

SCRUTINY REPORT



MEETING: Health Scrutiny Committee
DATE: 8th December 2015
SUBJECT: Bury's in-house Infection Control Service
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Update on Bury's in-house Infection Control Service November 2015

Following a presentation by Lesley Jones, DPH in June 2014, Health Scrutiny requested an update on the provision of a proposed in house Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) service following the cessation of our contract with Pennine care.

From June 2014 through to May 2015 primary care contractors Intrahealth provided a satisfactory reactive IPC service managed within Bury Council's Health and Environmental Protection (HEP) team covering:

- root cause analysis of all C Difficile cases in the community
- post infection reviews for MRSA bacteraemia in the community
- serious untoward incident investigations
- surveillance of other Health Care Acquired Infections as required
- IPC advice and guidance where requested
- outbreak management in conjunction with PHE and the Environmental Health team where necessary
- lessons learned were fed back through the Bury Clinical Commissioning group's Quality and Risk Committee, and PHE at the monthly Bury Infection Prevention and Control Integrated Partnership

In the meantime a business case was made for an in house service under the H&EP Commercial Unit Manager comprising of a Lead Health Protection nurse and Health Protection nurse; job descriptions and evaluation and recruitment took place. Recruitment has not been without issue as the NHS pay, grading, terms and conditions of experienced IPC Nurses are perceived as better than those in a Local Authority. Nevertheless we had applications from less experienced nurses who were willing to undergo training.

In May 2015 we recruited the Lead Health Protection Nurse who continued the reactive work and introduced a proactive programme of audits for care homes and GP practices. In August 2015 we recruited the Health Protection Nurse. Unfortunately the lead nurse resigned in September and we are recruiting again now. The Health Protection Nurse is undertaking a 7 week day-release IPC nursing module at University of Manchester.

The audits are underway and we have forged links with the Council's Quality Assurance

team to help monitor the care homes commissioned by the local authority.

Integration with Environmental Health is developing well as the staff are co-located and have been carrying out joint outbreak management investigations and audits. All EHO's have had some infection control training and the nurses have had some on the job food hygiene training so there is mutual support to identify or monitor any problems in either discipline which will help with early intervention.

In October the Bury Tattoo Hygiene Rating scheme was launched this has been achieved through a joint environmental health and IPC approach based on audits and tattooist hygiene training.

The Greater Manchester Public Health Network facilitated a sector led improvement review (SLI) for Outbreak Management and Control across the 10 local authority areas. Recommendations from that review are currently being addressed at both a local level and GM level. As a new in-house IPC service we need to strengthen our working links and procedures with NHS colleagues, however Bury's strengths around outbreak management are:

- the integrated team provides access to a wider workforce in an emergency
- EHO's are already experienced in gastro intestinal disease outbreaks

Currently we are under trajectory for C Difficile positive cases in the community however we are still looking at ways to minimise cases by:

- improving the root cause analysis involving more engagement with GP's to ensure there are meaningful lessons learned to prevent such infections
- early alerts to GP's about patients who are at increased risk of developing C Difficile infection so they can prescribe accordingly

The IPC service will continue to develop as officers and Nurses become more experienced. There is a good network of help and guidance through the GM Health Protection Confederation which meets monthly. The PHE provide a 24hr support and we have a nominated IPC specialist who is very responsive to our needs. The IPC nurses in Rochdale and Oldham also offer support and clinical supervision.

For interest I enclose an anonymised report on the type of work the team has undertaken to date

Lorraine Chamberlin
Head of Health and Environmental Protection

List of Background Papers:-



Performance Report
271115.docx



Health Protection -H
Scrutiny (3).pptx

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