



SHROPSHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD				
Cover Sheet for submissions				
Meeting Date	17th November 2022			
Title of Paper	Health Protection Report			
Reporting Officer	Susan Lloyd, Consultant in Public Health Report Author Anne-Marie Speke Health Protection Cell Operational Lead			
Which Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy priorities does this paper address? Please tick all that apply	Children & Young People	X	Joined up working	X
	Mental Health		Improving Population Health	X
	Healthy Weight & Physical Activity		Working with and building strong and vibrant communities	
	Workforce		Reduce inequalities (see below)	X
What inequalities does this paper address?	Health inequalities specific to screening and vaccination.			
Risk assessment and opportunities appraisal (NB This will include the following: Risk Management, Human Rights, Equalities, Community, Environmental consequences and other Consultation)	The report identifies risks to the population health groups if vaccination rates remain below target, and identifies measures being taken to mitigate this.			
Financial implications (Any financial implications of note)	There are no financial implications			
Climate Change Appraisal as applicable	Not applicable			
Where else has the paper been presented?	System Partnership Boards			
	Voluntary Sector			
	Other		Health Protection Assurance Board	
List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)				
Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder) or your organisational lead e.g., Exec lead or Non-Exec/Clinical Lead (List of Council Portfolio holders can be found at this link: https://shropshire.gov.uk/committee-services/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=130) Cllr Simon Jones Portfolio holder for Adult Social Care and Public Health Rachel Robinson – Executive Director, Health, Wellbeing and Prevention				
Appendices Appendix 1 MMR Uptake January- March 2022				

Report to Health and Wellbeing Board - Health Protection Report

Recommendation: That the Board note the contents of this report

Introduction

This health protection report to the Health and Wellbeing Board provides an overview of the health protection status of the population of Shropshire. It provides an overview of the status of communicable, waterborne and foodborne disease.

Part one is an overview of health protection data and a summary of new risks, part two is an overview of new health protection developments relevant to the system.

Part one

Immunisation Cover Shropshire

Flu vaccination is being offered to eligible cohorts through a variety of settings including GP practices, pharmacies and maternity services. They are also available alongside Covid vaccinations in some clinics.

Shingles - uptake remains low. UKHSA have cascaded a toolkit to GP practices to try to increase uptake.

Childhood immunisations - these remain above the England average but are still below previous years figures for some immunisations. Communications are on-going to encourage uptake and utilising opportunities to promote these during contacts with families.

MMR Update

Following the implementation of the measles vaccine and the Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) immunisation programme, the UK reached elimination status in 2016. However, since this time the number of children receiving two doses of MMR has declined and no longer meets elimination status requirements. The Covid-19 pandemic has led to a further decline in the number of parents and carers taking their children to receive the MMR vaccines. Furthermore, there are high numbers of children who have received just one dose of the MMR vaccine meaning they are only partially vaccinated against MMR. There is a call-to-action to encourage parents and carers to contact their GPs and make an appointment, where their child has missed their first or second vaccine. The England target for coverage of both MMR doses by the age of five years is 95%.

A full report was presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board in March 2022, where MMR % uptake data for Quarter 2 (2020-21) was discussed. Quarter 2 data identified that Shropshire were exceeding the England national average % overall uptake to the MMR vaccine at 91.2%, in comparison to 86.6% England average. The data identified that a small percentage of children had received MMR1 and not MMR2 by age 5, and the Board requested a review to the MMR action plan to explore how uptake of MMR2 could be increased.

The most recent available data for the period of January-March 2022 (**See appendix 1**) shows an increase in uptake to MMR1 and MMR2 which continue to exceed both regional and National averages. The % uptake at 5 years for MMR2 has increased during this period to 92.6%, however still falls below the England target of 95%.

Following presentation of the full report to the Health and Wellbeing Board, a meeting was held between Shropshire Council's Public Health and Primary Care management, where a number of actions have been agreed:

1. Shropshire Council's Public Health team are preparing a communications paper with the most recent data to be shared with Primary Care partners for information.

2. Assurances are being sought that recall letters are being sent out from General Practices to families who have not presented children for the MMR2.
3. Assurances have been sought that Shropshire's Health visiting service are providing parents with all of the Department of Health information about immunisations and revisit this discussion with those parents whose children have not had their immunisations at each of the key mandated healthy child contacts, currently: New birth visit, 6 – 8 week contact, 12 month development review and the 2 – 2.5 year development review.
4. A communications campaign took place in line with UK government national guidance and resources have been shared widely via Shropshire Council social media platforms and with all partners.

A national recall has also been put in place for children over the age of 5 who have received only one or no MMR vaccinations this commenced in September 2022.

Screening uptake Shropshire

Antenatal and Newborn screening has experienced some staffing challenges which has impacted on some screening. These are being addressed.

Breast screening- an action plan is in place to catch up on backlog of women to be screened. Some mobile screening units have been centralised to accelerate the catch-up programme.

All other screening programmes have now recovered.

Communicable disease

Flu - low and not beyond expected levels, we expect to see increasing numbers of cases as we move into autumn/winter.

Covid - recorded cases are decreasing in Shropshire. Outbreaks are still occurring in care homes and are being risk managed. The numbers of outbreaks had increased over the last two months, and this has created some issues in relation to bed availability within the system, however, this is starting to improve. Asymptomatic testing was paused from August 31st 2022, and currently there is no indication as to whether this will be reinstated.

Covid variants of interest continue to emerge, the situation is being monitored by WHO and includes UK partners.

Tuberculosis - An initial cross ICS TB meeting took place in September 2022 to address local issues linked to the provision of TB services. To develop discussions a TB group will be set up and meet six monthly. Terms of reference have been developed for discussion at the next TB meeting.

Monkeypox (MPX) - Currently the pathway for Monkeypox testing remains via MPFT Sexual Health services, the tests are undertaken in Stafford. A triage call is made to all patients before they travel to Staffordshire to prevent unnecessary travel for residents. The number of new Monkeypox cases nationally appears to have plateaued, with only a small number of new cases being detected although these are still being monitored.

Pre-exposure vaccination pathways are in place and currently being offered to eligible groups through clinics in T&W.

Brucellosis - Brucellosis had been detected in a dog in Shropshire. The health protection team, the Animal Plant Health Authority and UK Health Security Agency have worked jointly to identify any additional cases, and this has now been completed.

Avian Influenza -There has now been a national alert in relation to Avian Influenza. Mandatory housing measures for all poultry and captive birds are to be introduced to all areas of England from 00:01 on Monday 7 November: these were announced on Monday 31 October. The housing measures legally require all bird keepers to keep their birds indoors and to follow stringent biosecurity measures to help protect their flocks from the disease, regardless of type or size. Outbreaks have been detected in other authority areas including neighbouring authorities.

Foodborne and waterborne disease

Campylobacter - numbers remain largest reported foodborne bacteria. The number of cases has increased in Q2. This is expected and is normal.

Other foodborne and waterborne - case numbers remain low, with the exception of Salmonella. Salmonella cases have risen in the second quarter compared to 2020/21. Numbers of cases remain low.

Part two

Health Protection Developments

In July 2022 the draft Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin (STW) Health Protection Strategy 2022 – 2025 was circulated to Health Protection Assurance Board members, and to stakeholders. Following feedback this has been updated and a final draft is going to the Health Protection Assurance Board later in November. Once agreement and sign off is complete a published version will be available and will be shared with the HWB Board members.

In partnership and in response to learning from emergence of Monkeypox. A decision was made to propose a cross ICB rapid response infectious disease team. This will be stood up in response to emergent diseases in the system, as and when necessary.

Mass antiviral, antibiotic and testing pathways are currently being developed within the ICS to enable STW to respond to any outbreaks or emerging infectious diseases.

Appendices

Appendix 1 MMR Uptake

Quarter 1 (2022-23)

January to March 2022	24m denominator	24m MMR1%	5y denominator	5y MMR1%	5y MMR2%
Shropshire	649	95.8	780	97.2	92.6
West Midlands	15,833	90.1	17,895	93.8	86.0
England	147,510	89.7	162,668	93.5	85.9