



SHROPSHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Report

Meeting Date	14th September 2023 – 09:30am – 12:30pm			
Title of report	Health Protection Update			
This report is for (You will have been advised which applies)	Discussion and agreement of recommendations	Approval of recommendations (With discussion by exception)	Information only (No recommendations)	x
Reporting Officer & email	Susan Lloyd, Consultant in Public Health			
Which Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy priorities does this report address? Please tick all that apply	Children & Young People		Joined up working	X
	Mental Health		Improving Population Health	X
	Healthy Weight & Physical Activity		Working with and building strong and vibrant communities	X
	Workforce		Reduce inequalities (see below)	X
What inequalities does this report address?	Health Inequalities specific to screening and vaccination.			

Report content - Please expand content under these headings or attach your report ensuring the three headings are included.

- **Executive Summary**

This health protection report to the Health and Wellbeing Board provides an overview of the health protection status of the population of Shropshire. It provides an overview of the status of communicable, waterborne & foodborne disease.

Part one is an overview of health protection data and a summary of new risks, part two is an overview of new health protection developments relevant to the system.

- **Recommendations (Not required for 'information only' reports)**

- **Report**

Part One

- **Overview of health protection data and summary of risks**

1.1 - Immunisation Cover Shropshire

- Immunisations Childhood – 0-5 vaccination in-line or above West Midlands (WM) average. There is continued local push on Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR). Being pushed with GPs to ensure current vaccine and dates are being recorded. All age groups are being encouraged to ensure that they have received 2 doses of MMR.
- Immunisations Adolescent – cover in-line with West Midlands average. The HPV vaccine is changing to one dose for eligible adolescents. Those that have already received one dose eligible academic year 2022 to 2023, will be considered vaccinated.
- Immunisations Adult Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine (PPV) – cover slightly above West Midlands average.
- Influenza programme has been amended to reflect the addition of secondary aged school children (including home-schooled and other children not in mainstream education). Further guidance will follow on how the flu programme should be aligned to any Autumn COVID-19 vaccination programme and complete by 15th December 2023.

- Covid Immunisation - At the end of the Spring Campaign 2023, the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme had exceeded their 61% Spring Campaign uptake target and achieved 71% uptake. The COVID-19 Vaccination Programme currently has open two medium rated risks (Both are in relation to SCHAT identifying a site for vaccination delivery for the autumn/winter campaign). Colleagues are working closely with the Estates team to support in mitigating the identified risks.

Autumn/Winter COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign Planning

The COVID-19 Vaccination Programme senior team were informed by NHS England on Wednesday 5th July 2023, that it is expected that final guidance from the Joint Committee on Vaccinations and Immunisations (JCVI) and a ministerial statement on the Autumn programme was published in mid-July. The Autumn campaign will run until early December with start date of Mid-September 2023. JCVI advises the following groups to be offered a COVID-19 booster vaccine this autumn:

- residents in a care home for older adults
 - all adults aged 65 years and over.
 - persons aged 6 months to 64 years in a clinical risk group.
 - frontline health and social care workers
 - persons aged 12 to 64 years who are household contacts (as defined in the Green Book) of people with immunosuppression.
 - persons aged 16 to 64 years who are carers (as defined in the Green Book) and staff working in care homes for older adults.
 - From autumn 2023, JCVI additionally advises that primary course COVID-19 vaccination for persons who have not had any COVID-19 vaccines before should consist of a single dose of COVID-19 vaccine. Eligibility for primary course vaccination will be the same as for the autumn 2023 booster.
- Shingles- From 1st September 2023, all newly eligible individuals will be offered 2 doses of the non-live shingles vaccine, in addition the eligibility for the immunocompromised and immunocompetent cohorts will change to allow individuals to be protected at an earlier age, from age 50 years and over with no upper age limit.

1.2 - Screening uptake Shropshire

- Breast – breast screening service had a difficult recovery following the pandemic, particularly with staffing. Recovery is back on track and in a stable position. Ongoing work between service, local authority and other system partners.
- Bowel – Bowel screening had extended down to the age of 50, but the STW service were unable to extend on their 12-month deadline due to colonoscopy capacity. However, they are back to full invite rates and in a good position. The service cannot rely on the independent sector. Working with different colleagues and the system will be a focus.
 - Cervical- SaTH Colposcopy have reported an incident, which SQAS have classified as a Serious Incident this was picked up on Audit completed in January.

1.3 - Communicable disease

- Flu – recent surveillance data from UKHSA confirms that circulation of influenza in the community has returned to baseline levels.
- Covid - recorded cases are decreasing in Shropshire due to limited Testing. Outbreaks are still occurring in care homes and are being risk managed.
Government guidance changed on 8th June 2023 the full details are available here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/infection-prevention-and-control-in-adult-social-care-covid-19-supplement>- GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Testing regimen changed full details are available here: [COVID-19: testing from 1 April 2023](#)
- Tuberculosis - tuberculosis is the focus for review in-line with the Shropshire Health Protection Strategy 2023. UKHSA has updated information relating to TB. A guidance page has been

added to the 'communicable diseases' section of the Migrant Health Guide. [Tuberculosis \(TB\): migrant health guide - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) It is noted UKHSA are engaged in discussions with DHSC/NHSE regarding the required funding for pathways to support these recommendations.

- Mpox cases nationally remain very low, but we are not complacent, with new cases continuing to be seen each month. outbreak. There are currently no local implications.
- Group A Streptococcus - Group A Streptococcus (GAS) is a bacterium which can colonise the throat and skin. Since the last report the number of GAS and IGAS notified continues to be low with only a small number of education settings requiring support.
- Avian Flu - Avian Influenza response has been stood down to routine business as usual and this is reflected in the current data.
- **On 4 July, Defra and APHA announced that the Avian Influenza Prevention Zone (AIPZ) for poultry and captive birds, introduced to help stop the spread of avian influenza ('bird flu'), has been lifted.**
 - UKHSA published its [latest technical briefing on avian influenza](#)
- Foodborne and waterborne disease – Campylobacter - numbers remain largest reported foodborne bacteria.
- Other foodborne and waterborne - case numbers overall remain low. Since the start of 2023 2 case of E Coli 0157 have been reported.
- Norovirus - We continue to see outbreaks of suspected Norovirus both within care settings and the community.
We have dealt with a significant confirmed outbreak at an outdoor leisure facility where a number of suspected cases came from out of area. Working with partners and stakeholders preventative actions have been taken. Awareness was promoted by sending information and resources to local settings.

Part Two

- **Health Protection Developments relevant to the system**

2.1 – Measles

The latest UKHSA health protection data shows there has been [a rise in measles cases](#) nationally. Locally we have no reported cases and 2 cases confirmed in the West Midlands. We are working with our partners to develop an Immunoglobulin Pathway in readiness should there be an outbreak. Proactive communications have been circulated with our Schools, Nurseries and Child Minders to raise awareness of the importance of Immunisation. It should be noted that contacts of cases who have not been immunised working in education or health settings are advised to remain away from the workplace for 21 days.

Risk assessment and opportunities appraisal (NB This will include the following: Risk Management, Human Rights, Equalities, Community, Environmental consequences and other Consultation)		
Financial implications (Any financial implications of note)	There are no financial implications	
Climate Change Appraisal as applicable		
Where else has the paper been presented?	System Partnership Boards	
	Voluntary Sector	

	Other	Health Protection Quality Assurance Board (HPQA)
List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)		
Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder) Portfolio holders can be found here or your organisational lead e.g., Exec lead or Non-Exec/Clinical Lead Cllr Cecilia Motley – <i>Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care, Public Health & Communities</i> Rachel Robinson – <i>Executive Director, Health, Wellbeing and Prevention</i>		
Appendices (Please include as appropriate)		