

Welcome!

# NPA COVID -19 RESPONSE GROUP EMERGING



Northern Periphery and  
Arctic Programme  
2014–2020



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A – Clinical aspects  
(COVIDWATCH-EU-NPA)

Theme F – Emerging themes  
(AET)

3 – Health and wellbeing  
(Re-MIND)

**CoRe**

E – Economic impact

Theme C – Technology solutions  
(TechSolns)

Theme D – Citizen engagement /  
Community response (CRR)



## AET – Analysing Emerging Themes in the environment of living with Covid-19 through the twin lenses of care homes and university campuses

**Partners and Associated Partners:** NHS Highland, Scotland; Highland Health Ventures Ltd, Scotland; University of Ulster, Northern Ireland; Tampere University & University of Jyväskylä, Finland; Norrlands Universitetssjukhus – Norrland University Hospital, Nus, Sweden.

**Project Aim:** To examine the experiences of care home staff, university staff and students during the COVID-19 pandemic and how these relate to society as a whole through an analysis of the five other key project areas (clinical aspects, mental wellbeing, technological solutions, citizens' engagement and economic impact).

**How are aims achieved:** Hosting webinars, conducting one to one interviews followed by a thematic analysis.



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William Duffy, James Gillespie,  
Joan Condell  
Ulster University



norrlands  
universitetssjukhus



Tampere University



JYVÄSKYLÄN YLIOPISTO  
UNIVERSITY OF JYVÄSKYLÄ

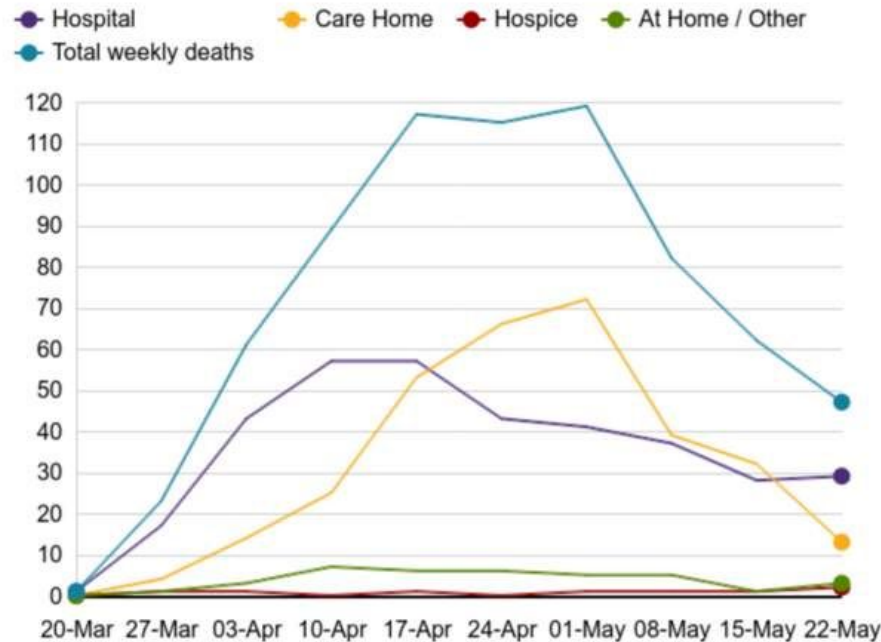


# NPA COVID-19 Response Group Emerging Themes

Northern Irish first wave

## Coronavirus in Northern Ireland

Deaths registered where Covid-19 is recorded on death certificate



Data up to and including week ending 22 May

Source: NISRA

BBC

- On 29th May NISRA reported 716 COVID-19 deaths since start of pandemic; half of the deaths (53.1%; 380) were in care home residents
- **To Combat:** Care home visitations banned; virtual visits using video technology encouraged by PHA
  - Ethel; Facebook Portal; Kraydel

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## Emerging Themes



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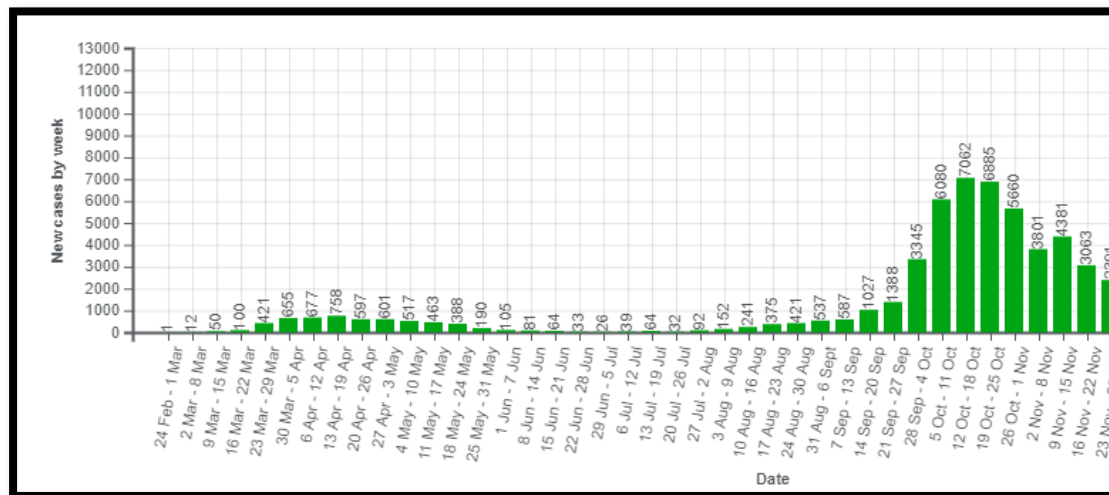
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### Northern Irish second wave

- Second wave - September 2020 – November 2020
  - 301 per 100,000 population (20-49 age group)
  - 169 per 100,000 population (50-69 years)
  - 152 per 100,000 population (0-19 years)
  - 82 per 100,000 population (70+ years)

#### To combat:

- Ulster University/QUB - online delivery
- STOPCOVID NI
- QUB rent break
- On-campus asymptomatic testing
- Walk-in testing units

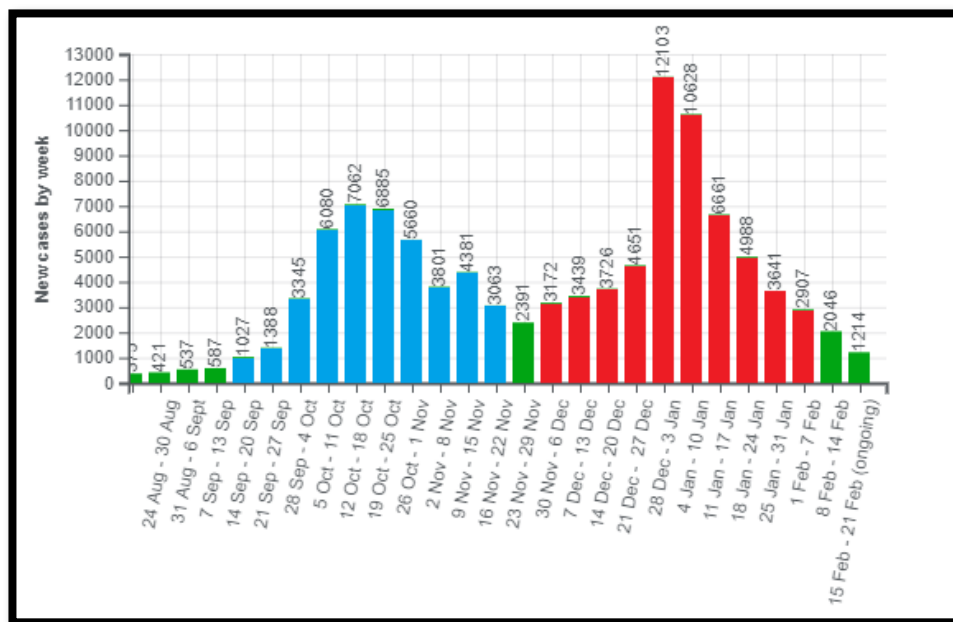




# NPA COVID-19 Response Group Emerging Themes

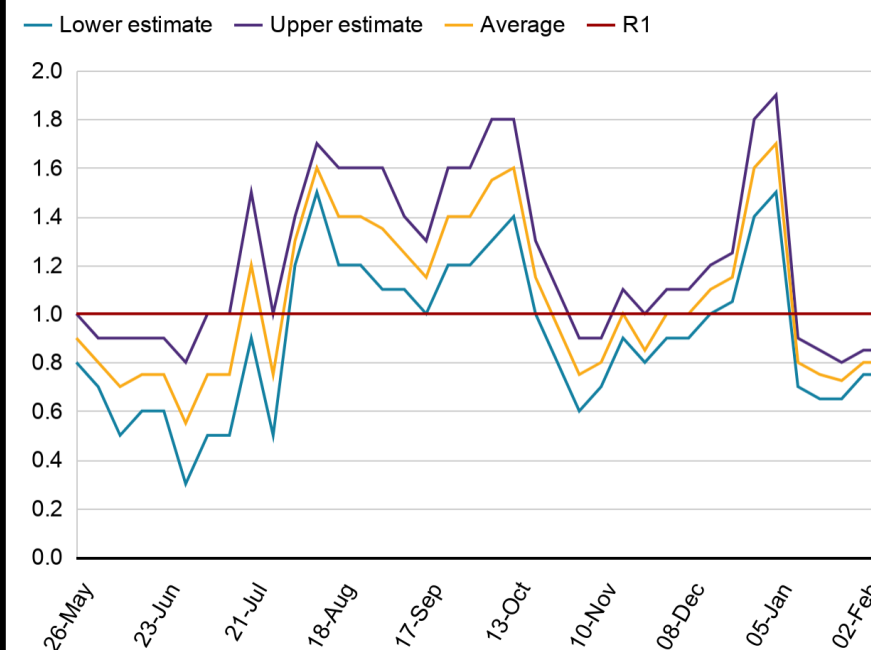
## Northern Irish third wave

- Third wave – December 2020 to February 2021
  - Peaked just after the Christmas period
- ROI border/airport fines introduced



## Northern Ireland's Covid-19 reproductive number

Current estimate of R based on new positive tests



Source: Department of Health as of 9 February 2021

BBC

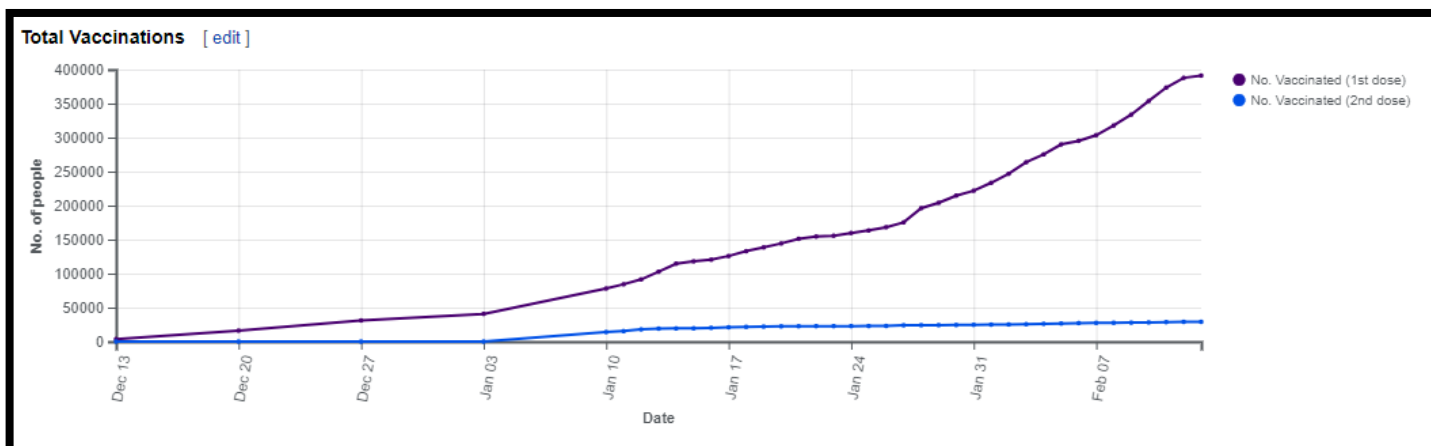




# NPA COVID-19 Response Group Emerging Themes

## Northern Irish vaccination roll-out

- Vaccines
  - Pfizer-BioNTech – approved 07/12/20
  - Oxford/Astrazeneca – approved 26/12/20
- Phased prioritized rollout



## Northern Ireland vaccine programme

Indicative timing and details of phases

### Phase 1 (Priority groups 1 and 2) December 2020

Care home residents	12,000
Care home staff	20,000
Health and Social Care staff	70,000 +
Over 80 year-olds	72,000

### Phase 2 (Priority groups 3 to 6) February 2021

Over 75 year-olds to 65 year-olds	233,000
Clinically vulnerable under 65 year-old	
Extremely vulnerable	95,000
Moderately vulnerable	135,000

### Phase 3 (Priority groups 7 to 9) Spring 2021

Over 60 year-olds	106,000
Over 55 year-olds	125,000
Over 50 year-olds	135,000

### Phase 4 (Mass vaccination programme) Summer 2021

General population not already vaccinated

### Phase 5 (Mass vaccination programme) 2022 onwards

Routine vaccination programme

Source: Department of Health







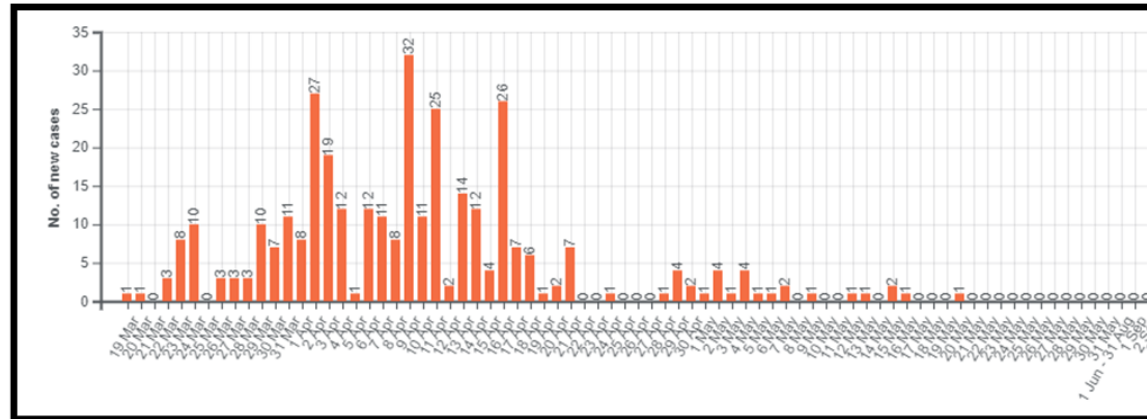
# NPA COVID-19 Response Group Emerging Themes

## COVID-19 in the Isle of Man

- First case reported on the 19th March 2020
- Borders closed to non-residents on 27th March
- 14-day self-isolation period required on arrival

### Outlook

- Due to the measures taken, there are no restrictions on the island, only restrictions on entry.
- Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine roll-out began on 16th of December with 12.5% of the IoM population as of 13 February 2021





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Outi Jolanki, Tampere University  
& University of Jyväskylä,  
Finland, Lina van Aerschot JYU,  
Antti Hämäläinen JYU & Sari  
Vallenius, JYU



Highland Health  
Ventures Ltd



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- Overall situation of the Covid-19 pandemic:
  - Confirmed cases 51 500 (18.2.2021)
  - Jan-Feb 2021 the number of incidents rising; new virus variations spread
  - Most new cases in capital area of Helsinki and coastal and border areas south-west and north-west (Finland-Sweden border)
- No increase in overall mortality 2020
- New cases mainly among children and young adults; few people hospitalised (in 19th Feb: 132 in hospital, 30 in intensive care), total sum of deaths 723
- Regional outbursts contained quickly, albeit new virus variations may change the situation



- Vaccinated 4.2 % of population, regional differences in pace, priority people + 80 and social and health care workers
- Mobility restrictions continue: 10 pers/max; public spaces & services mainly closed (swimming halls, theatres, day care centres), private business limited (restaurants, gym etc); trade schools and universities mainly online teaching, distant work recommended to all
  - Local variations in restrictions; most strict in the capital region
- Care homes allow visits (1-2 visitors at a time)
- **Children's day care, primary schools and high schools open**
- **Reported problems** with mental health and social wellbeing of children, students, working people (incl. care workers) + people in vulnerable sit.
- **Reported delays** in health care access and treatment of chronic conditions



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# Nils Sandberg, Region Västerbotten, University hospital of Northern Sweden



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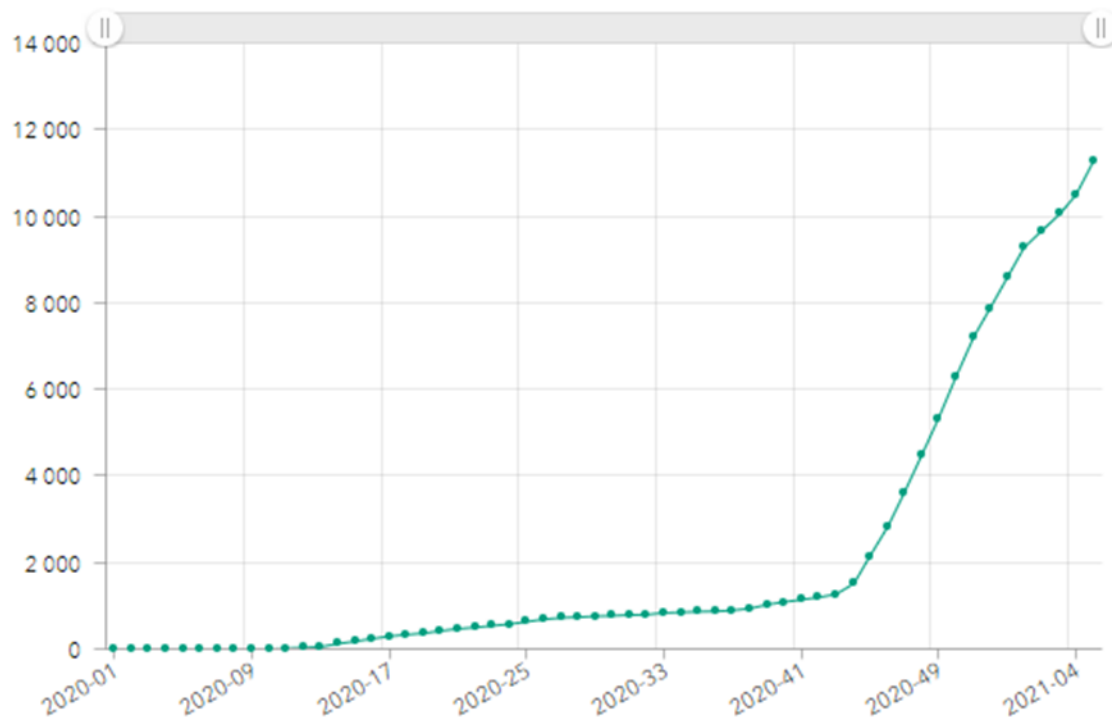
## Emerging Themes



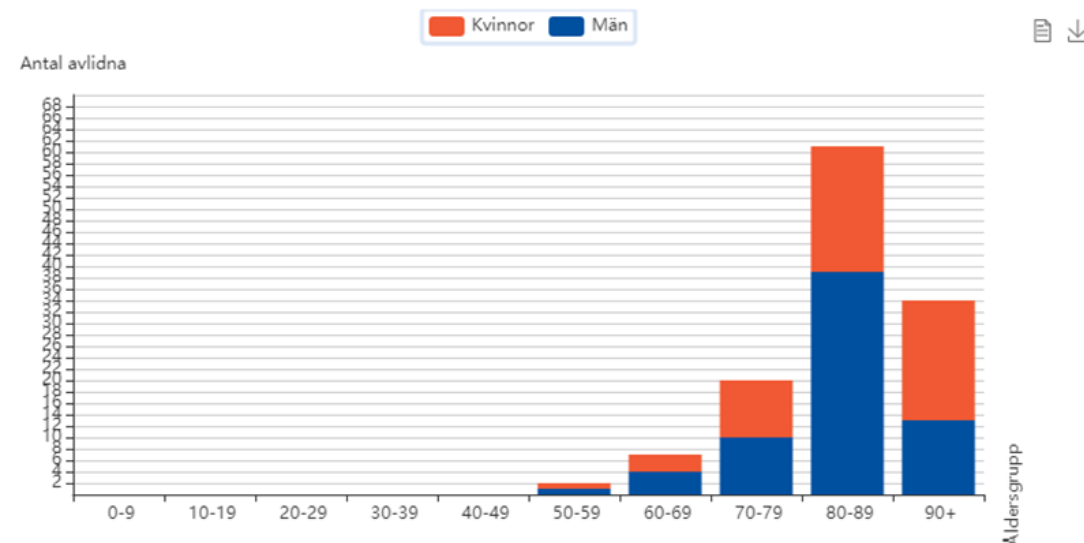
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Antal avlidna fördelat över åldersgrupper och kön \*  
Totalt antal avlidna: 57 kvinnor, 67 män



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## Emerging Themes



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- Increased spread in the region during autumn
- Shifting and stricter restrictions in Sweden and especially Västerbotten
- Skepticism towards vaccination and different types of vaccine among home care and care home staff- an emerging theme
- Temporary workers, a better model needed
- Shorter introductions
- Digitalization as support for staff and persons living in the facilities



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## Emerging Themes



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- Distance education for students
- No more than eight are meeting, paired up
- Examples in clinical practice that has been a driver for spread
- Emerging theme, how to develop clinical practice without in real life meetings
- Under deadliness in Västerbotten, as the only county in Sweden – VHU and healthy living?





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## Alan White – Director, Highland Health Ventures

Project timescale: **November 2020 – February 2021**



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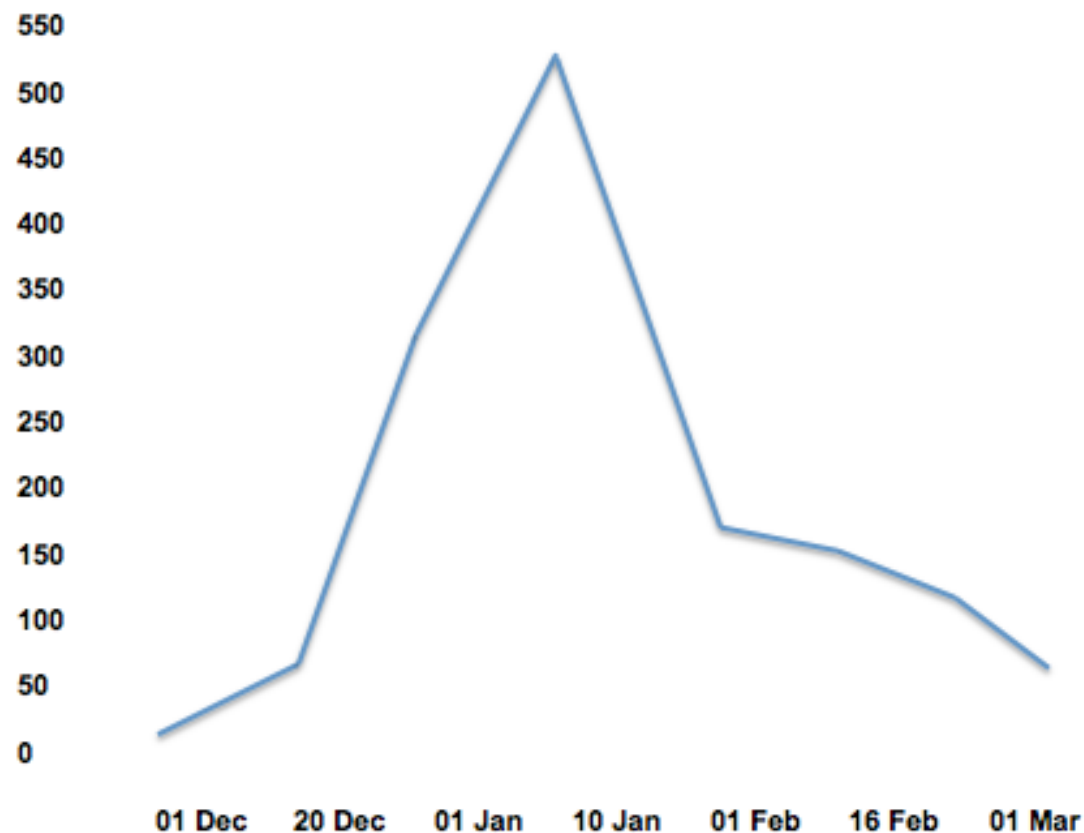
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Number  
of new COVID-19 cases  
December 2020– March 2021



# NPA COVID-19 Response Group – Emerging Themes



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## Students returning home to the Highlands...

- Negative impacts of covid/lockdown to education, social life and mental health
- Generally not returned to campus unless had to for study or work
- Reasons for testing when going home:
  - Seeing older family, peace of mind, strict parents, because it was available, perception of higher risk of exposure (e.g. social life or hospital work)
- Reasons for not testing:
  - Perception of low risk of exposure, didn't know about it, didn't have to test

# NPA COVID-19 Response Group – Emerging Themes



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## Lockdown through the lens of Highland care homes...

- Rapid mental and physical deterioration in relative than would have otherwise occurred
- Limited contact is not quality contact – It can be distressing, it is serious and distant
- No testing
- No indication yet of what vaccination means for relatives quality of life their relationship with them

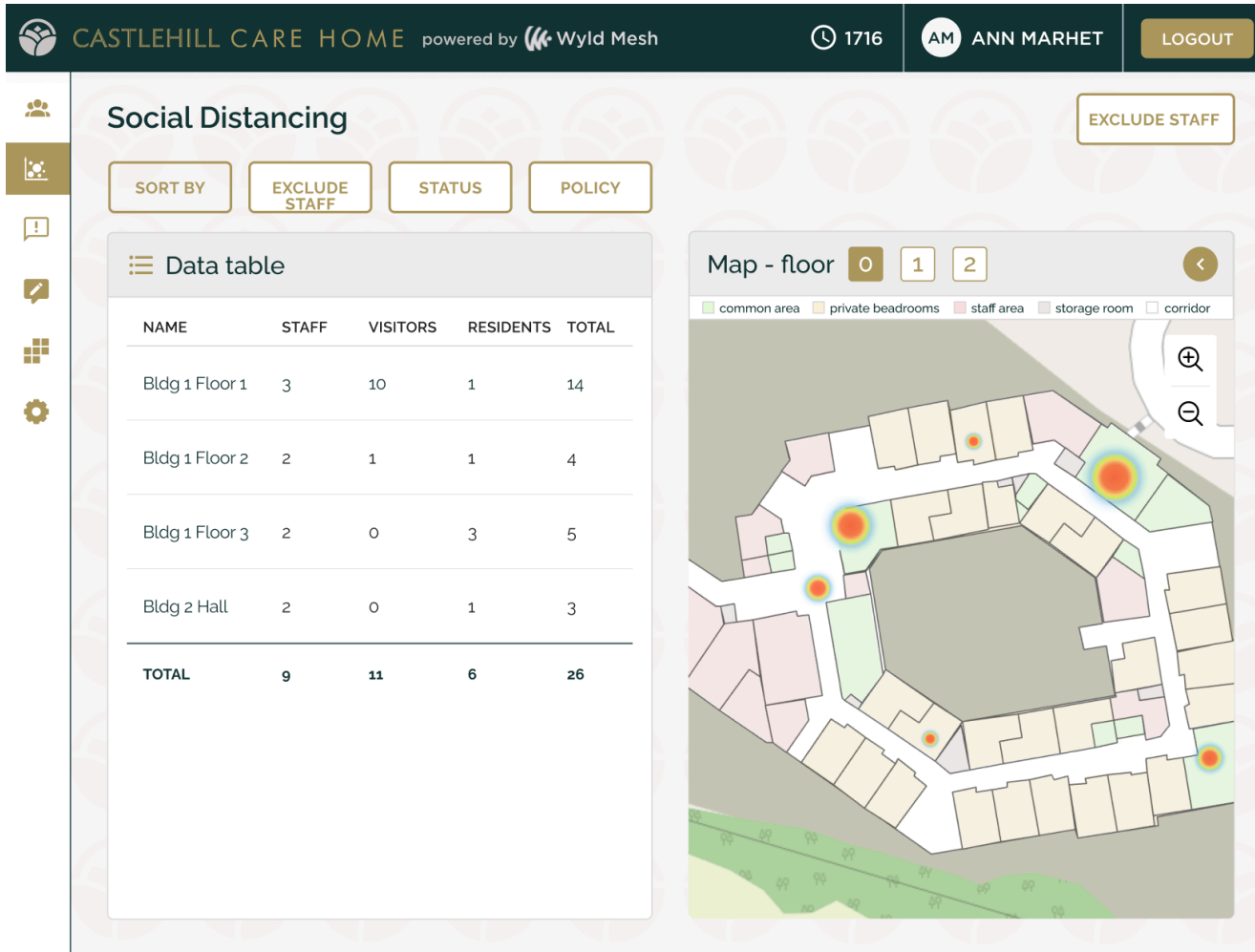


Digital Innovation to help us all live more safely today and in the future

A disaster recovery plan to help reduce the spread of CV-19 and influenza to protect staff, residents and visitors and help enhance compassionate care in vulnerable setting

Alastair Williamson CEO Wyld Networks

# Digital Innovation for care homes



Combining a mobile app, wearables and positioning technology to help reduce the spread of contact viruses such as CV19 and Influenza and protect residents, staff and visitors

- Provide safe access to care home and sensitive areas based on health status and policy
- Provide social distancing monitoring and alerting
- Provide a communication network for messaging, guest books, and safety check-In for staff and visitors
- Provide reports and metrics for compliance

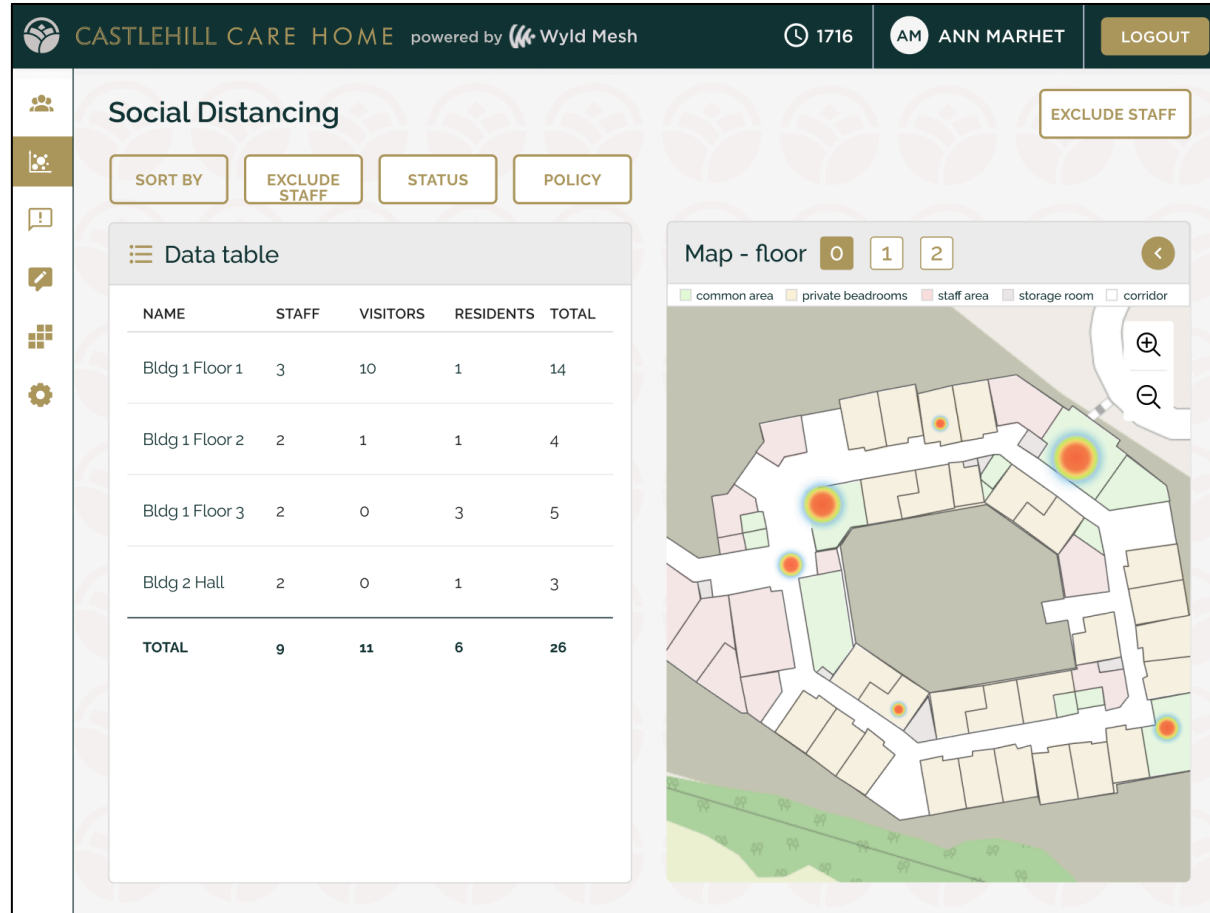




# Components of the solution




Care home Mobile App



Care home administration portal



Wearable device for non-smartphone users



# The University of New England's Covid -19 Response







WEEKLY COVID-19 NEW CASES REPORTED:  
WINTER-SPRING 2021

Period Beginning- Ending	Total Tests	Biddeford Campus Students	Biddeford Campus Employees	Portland Campus Students	Portland Campus Employees
2/4 - 2/10	405	3	0	0	0
1/28 - 2/3	294	7	2	3	1
1/21 - 1/27	412	3	1	1	1*
1/14 - 1/20	1,734	2	0	4	0
1/7 - 1/13	724	6	1	0	0

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UNE ONWARD

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UNE ONWARD PROMISE

UPDATES

CASE REPORTING

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The table below  
as well as the n  
posted each Th



# The UNE Student Experience

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# Thank you

## Discussion time – any questions?





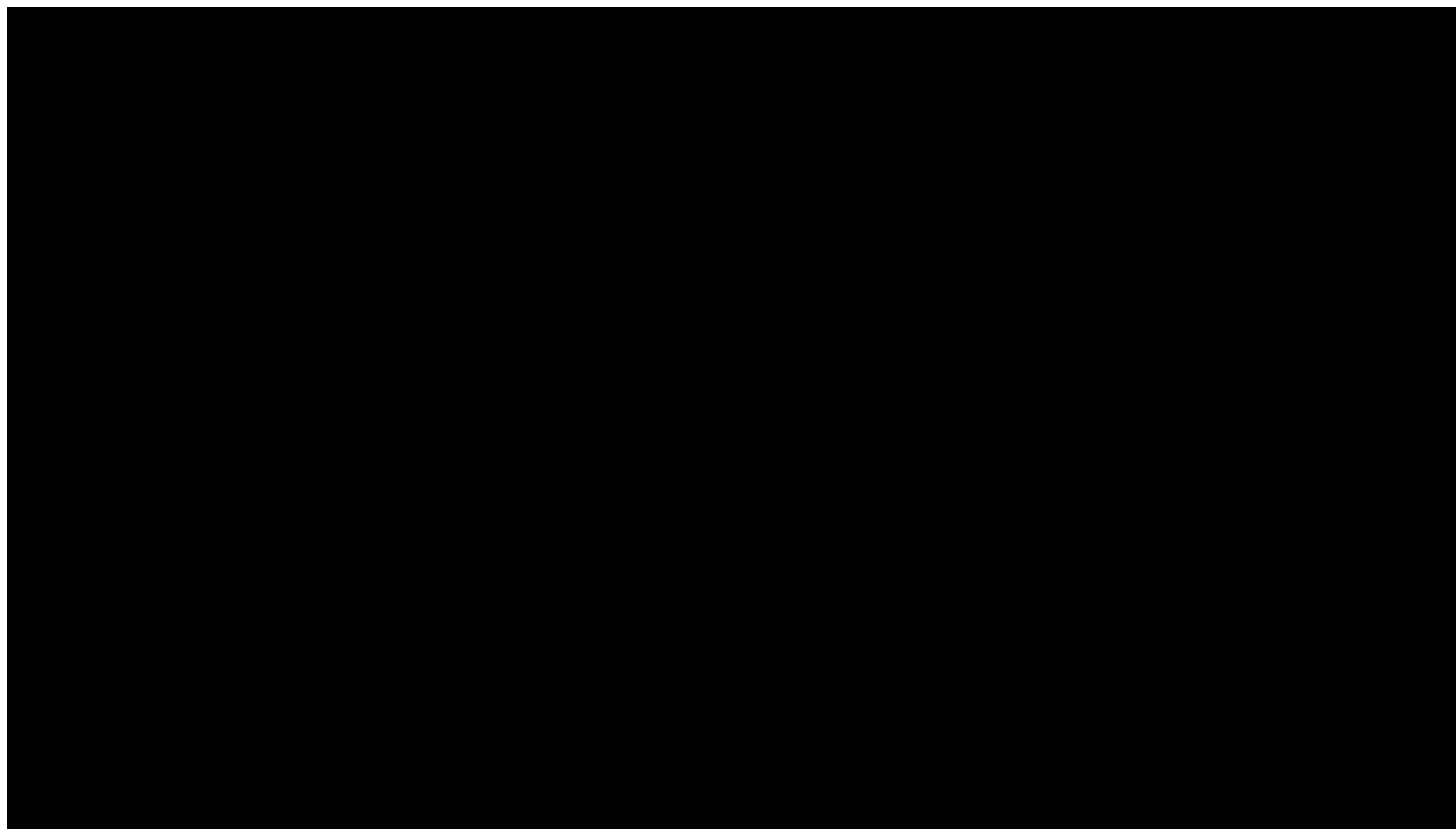
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