

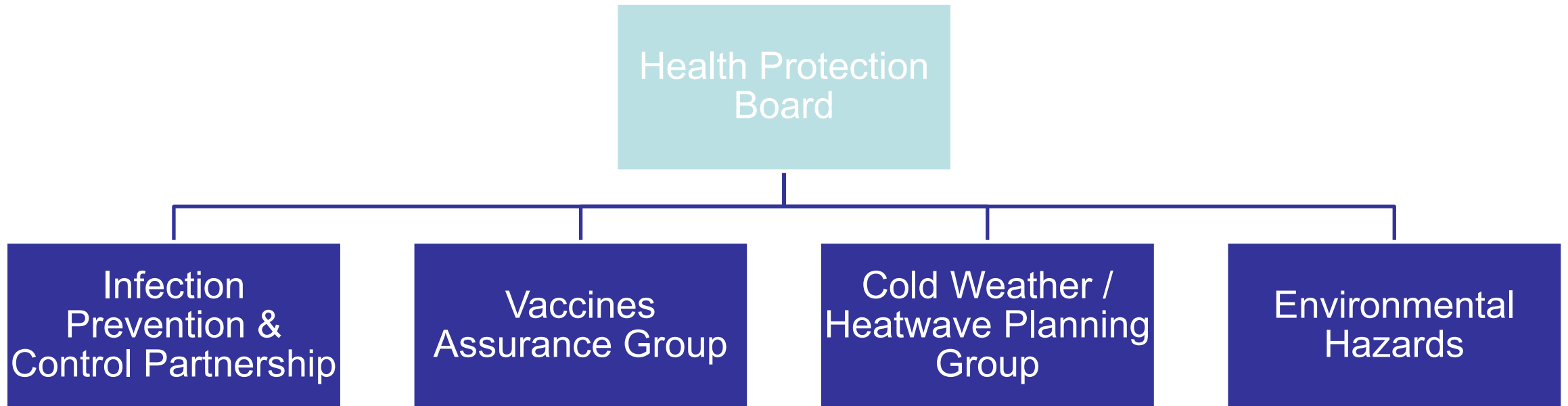
Health Protection: local governance proposal

May 2022

Context

- While it remains a threat, COVID-19 is increasingly being managed as part of routine health protection.
- We need to broaden our focus on health protection beyond COVID-19. Non-COVID-19 governance needs to be reinvigorated.
- The pandemic has brought the system together around the health protection response. We should build on rather than lose this.
- The current system of governance with very regular health protection boards is no longer appropriate. Much of the operational response has stood down and there is less need for week-to-week senior oversight.
- The local system will remain responsible for managing threats to health – with the DPH statutory responsibility at the heart of this. A governance structure is needed to provide assurance that risks are being managed appropriately.
- Longer term health protection threats remain. These include, climate change, air quality, and the growth of antimicrobial resistance. The local system needs somewhere to coordinate action on these large but slower moving risks as well as potential new epidemics.

Proposed governance structure



Health Protection Board

Purpose: To get assurance on behalf of the local Director of Public Health and Health and Wellbeing Board that health protection risks are being managed appropriately. Coordinates system inputs to mitigating the most significant risks.

Reports into: Health and Wellbeing Board; System Performance, Quality, & Safety Board

Links to: Bury Resilience Forum through locality EPPR lead

Functions:

- Receives reports on risks and mitigating actions across the spectrum of health protection threats.
- Maintains risk register & action plan.
- Produces annual health protection report to Health and Wellbeing Board.

Chaired by: Director of Public Health

Frequency: Quarterly

Membership: Director of Public Health (chair); Consultant in Public Health (deputy); Head of Health Protection; Head of Environmental Health; Healthcare Commissioners; Emergency Planning, Preparedness & Resilience (Council & NHS); Intelligence Leads; Adult Social Care; Children's Services; Partner agencies (blue light services; Sixtown Housing)

Infection Prevention & Control Partnership

Purpose: To oversee actions to prevent infectious threats to health in Bury.

Reports into: Health Protection Board

Functions:

- Review surveillance of infectious diseases in Bury including mandatory surveillance of antimicrobial resistant infections, sexually transmitted infections and foodborne infections
- Review recent outbreaks, identify lessons and preventive actions, and ensure those actions are implemented.
- Coordinate infection control advice to community settings.
- Organise public infection prevention communications campaigns.

Chaired by: Head of Health Protection (SM1)

Frequency: Quarterly

Membership: Head of Health Protection (chair); Consultant in Public Health; UKHSA Representative; Sexual Health Lead & Provider Representative; TB Nurse lead; CCG/ICS Medicines Management; CCG/ICS Quality & Safeguarding; Adult Social Care, NCA IPC lead, Environmental Health (Food Team).

Vaccine Assurance Group

Purpose: To get assurance on the effective and equitable delivery of vaccination programmes in Bury.

Reports into: Health Protection Board

Functions:

- Gets assurance on planning for vaccination programmes with a focus on maximising uptake and minimising inequalities.
- Programmes include: seasonal vaccine campaigns (COVID-19 & influenza); routine immunisations (pre-school; school-aged; adult vaccination offers).
- Outbreak response and mass-vaccination contingency planning.

Chaired by: Consultant in Public Health

Frequency: Monthly (seasonal vaccines September – April; routine immunisations June & July)

Membership: Consultant in Public Health (chair); (Director of Public Health & Exec Director of Strategic Commissioning as appropriate); GM Screening & Immunisations Team; Primary Care Networks; School-Aged Immunisations providers; Community Pharmacy; Secondary Care Providers; Council/CCG/ICS communications; Council/CCG/ICS intelligence.

Cold Weather & Heatwave Planning Group

Purpose: Coordinates planning to mitigate the effects of cold weather and heatwaves on health in Bury.

Reports into: Health Protection Board

Functions:

- Reviews excess winter deaths & heatwave impacts.
- Coordinates actions to mitigate effects of cold weather and heatwaves.
- Gets assurance that people vulnerable to hot or cold weather are offered support.
- Organises public information campaigns to raise awareness of risks and how to mitigate them.

Chaired by: Consultant in Public Health

Frequency: Quarterly (2x cold weather planning and 2x heatwave planning meetings per year)

Membership: Chair: Consultant in Public Health/Public Health Specialist, Environmental Health; Adult Social Care; Housing; Sixtown Housing; INT reps, CYP Early Help reps, Community Hub reps, VCFA, Communications; others?

Environmental Hazards

- Led by Environmental Health team with feed into Health Protection Board