

Manchester Health and Wellbeing Board Report for Resolution

Report to: Manchester Health and Wellbeing Board – 25 January 2023

Subject: Health Protection Board Update

Report of: Assistant Director of Public Health

Summary

The Manchester Health Protection Board is a statutory group, chaired by the Director of Public Health, that reports to the Manchester Health and Wellbeing Board. To ensure that the city responded effectively to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Health Protection Board was replaced by the COVID-19 Task Group during 2020 to 2022. The Manchester Health Protection Board was re-established in June 2022 and has a broader remit, which includes COVID-19. The Health Protection Board also includes agenda items covering health services, emergency preparedness, resilience and response and Greater Manchester and Manchester City Council Resilience Forum feedback. This report gives an update on the responsibilities of the Health Protection Board and highlights some of the current issues raised at the last meeting in December 2022.

Recommendations

The Board is asked to: Note the report

Board Priority(s) Addressed:

Health and Wellbeing Strategy priority	Summary of contribution to the strategy
Getting the youngest people in our communities off to the best start	Health protection prevention and response work is essential and underpins our ability to deliver all health and wellbeing strategy priorities. The Health Protection Board provides assurance and governance of health protection work in the city to the Health and Wellbeing Board.
Improving people's mental health and wellbeing	
Bringing people into employment and ensuring good work for all	
Enabling people to keep well and live independently as they grow older	
Turning round the lives of troubled families as part of the Confident and Achieving Manchester programme	
One health and care system – right care, right place, right time	
Self-care	

Contact Officers:

Name: David Regan
Position: Director of Public Health
E-mail: david.regan@manchester.gov.uk

Name: Sarah Doran
Position: Assistant Director of Public Health
E-mail: sarah.doran@manchester.gov.uk

Background documents (available for public inspection):

The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report. Copies of the background documents are available up to 4 years after the date of the meeting. If you would like a copy, please contact one of the contact officers above.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Manchester Health Protection Board is a statutory group, chaired by the Director of Public Health, that reports to the Manchester Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 1.2 To ensure that the city responded effectively to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Health Protection Board was replaced by the COVID-19 Task Group during 2020 to 2022. The Manchester Health Protection Board was re-established in June 2022 and has a broader remit, which includes COVID-19. The Health Protection Board also includes agenda items covering health services, emergency preparedness, resilience and response and Greater Manchester and Manchester City Council Resilience Forum feedback.
- 1.3 This report gives an update on the responsibilities of the Health Protection Board and highlights some of the current issues raised at the last meeting in December 2022.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Health Protection Board supports partnership working on health protection and assists the Director of Public Health to discharge his statutory responsibility for ensuring oversight of health protection in Manchester, and in providing a strategic challenge to health protection plans and arrangements produced by partner organisations.
- 2.2 The Health Protection Board meets quarterly and reports to the Manchester Health and Wellbeing Board to give assurance that robust plans and arrangements are in place and will draw to the attention of the Board any matter of concern in this context.
- 2.3 Health protection topics covered by the Health Protection Board include, but are not restricted to:
 - Prevention and Control of infectious diseases in the community
 - Mandatory Healthcare associated infections surveillance and reporting
 - Vaccine preventable diseases and immunisation programmes
 - Screening programmes
 - Influenza
 - COVID-19
 - Tuberculosis (TB)
 - Prevention of infections related to oral health
 - Blood borne viruses
 - Sexually transmitted infections, including HIV
 - Environmental hazards, including air quality
 - Health protection emergency response/incident management

- 2.4 To further strengthen partnership working, from December 2022 the Health Protection Board also incorporates agenda items around health service emergency preparedness, resilience and response that were part of the Health Economy Resilience Group that has now stood down. It is important for the Health Protection Board to interface with the new Greater Manchester Integrated Care Board arrangements for emergency planning as well as the established locality structures. The Board also receives feedback from the Greater Manchester and Manchester City Council's Resilience Forums.

3. Key responsibilities of the Health Protection Board

- 3.1 Key responsibilities of the Health Protection Board include:

- Providing assurance to the Health and Wellbeing Board that effective local arrangements are in place for the prevention, detection, control, response and preparedness on health protection issues in Manchester.
- Highlighting concerns about significant health protection issues and the appropriateness of health protection arrangements in Manchester, raising any concerns with key organisations and escalating if necessary to the Health and Wellbeing Board or relevant Chief Executives
- Providing an expert view on any health protection concerns on which the Health and Wellbeing Board request advice.
- Monitoring a 'health protection dashboard' to assess local performance in addressing the key health protection issues in Manchester
- Responding to issues identified by partners concerning health protection and working together as a system to find and support resolution
- Reviewing and signing-off the local outbreak plan
- Making recommendations as to health protection issues that should be included in the local Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- Considering the lessons found from any serious incidents or outbreaks and to expect that learning from such incidents is embedded in future working practices
- Supporting member organisations to fulfil their legal duties under the Civil Contingencies Act, helping them meet requirements for Emergency Preparedness, Resilience & Response (EPRR) (for example, as set out in the NHS Core Standards for EPRR) and further shared understanding of EPRR risks as well as joint working to mitigate/prepare for such risks.

4. Health Protection Board membership

- 4.1 The Health Protection Board is chaired by the Director of Public Health. Organisations with representatives on the board include Manchester City Council, UK Health Security Agency, NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care, Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust, Manchester Local Care Organisation and Greater Manchester Mental Health. Representatives from other organisations, including voluntary sector organisations, are invited to the

meetings to contribute to topics of discussion. A list of Board members can be found in the Appendix below.

5. Health Protection Board Subgroups

- 5.1 The Manchester Health Protection Steering Group meets bimonthly and reports into the Health Protection Board. The Board also receives updates from the Greater Manchester Local Health Resilience Partnership (LHRP), Greater Manchester Resilience Forum and Manchester City Council Resilience Forum.
- 5.2 Other groups feeding information into the Health Protection Board include vaccination programme working groups, Greater Manchester TB Collaborative, Manchester AMR (Antimicrobial Resistance) Group and other time limited groups as needed.

6. Feedback from Health Protection Board December 2022

- 6.1 The Health Protection Board agenda covers the following areas:
 - Overall situation update
 - Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response (EPRR)
 - Wider Health Protection Issues
 - Focussed discussion
- 6.2 Overall situation update - The last meeting was held on 13th December 2022. Health protection issues highlighted were the increasing cases of COVID-19 and influenza and increasing number of education settings with respiratory infections, including Group A Streptococcus and scarlet fever. Group A Streptococcus situations were adding pressure on health and education systems and on the local community health protection team as well as the UKHSA (UK Health Security Agency). The Board were made aware of new Greater Manchester antibiotic stock management database, organised by NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care to support access to antibiotics. The Board also discussed the management of infectious disease outbreaks within asylum seeker accommodation and the related work to ensure antibiotics and outbreak vaccination were available where needed. Positive news that Mpox cases in the city have been steadily decreasing with vaccination still offered to at risk residents.
- 6.3 Emergency preparedness, resilience and response – The Board received updates from the Greater Manchester Local Health Resilience Partnership (LHRP), the Greater Manchester Resilience Forum and the Manchester City Council Resilience Forum. Emergency preparedness procedures in the Manchester locality are being updated and the Manchester city centre evacuation plan has been updated. Discussions were held on planned industrial action involving nurses and North West Ambulance Service and information shared on the incident management team set up to oversee this.

The Board discussed winter and cold weather pressures on health services and were made aware of planning for potential rota power cuts. Feedback was given to the Board on two exercises that partners engaged in to test local systems. Exercise Boreas focused on winter pressures in health and social care services and Exercise Mitchell related to a situation involving hazardous materials.

- 6.4 Wider health protection issues – The Board discussed a variety of topics relating to wider health protection issues including work around mould and damp to encourage more people in private rented sector to report poor housing conditions. Work around outbreaks includes the establishment of a task group to ensure there is a more robust system in place for vaccination outbreak response in the city. The Board was made aware of the increasing workload relating to health protection issues in the asylum seeker hotels and there was escalation of funding issues for managing antibiotics and vaccination for outbreaks in the hotels.
- 6.5 Focused discussion – The focused discussion at the December meeting was on Tuberculosis (TB). Issues escalated to the Board included the lack of funding and staff capacity for undertaking latent TB screening in asylum seeker hotels and the risks relating to this. The Board acknowledged the need for a co-ordinated Greater Manchester approach and funding needed for this through a business case to NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care. The Board was also made aware of the risks relating to the lack of funding in place for housing support for homeless people with TB with no recourse to public funds while they undergo TB treatment. It was a requirement of Clinical Commissioning Groups to provide this funding and a new system for funding needs to be set up through NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care as soon as possible. The Director of Public Health has agreed to support the progression of both aspects of this work with senior leads in NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care.

7. Next steps

- 7.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board will receive regular updates on health protection and the Health Protection Board.
- 7.2 The local outbreak plan is reviewed annually and will be shared with the Health and Wellbeing Board for sign off.

8. Appendix

- 8.1 Membership of Manchester Health Protection Board includes:
- Manchester City Council – Public Health
 - Director of Public Health (Chair)
 - Assistant Director of Public Health – Lead for Health Protection (Vice Chair)
 - Strategic Lead Health Protection

- Lead Nurse Health Protection
- Deputy Lead Nurse Health Protection
- Strategic Commissioning Manager
- Strategic Lead Senior Responsible Officer Vaccination Programmes
- Public Health Specialist (Health Intelligence)

- Manchester City Council
 - Head of Compliance Enforcement and Community Safety and Chair of MCC (Manchester City Council) Resilience Forum
 - Neighbourhood Manager (Environmental Health \Trading Standards and Housing)
 - Head of Strategic Communications

- UK Health Security Agency
 - Consultant in Health Protection

- NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care – Manchester Locality
 - Associate Director of Planning
 - Associate Medical Director

- NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care
 - Senior Resilience Manager
 - Greater Manchester Screening and Immunisation Team Lead

- Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust (MFT)
 - Assistant Chief Nurse IPC (Infection Prevention and Control)
 - Consultant in Infectious Diseases and Tropical Medicine
 - Deputy Group Director of Operations

- Manchester Local Care Organisation
 - Director of Nursing

- Greater Manchester Mental Health
 - Interim Associate Director of Operations