



**HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD**  
**25<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

**ITEM 07**

Report sponsor: Gae Edwynn, Director Of  
Public Health  
Report author: Jane Careless, Public Health  
Lead - Health Protection

## **Health Protection Team Annual Review**

### **Purpose**

- 1.1 To provide an overview of the key work areas of the Derby City and Derbyshire County Council Health Protection Team and key strategic priorities for 2019.

### **Recommendation(s)**

- 2.1 The Health and Wellbeing board is asked to note the contents of this report.

### **Reason(s)**

- 3.1 To provide the Health and Wellbeing Board with assurance and oversight of the key health protection priorities for 2019.

### **Supporting information**

#### ***Background***

- 4.1 Health protection seeks to prevent or reduce harm caused by communicable disease and minimise health impact from environmental hazards.
- 4.2 The team provides scrutiny and challenge, acts as an advisor to local partners, reviews local health protection needs, and acts as an advocate to ensuring equity in the reduction of risks to health of the local population, as part of the statutory duty of the Director of Public Health. The team is hosted by Derbyshire County Council and operates under a service level agreement providing health protection oversight for Derby City Council (0.47WTE).

#### ***Strategic achievements***

- 4.3 The team lead the delivery of the Health Protection Board which provides oversight on behalf of the Health and Wellbeing Board. The board has established a process of systematic reviews of screening and immunisation programmes, infection control and air pollution, as well as reviewing emerging issues, and providing quarterly reporting

to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

4.4 The health protection team within the local authority is recognised by stakeholders both regionally and nationally as an example of best practice, as such the team is asked to provide specialist and local authority representation at a range of regional and national boards and working groups, these have included:

- Section 7a Board – regional NHS England and Public Health England Screening and Immunisation assurance board.
- Regional Air Quality Network.
- National Pandemic Flu Group.
- Public Health England Air Quality evidence review stakeholder group.
- Health Care Acquired Infection network.

### ***Infection Prevention and Control (IPC)***

4.5 The team provide oversight and assurance of system wide infection prevention and control through attendance at County and City whole health economy group, and of the care sector through the Care Home Quality group.

4.6 The team have provided specialist support and advice to Derby City Council to facilitate and advise on the development of an authority IPC policy, and undertake root cause analysis in the event of outbreaks.

4.7 The team are also working with the Sustainability and Transformation Plan Prevention Board to ensure the inclusion of IPC within the developing prevention strategy.

### ***Emergency planning resilience and response***

4.8 The team in association with the Derbyshire County Director of Public Health acts as an active member of the Local Resilience Forum (LRF), Local Health Resilience Partnerships (LHRP) at both strategic and tactical levels, leading on work streams such as the development of the Pandemic Influenza Plan and Excess Deaths Plan. The Health Protection team has also led oversight of the Derbyshire Health Protection Response group, a subgroup of the LHRP, to ensure systems support effective and timely response to health protection incidents locally. Within this role the team have provided support to Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group in developing pathways for health protection response, and supported the development of a Memorandum of Understanding between partner organisations.

### ***Communicable disease***

4.9 Communicable diseases are illnesses caused by viruses or bacteria that people spread to one another through contact with contaminated surfaces, bodily fluids, blood products, insect bites, or through the air.

4.10 During 2018 the team have worked with Public Health England Tuberculosis service providers to facilitate the delivery of the National TB Strategy, through the improvement of links with partners working with vulnerable groups to improve pathways, and supporting the implementation of latent TB screening and BCG

vaccination. The team have also led work to map existing services for individuals with a lack of access to housing and financial support which may impact treatment completion. The work aims to provide a pathway for assessment and support to ensure individuals are able to access services required to facilitate TB treatment completion.

- 4.11 Operating Delivery Networks were established by NHS England to facilitate the treatment and eradication of Hepatitis C. The team have led working groups working with stakeholders such as Acute Trusts, substance misuse services, homeless services, and NHS England to improve identification of Hepatitis C, improve access to treatment and ensure equity of access across Derbyshire County and Derby City.

### ***Environmental health***

- 4.12 The Derbyshire Air Quality Working Group was established by the Health Protection team in 2017 and includes stakeholders such as planning, highways, Highways England, voluntary sector, sustainable travel, health, and the chamber of commerce. The group meets quarterly to ensure alignment of priorities around air quality, develop greater monitoring systems, seek assurance, and implement strategy to improve air quality. The group is also currently developing the draft Health and Wellbeing Board Air Quality Strategy.
- 4.13 The team has also worked with Public Health England and regional partners to develop planning guidance to support improvement in air quality. The team are now working with local planning teams to ensure recommendations are implemented.

### ***Screening and immunisation***

- 4.14 Screening and Immunisation services are commissioned by NHS England across the geography. The health protection team works closely with NHS England and Public Health England to seek assurance of screening and immunisation pathways, reduce inequalities and improve screening uptake. The team have led and supported working groups around Shingles, influenza and MMR, supporting engagement and promoting uptake locally.
- 4.15 The team have worked with Public Health England nationally to develop a screening leaflet for the Trans community. The leaflet is now used nationally to support the promotion of screening.
- 4.16 In conjunction with NHS England, the Bowel Screening Hub and wider Public Health the team have led a Health Equity Audit around Bowel Screening. The audit has been presented at regional events and has recently been published in a national journal. An action plan is also being developed as part of the STP plans to support improved bowel screening uptake following its recommendations. Following on from recommendations made in a report to NHS England by the health protection team, the regional team are now looking to mirror the audit and undertake a similar health equity audit regionally for Cervical Screening.
- 4.17 As well as seeking oversight of national immunisation programmes the team work annually with Derby City Council to coordinate, commission and monitoring of the employee staff vaccination programme. The programme ensures the organisation

meets its statutory duty to protect employees against influenza but also seeks to reduce risk to service users and reduce sickness absence.

### ***Priorities for 2019/20***

- 4.18 The team develops a comprehensive work plan each year in conjunction with the Director of Public Health, and key partner agencies. The Strategic priorities are agreed based on Public Health indicators, and Strategic priorities such as STP, Health and Wellbeing Board and National Strategy. For 2019/20 priorities include:
- Ensure systems to support effective health protection response.
  - Undertake mapping exercise and gap analysis to examine local authorities role in reducing morbidity and mortality associated with severe weather.
  - Ensure effective and equitable community infection control provision.
  - Facilitate Sustainability and Transformation Plan to reduce morbidity and mortality associated with Bowel Cancer.
  - Facilitate the development and implementation of actions to improve immunisation uptake and reduce inequality in uptake.
  - Work with partners to support reductions in the morbidity and mortality associated with poor air quality.
  - Work with partners to support the implementation of the national TB strategy.
  - Work with partners to support reductions in morbidity and mortality associated with Hepatitis C.

### **Public/stakeholder engagement**

5.1 Not applicable

### **Other options**

6.1 None

### **Financial and value for money issues**

7.1 None.

### **Legal implications**

8.1 None.

### **Other significant implications**

9.1 None.

This report has been approved by the following people:

<b>Role</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Date of sign-off</b>
<b>Legal</b>		
<b>Finance</b>		
<b>Service Director(s)</b>	Cate Edwynn, Director of Public Health Medicine	
<b>Report sponsor</b>	Cate Edwynn, Director of Public Health Medicine	
<b>Other(s)</b>	Robyn Dewis, Consultant in Public Health Medicine	16/07/2019