

## REPORT TO HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE



<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Bury Health &amp; Environmental Protection Annual Report</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> March 2018</b>
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	<b>Lesley Jones</b>
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### 1. PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

This is the first Health and Environmental Protection Annual Report for Bury and aims to provide a means of assurance for the Council in relation to its Health & Environmental Protection Duties. The report covers a wide range of work being done to safeguard the people of Bury from the hazards presented by communicable diseases and the environment. The report highlights many areas of achievement and excellence in Bury and also provides recommendations for areas of focus in the coming year and beyond, to ensure we maintain a high standard.

### 2. INTRODUCTION

Health protection is an essential part of achieving and maintaining good public health. It involves planning, surveillance and response to incidents and outbreaks. Health protection prevents and reduces the harm caused by communicable diseases and minimises the health impact from environmental hazards such as chemicals and radiation. It also includes the delivery of major programmes such as national immunisation and screening programmes and the provision of health services to diagnose and treat infectious diseases.

### 3. BACKGROUND

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 defines the new health protection duty of Local Authorities (LAs). The Act states that public health teams, on behalf of Directors of Public Health (DPHs) are responsible for a LA's contribution to health protection matters, including responses to incidents and emergencies. Public Health England (PHE) is required to provide specialist support and has a complementary role to play. Both PHE and LA public health should work as a single unit when addressing health protection

issues. NHS organisations including NHS England and the local Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) have a legal responsibility under the NHS Act 2006 to mobilise resources to manage incidents and emergencies. They also have a legal duty to co-operate with LA public health teams in delivering local and national health protection priorities.

#### **4. WHAT IS WORKING WELL?**

- MRSA bacteraemia infections were lower than national rates and there none were assigned to Bury CCG in 2016/17. The Bury Infection Prevention & Control (BIPCIP) Group works extremely well overseeing and managing Healthcare Associated Infections.
- Bury is performing well both regionally and nationally with regards to uptake of the flu vaccine and there are clear plans in place to ensure this continues to improve.
- Uptake of other vaccines is also generally good, particularly for the childhood vaccinations of MMR and 5-in-1.
- Coverage of the cervical screening programme is above regional and national levels, which is good.
- HIV late diagnosis has reduced significantly in recent years and is now below national levels.
- Neighbourhood working embraced by assigning two Environmental Health officers to the trailblazer Radcliffe and Bury East Hubs
- Digital mobile working introduced in Pest Control to be rolled out to all Environmental health services
- 87% of our Food businesses are broadly compliant and 68% have been awarded the highest Food Hygiene rating of 5 with only 5% having a rating of 2 or less

#### **5. WHAT NEEDS TO WORK BETTER AND WHAT ACTIONS ARE IN PLACE TO ADDRESS THIS?**

- Bury has not yet achieved the Cervical screening 80% uptake target. We will continue to work with PHE and Bury CCG to increase uptake.
- We need to develop a better understanding of our local TB prevalence and ensure prevention and treatment are optimised.
- There have been issues with data collection for HIV diagnosis in women and this needs further exploration.
- Environmental quality issues around fly tipping, accumulations and nuisance continue to dominate the reactive workload and a new Environmental Quality strategy is to be implemented
- Food Hygiene inspections are increasingly being carried out by consultants as a result of job cuts within environmental health - there was a drop in

total interventions in 2016 which has come to the attention of the Food Standards agency for monitoring in 2017/18. We will continue to monitor and manage the situation as effectively as possible within available resources.

## 6. FUTURE PLANS AND PRIORITIES

Whilst we have good arrangements in place for Health & Environmental Protection, the standards being achieved are increasingly challenged by organisational change which causes disruption to established systems and processes, e.g. creation of the Locality Care Organisation and One Commissioning Organisation and by the on-going financial challenges which impact on capacity to deliver. A Transformation programme reviewing all aspects of Public Protection, Regulation and Enforcement across the Council is underway to meet challenge of maintaining protection of the public & environment whilst also delivering challenging savings targets. This will include further development of the Neighbourhood Working approach and exploration of efficiency through technologies.

Air quality is a priority in Greater Manchester (GM) and Bury will continue to work with Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) and other GM Councils to deliver the GM Air Quality Action Plan 2016-2020, the GM Climate Change and Low Emissions Strategy Implementation plan 2016-2020 and develop a local Action Plan in response to DEFRA identifying Bury and 6 other GM areas as likely not to meet EU NO2 targets in the next 3 years

Communicable disease prevention and control requires constant and ongoing vigilance and responsiveness. For example, the launch of E.coli bacteraemia monitoring in 2017 will require careful consideration by the BIPCIP group going forward and we will need to take account of and respond to the ever changing and expanding vaccination programme and ensuring standards are maintained.

The Greater Manchester Population Health Plan includes action on Sexual Health and an ambition to eradicate HIV in a generation. We are proactively working with colleagues across GM to deliver these actions and ambition. There is a strong emphasis in the plans on the role of Primary Care which will require collaboration with Bury CCG and the emerging LCO.

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### List of Background Papers:-

**See references in the report and Food Service Plan below:**



Food Service Plan  
2017-18.docx

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