

Appendix 5 – Health Protection Forum Highlight Report

1.1 Context

Due to the covid outbreak the Health Protection Forum (HPF) have been meeting every 2 weeks since the 30th June 2020. Approximately 80% of each meeting is devoted to discussing the current coronavirus situation and response, with the remainder covering other health protection concerns.

1.2 Current Circumstance

The HPF coronavirus discussions include:

1. The coronavirus outbreak plan
2. Testing – drop and collect programme
3. Mobile testing logistics
4. Outbreak summaries and learning
5. Testing results – trends, patterns, rates of change
6. Development of plans in response to 1-5 above
7. Infection prevention and control plans and issues
8. Review of activity from the working groups
 - a. Residential and clinical settings (including care homes, hospitals, primary care, children's residential settings)
 - b. Education settings
 - c. Other settings (including homeless settings, workplaces etc)

Non-coronavirus discussions include:

1. Challenging health protection cases
 - a. TB
 - b. Blood-borne viruses
2. Vaccination and screening programme plans and delivery (including flu, MMR and other childhood vaccinations)
 - a. CCGs/STPs have produced detailed local delivery plans with all local providers (incl. GPs); plans address limitations because of coronavirus, higher uptake targets, additional target cohorts and expected higher demand for vaccination

1.3 Next Steps and Delivery

The short- and medium-term focus is on the planning and delivery of the NHS seasonal flu programme that is commissioned by NHSE&I and delivered by GPs, pharmacies, hospitals and vaccination service providers. Planning is led by BSol STP (and includes the West Birmingham area) Local plans are led by BSol CCG and uptake activity will be reported into the HPF.

Planning for the delivery of the SARS-CoV2 (known as covid) vaccination programme is ongoing and will report into the HPF.

The Forum will also be seeking assurance on plans for catch-up child vaccination programmes that have been impacted by coronavirus.