

Appendix 4 – Health Protection Forum Highlight Report

1.1 Context

- 1.1.1 The Health Protection Forum (HPF) has operated under a governance framework since inception (2012); it has terms of reference, a risk register, and an action log updated at each meeting.

1.2 Current Circumstance

- 1.2.1 In the last two quarters the HPF has contributed content on health protection issues (particularly childhood immunisations) to the JSNA development process to ensure that important protective health interventions are described with recommendations identified to direct improvements.
- 1.2.2 Learning from health protection incidents and outbreaks is continually noted and shared through the HPF to determine changes that need to be made to local processes and systems. This learning takes many forms and most recently multiagency meetings have been convened outside the formal incident response to address wider issues around clusters of communicable diseases, and homelessness and health (being looked at as a health protection incident for the first time).
- 1.2.3 Since the formal presentation to the Board in the spring in reference to work to improve screening and vaccination uptake has been progressing with partners. NHS England and NHS Improvement commission these local programmes from a range of local providers and have recently published studies on the range of inequalities in uptake, together with recommendations to address them. These action plans are currently being developed and will be incorporated into the Council's Vaccination and Screening Improvement Plans; progress will be reported in the next update.

1.3 Next Steps and Delivery

- 1.3.1 Closely monitor uptake of the NHS seasonal flu vaccination programme; supporting promotion and uptake from the Public Health team and working with partners to maximise uptake for all child and adult target groups (Oct 2019-Mar 2020).
- 1.3.2 Work with Birmingham City Council Adult Social Care Directorate to audit seasonal flu vaccination plans of Care Providers.
- 1.3.3 Facilitate and contribute to a multi-agency homeless health Incident Management Team (IMT) to determine the scope and scale of health issues affecting the homeless community; identifying the main issues, common themes, and the need for new models of care or interventions to reduce inequalities, infectious disease incidents (particularly TB, HIV, Invasive Group A Streptococcus) and improve general health. Conversations are already progressing with key partners.

- 1.3.4 Follow-up the multidisciplinary workshop (November 2019) and develop plans for Birmingham to become a HIV Fast-Track City (International programme with the aim of eliminating the transmission of HIV) and to include Hepatitis B and C in the Birmingham approach (to launch Dec 1st 2020).
- 1.3.5 Partnership working through the HPF to incorporate learning from inequality research into screening and vaccination improvement plans (Feb-Apr 2020).
- 1.3.6 Deliver a multi-agency health protection workshop to ensure organisational roles and responsibilities are clear, and any gaps in the local system are identified (Mar/Apr 2020).
- 1.3.7 HPF members (through the local Infection Prevention and Control Group) develop and deliver a joint campaign on hand hygiene/ hand washing.
- 1.3.8 Future HPF meeting dates:
- 27th February 2020
 - April/May 2020
 - July 2020
 - October 2020

Appendices

Appendix 4A – Health Protection Forum Action Plan