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14th OCT COVID-19 2 SISTERS PLANT

Date of meeting: 09 July 2020

Time of meeting: 10:00-10:30

Venue for meeting: Skype meeting

Version: 0a DRAFT

Present:

	Consultant in Communicable Disease Control, PHW – OCT Chair	
	Lead Health Protection Nurse, PHW	
	Communications Manager, PHW	
	Clinical Scientist Lead for Zoonoses, GI & Emerging Infections, PHW	
	TTP Representative, PHW	
	GP, Anglesey (shadowing RA)	
	National Contact Centre, PHW	
	Senior Medical Officer, WG	
	Deputy Director Community Safety Division, WG	
	Community Testing Unit Lead, BCUHB	
	Chief Public Protection Officer, Anglesey CBC	
	Public Protection Manager, Gwynedd CBC	
	Executive Director of Public Health, BCUHB	
	Health & Safety Executive	
	Incident Officer, Food Standards Agency	
	Food Standards Agency	
	Head of Regulatory Services, Anglesey County Borough Council	
	Environmental Health Manager, Anglesey CBC	
	Taking minutes	

Apologies:

██████████ – CDSC, PHW (██████████ in attendance)

1.	Welcome, introductions and apologies █████ welcomed everyone to the meeting, introductions were made and apologies noted as above.	
2.	Action log update The following remain outstanding: Action 101 – █████ has received the workforce training materials from 2 Sisters that were circulated prior to the meeting. Due to the file size, not all OCT members received this. The files will be split and shared across multiple emails after this meeting. Following which, this action can be closed. Action 103 – typo noted on the action log (should read █████ not █████). █████ will forward the list of the remaining staff to █████ this afternoon. Refer to the updated action log for wider comments and any additional actions agreed at today's meeting.	
3.	Epidemiological summary of cases █████ noted the following figures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • █████ additional case has been confirmed since the last meeting on 6 July • Total associated cases is now 221 • 18 identified individuals who we do not have a result recorded, █████ of these were not working at the site during or since the period of interest • This leaves 16 who have not come forward (much improved situation on these numbers) • ██ <p>In relation to the 16 who have not been tested, 2 Sisters have confirmed they are holding the line that those staff who haven't come forward for testing will not be permitted on site and are currently still encouraging them to do so. OCT recognised that at some point a further decision would be required on this group. █████ will follow up next week and provide the company with an updated list of names for cross checking.</p>	
4.	HSE Site Visit Findings (DW) █████ provided an overview of the site visit which took place yesterday and the following was noted:	

- After arriving early and doing some “walk bys” the factory appears to be completely different
- Blanket enforcement was clearly in place
- All staff wearing transparent visors from upon arriving on site
- [REDACTED] was met at the fence by security and clearly directed to follow the sign in procedure, a visor was provided and a full site briefing took place
- Thermal cameras are in place
- [REDACTED] met with the senior management team and the safety team, as well as holding discussions with randomly selected staff who could provide an honest impression of their workplace changes, as well as looking through various pieces of documentation
- Staff were quick to comment that they felt safer at work since the changes have been implemented
- Staff placed on the deboning and chill line were also interviewed and had very good feedback
- Main concerns were around the communal areas and [REDACTED] reported:
 - Smoking shelter has been expanded significantly and the chairs are chained down to prevent them being moved closer together
 - Canteen areas now also have fixed seating and additional chairs have been removed
 - In narrower corridor areas, suspended screens are in place and are well fitted
- Overall, [REDACTED] was content there was nothing lacking on site and has brought away various documentation from the management team to review.
- The new Head of Safety has been in post for a few weeks and there is also a new manager on the deboning line
- A discussion with the Union was also had and [REDACTED] confirmed they are happy with the changes

In relation to the concern raised by a member of the public last week, [REDACTED] followed this up and confirmed these were two contractors, who were on site fitting CCCTV to monitor the smoking area. Both individuals were wearing face masks and [REDACTED] is content that this incident does not constitute a breach.

[REDACTED] queried the timescale for further monitoring/site visits and who holds responsibility for workforce behaviours off site. This would not be in HSE’s remit, but [REDACTED] confirmed the company have taken a very holistic view and gone into detail about off-site behaviour with staff.

■■■■ also noted that after reviewing location information of cases, there were none confirmed from the primary side of processing (goods inward, kill area, ambient temperature). All cases identified have been workers located within the chill side of the factory (supporting the current scientific evidence). Work remains ongoing by the company, and HSE plan to revisit mid-August.

2 Sisters are also voluntarily embarking on a behavioural change programme linked to COVID-19 controls and this will be picked up during the next visit. Enforcement routes however, lie with the police force. Should recurring issues be identified then the OCT can review as required.

OCT recognised the challenge of influencing behaviours on a wider scale – this includes clear messaging reaching sectors within the community, which is being picked up through the LRF.

■■■■ and ■■■■ highlighted the need for a pro-active engagement going forward. It is important to take lessons learnt from this outbreak to influence and amend the guidance for both industry and communities. Another suggestion was a proactive mailshot to other factories within the industry and there is a lot of work going on at a higher level across WG and HSE that could be provide a link in. ■■■■ noted HSE are carrying out spot checks of food factories in various areas, as well as undertaking programmes of work to upskill new trainees. **Action: ■■■■ to explore how to get the message out with HSE Comms team.**

Further discussion took place around behavioural change and union involvement. The unions have good links with the community which should be utilised going forward. They have had no adverse criticism of the steps being taken by the company. ■■■■ will be doing a more complete union debrief.

■■■■ led the inspection team who visited the site on Monday to observe social distancing. The measures in place currently go above and beyond the requirements but prove to be complimentary.

5. Testing and Sampling

■■■■ and ■■■■ noted that there are still some staff coming through to CTU (much reduced since last week) and it was agreed this is a good time to advise testing is now accessed via the "usual" route. ■■■■ has received the list of those 16 during this meeting

	and will forward to ■ ASAP and also forward to the factory, with a follow up call to advise of the change.	
6.	Control Measures Nothing to add other than the previously discussed issues around off site behaviours. Ongoing work is required to ensure consistent messages are provided.	
7.	Communications <p>The outbreak update, as agreed on Monday, went out in Tuesday's daily PHW Statement. This was more upbeat and positive.</p> <p>Media enquiries have been quiet in relation to 2 Sisters and there has been a reduced level of media interest around the meat processing outbreaks in general over the last few days.</p> <p>Following discussion today, tomorrow's statement will include a level of reassurance given by 2 Sisters to the OCT and from the HSE inspection, so a reassuring community message.</p> <p>■ suggested that there is a need for continued focus and reassurance, highlighting the high standards that have been put in place. A proactive case study piece was suggested and OCT agreed to explore this as a tactical option via the following routes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ■ to discuss with PHW Media Cell • ■ to discuss with HSE Head of Operations for Wales • 2 Sisters will also need to be approached and on-side • Inclusion of TTP, as this was a contributing factor to the outbreak response • Input from SCG <p>■ asked for feedback from partner agencies on the easy share materials, which have been circulated. Any comments to be sent directly to ■ via email outside of the meeting.</p>	
8.	Next Steps <p>■ noted that the formal conclusion of the outbreak would adhere to the "standard" two incubation periods. It was also noted that occasional cases are to be expected from potential community transmission. This will not necessarily mean there is an ongoing outbreak or re-occurrence within the factory.</p> <p>■ put to the OCT the question of how best to proceed and whether the group felt any benefit to continue meeting regularly.</p> <p>■ noted there is still no clarity on how monitoring and surveillance will continue once the OCT has been dismissed.</p>	

	<p>There is a lot of data analysis being carried out by CDSC but clarity is requested on how the information is being used to inform decision making. ■■■ made a formal request of PHW and the Health Board to provide written assurance to the Local Authorities that the operational monitoring and surveillance of data will be sufficient to provide certainty and reassurance.</p> <p>■■■ noted the Health Protection Oversight group (CMO chaired) met earlier this week and request was made to establish a group who will look at all data available (across the numerous streams). WG colleagues will key individuals in PHW to review this data on a weekly basis to identify any clusters of cases. The first meeting is being held on Monday and ■■■ will look at how this information is communicated to all partners across Wales.</p> <p>■■■ queried whether there is a formal handover protocol or established process for individual agencies to pick up issues during this "interim debrief process". ■■■ agreed to seek advice from PHW's Emergency Planning and Business Continuity colleagues.</p> <p>OCT agreed to meet in one week to capture:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • outcomes of the WG data meeting • routine epidemiology data with routine overview • any other issues that arise in the next week • further consider how to proceed 	
9.	<p>Next meeting</p> <p>Thursday 16 July 2020 13:30-14:30</p>	