of a self-contained unit with power, utilities, and staff welfare accommodation. Marquees of 15m x 30m or 15m x 9m are used. A video of the set up and use is available on the PHA website <https://vimeo.com/481302393>

2.4 An LTS site will require a hardstanding/tarmac base with good vehicular access. The site will be fenced off and be provided with 24-hour security.

2.5 Due to the medium to long term use for an LTS site a lease will always be sought. The operator will provide public liability insurance and complete all necessary risk assessments in advance of deployment.

2.6 Sites will be operational from 0800hrs-2000hrs

2.6 A Mobile Testing Unit (MTU): has agile capability that allows temporary testing to be set up quickly serve communities on a rolling basis. An MTU comprises of a customised van which people drive to.

2.7 Several MTU's have already been deployed in locations where clusters have been identified to assist in testing of the local community and have remained on site for 2-4 weeks dependent on need.

3.0 Proposals

3.1 Council has been recently approached by DHSC/PHA to identify a suitable location for a Local test site within Ballymoney.

3.2 Two sites have been identified as meeting the necessary requirements:

- (i) Car Park, Market Street Ballymoney (This is a non-charging facility).
- (ii) Car Park, between Riada Stadium and Hockey Pitches, Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre.

4.0 Recommendation

It is recommended that the Corporate Policy and Resources committee make a recommendation to Council as to the preferred site from the two indicated above.

It is further recommended that the committee recommends to Council that delegated authority be given to the Senior Leadership team for the approval of sites to be used should requests be received in the future. Any approvals will be reported to Corporate Policy & Resources committee and Land and Property sub-committee at the earliest opportunity thereafter and that all sites be offered at no cost.