



## SHROPSHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

### Report

<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> November 2023 – 09:30am – 12:00pm</b>			
<b>Title of report</b>	<b>Health Protection Update</b>			
<b>This report is for</b> (You will have been advised which applies)	Discussion and agreement of recommendations	Approval of recommendations (With discussion by exception)	Information only (No recommendations)	<b>x</b>
<b>Reporting Officer &amp; email</b>	Susan Lloyd, Consultant in Public Health <a href="mailto:Susan.Lloyd@shropshire.gov.uk">Susan.Lloyd@shropshire.gov.uk</a>			
<b>Which Joint Health &amp; Wellbeing Strategy priorities does this report address? Please tick all that apply</b>	Children & Young People		Joined up working	<b>X</b>
	Mental Health		Improving Population Health	<b>X</b>
	Healthy Weight & Physical Activity		Working with and building strong and vibrant communities	<b>X</b>
	Workforce		Reduce inequalities (see below)	<b>X</b>
<b>What inequalities does this report address?</b>	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). GPs are being reminded to ensure current vaccine and dates are being recorded and to provide opportunistic vaccinations to individuals who have not received 2 doses of MMR. All age groups are being encouraged to ensure that they have received 2 doses of MMR. Communications have gone out through organisational staff newsletters and websites and through social media for the general public.
- **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.

- Covid Immunisation - The COVID-19 Vaccination Programme aims to positively affect health inequalities. The COVID-19 Vaccination Programme delivers a range of interventions and approaches to positively affect health inequalities.
- At the end of the Spring Campaign 2023, the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme had exceeded the 61% Spring Campaign uptake target and achieved 71% uptake.

### **Autumn/Winter COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign Planning**

Based on the eligible cohort population and previous uptake rates, the target total activity for the STW Autumn/Winter 2023 COVID-19 Vaccination Programme Campaign is 60%. A total of 29 GP Practices within the PCNs are signed up. A total of 29 Community Pharmacies have signed the Enhanced Service Specification with NHS England to deliver the Autumn/Winter 2023 COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign in STW.

Shropshire Community Health Trust Coral House will operate as a Vaccination Centre, alongside Fixed Satellite Clinics and Roving.

Vaccinations commenced in September 2023 with the focus being maintained on health inequalities.

- Shingles- From 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023, all newly eligible individuals will be offered 2 dose of the non-live shingles vaccine, in addition the eligibility for the immunocompromise 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 difficulty 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. The service is looking at ways in which to build resilience and are training their own colonoscopists.

### **1.3 - Communicable disease**

- Flu – Indicators of Influenza A and Influenza B are low across the Midlands, but these will continue to be monitored as we approach the winter season.
- Covid - recorded cases are decreasing in Shropshire due to limited testing. Outbreaks are still occurring in care homes and are being risk managed.  
A new variant is being closely monitored by UKHSA. Situational assessment BA.2.86 (Variant Technical Group of 12 September 2023). There are 37 confirmed cases of BA.2.86 in England. Of these, 28 cases were identified as part of a care home outbreak investigation in the East of England. None have been identified in the West Midlands.
- The variant technical group reviewed available data on 12 September. There are still insufficient BA.2.86 sequences in any country to make a reliable assessment of growth. The assessment was reviewed on 22 September 2023.  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/investigation-of-sars-cov-2-variants-technical-briefings/sars-cov-2-variant-surveillance-and-assessment-technical-briefing-55>.  
UKHSA is carrying out further investigation and will publish further analysis in future technical briefings.
- 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. Local focus is ongoing and detailed further below.

- Monkeypox cases nationally remain very low, but we are not complacent. 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.
- Avian Flu - We are beginning to see cases of Avian Influenza (AI) as we move into migratory season. Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) H5N1 was confirmed in commercial poultry at a premises near Warrington, South Warrington, Cheshire (AIV 2023/49) and a commercial poultry premises near Uttoxeter, East Staffordshire, Staffordshire (AIV 2023/48). A 3km protection zone and 10km surveillance zone has been declared around the premises.
- Strict approach is still being applied to humans. The current level of risk is Level 3\* - Last updated 3rd May 2023.
- An Avian Influenza pathway for swabbing and prophylaxis for outbreaks has been approved by the ICB. Further discussions are being held to address the gap due to testing of symptomatic individuals. This issue is being resolved with UKHSA, and a draft copy has been shared for comment/amends.
- Foodborne and waterborne disease – Campylobacter - numbers remain largest reported foodborne bacteria.
- Other foodborne and waterborne - case numbers have increased slightly with enhanced surveillance on Cryptosporidium. Since the start of 2023 6 cases of E Coli 0157 have been reported.
- **Norovirus**
- We continue to see outbreaks of suspected Norovirus both within care settings and the community. Nationally there are a lot more cases of norovirus than usual for summer, with lab reports 70% higher than average (weeks 27 to 30 higher than the 5-season average of the same period).

## 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.

UKHSA have recently produced a measles risk assessment that although the risk of a UK wide epidemic remains low, there remains the potential for an outbreak in London to occur due to sub-optimal uptake of MMR. There is also a high risk of cases linked to overseas travel. Increasing the uptake of MMR vaccination to meet the WHO recommendation of 95% of 2 doses of MMR by age 5 is essential to maintain measles elimination.

The [National Measles Guidance](#) has been refreshed and new measles resources have been produced.

### 2.2 Tuberculosis

Discussions are being held to address the provision of TB services in Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin (STW). A network meeting STW, will be followed by a separate meeting to discuss TB service specification. Further details will be reported at the next meeting.

### 2.3 Health Protection Strategy (Annual Report)

A report is being collated working with our partners to provide an annual update on progress of the Health Protection Strategy. The report will be presented to the next meeting.

<b>Risk assessment and opportunities appraisal</b> (NB This will include the following: Risk Management, Human Rights, Equalities, Community, Environmental consequences and other Consultation)		
<b>Financial implications</b> (Any financial implications of note)	<b>There are no financial implications</b>	
<b>Climate Change Appraisal as applicable</b>		
<b>Where else has the paper been presented?</b>	System Partnership Boards	
	Voluntary Sector	
	Other	<b>Health Protection Quality Assurance Board (HPQA)</b>
<b>List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)</b>		
<b>Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)</b> Portfolio holders can be found <a href="#">here</a> or your organisational lead e.g., Exec lead or Non-Exec/Clinical Lead  <b>Cllr Cecilia Motley</b> – <i>Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care, Public Health &amp; Communities</i> <b>Rachel Robinson</b> – <i>Executive Director, Health, Wellbeing and Prevention</i>		
<b>Appendices</b> (Please include as appropriate)		