PROTECT Researcher Symposium 5-6 May 2022





Where have all the Lifeboats Gone?

Steve Sylvester Acting Shared Head of Public Protection Lancaster City Council ssylvester@lancaster.gov.uk







The first week

"There won't be much for us to do now, so we can use this free time to catch up"

- All non-essential retail closed
- Hospitality sector closed
- Stay at home and travel ban
- Key role for Environmental Health teams

PROTECT Researcher Symposium 5-6 May 2022





Infection Control Advice

"Is this any different to what we do in the kitchen?"

- Using the right chemicals
- Enhanced cleaning
- Contact time
- Evidence to support the advice

PROTECT Researcher Symposium 5-6 May 2022





Law or Guidance?

"This says it's just guidance so I can ignore it"

- Wasn't always clear what was enforceable
- Too much reliance on guidance
- It's toothless without enforcement
- County or District Council enforcement?





Bending the Rule

"Well it didn't mention wrestling was banned, so I thought I was ok to host a show"

- Profit v Public safety
- Keep the rules simple and clear
- Must be penalties but latest court ruling makes it harder
- Listen to feedback from the front line





Level Playing Field

"I'm a National Compliance Officer and your Council's support is the best I've seen"

- Essential to be fair to businesses
- Consistent approach
- Work with businesses
- Support businesses





Learning from Lockdown

"At least we will know what to do next time"

- Maintain communication with businesses
- Behaviour Change & focus on what matters most
- Evidence to support advice keep the message simple
- Where have all the lifeboats gone?





Decoding regulations Practical tips Posters Risk assessment advice Webinars Video podcasts Free training Home cleaning "kits" Self Isolation incentives for kids Self Isolation research project Joint patrols with police

Lancaster's Covid response service at a glance

Product guide Customer assurance scheme "Lancaster Covid Safe" "Covid Safe +" for businesses who test regularly Testing services for businesses Over 3000 business compliance visits Ventilation guidance Subsidised C02 monitors for businesses 10,000+ e-mails and mailshots to businesses 6 businesses closed Covid recovers service for 2022 Local contact tracing team