

# North Somerset Council

## REPORT TO THE HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

**DATE OF MEETING: 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2016**

**SUBJECT OF REPORT: HEALTH PROTECTION COMMITTEE INTERIM REPORT**

**OFFICER/MEMBER PRESENTING: NATALIE FIELD, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

**KEY DECISION: N/A – FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

### RECOMMENDATIONS

To note progress against the priorities of the Health Protection Committee between January to September 2016. A full annual report for the financial year of 2016/17 will be provided in summer 2017.

#### 1. SUMMARY OF REPORT

The attached report provides a summary of activity reported to the North Somerset Health Protection Committee during the period January to September 2016. The priorities set by the Committee for January 2016 to March 2017 are set out below. The report provides an update on progress against these priorities, as well as broader health protection activity in North Somerset. The Committee considers good progress to have been made against these priorities to date and will continue to focus on these areas for the remainder of the financial year.

#### Health Protection Committee Priorities for 2016/17:

- Improve the uptake of seasonal influenza and pneumococcal (PPV) immunisation
- Seek assurance that NHS organisations in North Somerset have appropriate response plans in place
- Test Airport plans and preparedness to respond to Infectious diseases in light of Ebola Outbreak
- Ensure robust outbreak management measures in care homes
- Develop a local Health Protection Incident Response Plan

This interim report has been compiled to ensure progress is captured while a change in reporting timeframes is implemented. The HPC annual report has previously been compiled to capture activity over calendar years; future annual reports will be compiled for financial years. A final report for the financial year April 2016 to March 2017 will be completed in summer 2017.

## **2. POLICY**

The North Somerset Health Protection Committee (HPC) was established in September 2013. The HPC provides a mechanism to assure the Director of Public Health (as required by the Health and Social Care Regulations), the Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel and the People and Communities Board, on behalf of the population of North Somerset, that there are safe, effective and well-tested plans in place and appropriate activity to protect the health of the population.

## **3. DETAILS**

The scope of the Health Protection Committee is:

- communicable disease control;
- infection prevention and control;
- emergency planning;
- sexual health;
- environmental health/hazards;
- screening and immunisation programmes.

The attached report provides an overview of health protection activity in the above areas from colleagues across the council and partner organisations. Key contributors to the Health Protection Committee include: Public Health (People and Communities Directorate); Environmental Health (Development & Environment Directorate); Community Safety and Drug Action (Corporate Services); Emergency Management Unit (Corporate Services); North Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group, Public Health England; NHS England Area Teams and the Local Health Resilience Partnership.

## **4. RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Health Protection Committee maintains a risk register which is reviewed each quarter.

## **5. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

Health protection activity relating to screening, immunisations and communicable disease control helps to address variance in health outcomes. Work targeting high risk groups, such as injecting drug users, is key to improving health among marginal groups.

## **6. CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

Ensuring robust emergency response plans are in place is a key responsibility of the Health Protection Committee. Significant progress has been made this year to ensure emergency response plans of the Council and partner agencies are aligned and can be operationalised when required.

## **AUTHORS**

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## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Health Protection Committee Interim Report, Jan-Sept 2016

**DATE OF REPORT:** 29<sup>th</sup> November 2016