






DPH ASSESSMENT

BROADSTAIRS CHRISTMAS MARKET 2020 Broadstairs Promenade 10th – 13th December 2020

The DPH is an officer who can recommend the issue of a Direction under The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) (No. 3) Regulations 2020 (“the Regulations”) which came into force on 18th July 2020.

Contact person:	Stephen D Cochrane stephen.cochrane@kent.gov.uk stephencochrane@nhs.net	Telephone number: 07961352234
Advising officer	The designated officer(s) who advised the Director of Public Health is <i>Stephen D Cochrane Specialist in Public Health (Registration Number UKPHR 336)</i>	
Legal powers	The Regulations give the power to the local authority to issue a Direction if the authority considers that the following conditions are met— <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) that giving such a direction responds to a serious and imminent threat to public health, b) that the direction is necessary for the purpose of preventing, protecting against, controlling or providing a public health response to the incidence or spread of infection by coronavirus in the local authority's area, and c) that the prohibitions, requirements or restrictions imposed by the direction are a proportionate means of achieving that purpose. 	
	<p>I have read the advice and report of the designated officer, Stephen D Cochrane which is reflected in the following sections of my assessment. I have also considered the provisions within the regulations and advise accordingly to assist the Cabinet Member in taking a view as to whether to issue a direction.</p> <p>The rates of Covid-19 in the Thanet District, currently 422.8 cases per 100,000 (seven day rolling rate up to 05 December 2020) which are amongst the highest in the southeast and Kent, the event organiser has failed to evidence that sufficient resources are or will be provided to ensure that a Covid secure event can be delivered.</p> <p>Given the intended size of the market of at least 28 stalls, the significant number of people anticipated attending and the proposed level of resources to manage the event it is considered prohibition is the most appropriate and proportionate means of achieving the purpose.</p> <p>I recommend to the Council that a Direction Notice be served on this market in the event that the Market Square Group Ltd (Paul Kennedy Event Direct and Organiser) fails to cancel the event voluntarily.</p>	

<p>Reasons for the advice</p>	<p>Please include a brief statement of the reasons for the decision:</p> <p>The advising officer considers that the following conditions required under the Regulations are met—</p> <p>1: This direction responds to a serious and imminent threat to public health;</p> <p>The Christmas Market which is proposed is in an area where the rate of Covid prevalence in the Thanet District, which includes the area of Broadstairs, are amongst the highest in England. Rolling rate of cases 422.8 rate per 100,000 7 days rolling up to 05/12/20. Source: https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk.</p> <p>Attracting large numbers of people to this event poses a serious and imminent threat to public health. Given that the true rate of COVID in the local population will be higher and there is a greater risk where the public are coming into close contact with each other, the market represents a serious and imminent threat through the opportunity for the transmission of the virus.</p> <p>2: This direction is necessary for the purpose of preventing, protecting against, controlling or providing a public health response to the incidence or spread of infection by coronavirus in the Authority's area;</p> <p>The direction is necessary as the event organisation the Market Square Group has failed to evidence that sufficient resources are or will be provided to ensure that a Covid secure event can be delivered. This is based upon the submitted Event Management Plan – Broadstairs Christmas Market 2020 V2, Physical (Social) Distancing Plan – Broadstairs Christmas Market 2020 and Site Plan from the Market Square Group and the KCC/Medway Public Health Risk Assessment carried out by Stephen D Cochrane , Socialist in Public Health (Registration Number UKPHR 336) Kent County Council Public Health and a site visit completed on the morning of Friday 11th December 2020.</p> <p>The event organisers have failed to demonstrate that they are able to cope with the expected numbers over the weekend in a COVID secure way. The event management plan does not give me confidence that the event can be conducted with the likely numbers expected without the opportunity for the transmission of the virus. Given the significant number of cases already recorded within the locality of the event and in surrounding areas (who may also seek to attend), I regrettably conclude that the event on Saturday and Sunday must be stopped.</p> <p>There is the further risk of people carrying the virus asymptotically which could result in the further transmission of the virus both within the immediate geographic and more</p>

	<p>broadly across the region given the expected number of attendees.</p> <p>3: The prohibitions, requirements or restrictions imposed by this direction are a proportionate means of achieving that purpose</p> <p>Given the intended size of the market of at least 28 stalls, the potential number of people anticipated attending and the proposed level of resources to manage the event it is considered prohibition is the most appropriate and proportionate means of achieving the purpose.</p> <p>The event was not stopped on Thursday or Friday because the numbers did not reach a level of materiality and the event was able to proceed. Given the numbers expected over the weekend and the weather on Friday impacting attendance and possibly increasing numbers further on Saturday and Sunday, I believe the direction to be a reasonable and proportionate step if the event manager insists on proceeding.</p>			
<p>Equalities assessment</p>	<p>Kent County Council already have data on diversity which has informed the assessment of impact on protected characteristics in the Thanet area by any prohibition, and also have considered the local contextual community factors which may interact and adversely impinge on any population protected characteristics.</p>			
<p>Details of consultation and DPH advice</p>	<p>Thanet District Council – Events Unit and Neighbourhood Directorate. Kent County Council – Trading Standards, Kent Resilience Team, Public Health Directorate (Strategic Commissioning), Kent PH Observatory, Multi Agency Information Cell (MAIC) Market Square Group Ltd - Company number 06774990</p>			
<p>Affected wards/areas</p>	<p>The Urban area of Broadstairs within the Thanet District Council area</p>			
<p>Approval of Advice</p>	<p>Authorised PH adviser¹ Andrew Scott-Clark</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="427 1664 1498 1901"> <tr> <td data-bbox="427 1664 1198 1901"> <p>Signature (<i>can be electronic</i>)</p>  </td> <td data-bbox="1198 1664 1498 1901"> <p>Date</p> <p>11/12/2020</p> </td> </tr> </table>		<p>Signature (<i>can be electronic</i>)</p> 	<p>Date</p> <p>11/12/2020</p>
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