

Somerset Health and Wellbeing Board
 23rd November 2017
 Report for Information

Annual Health Protection Assurance Report

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	Seen by:	Name	Date
Report Sign off	Relevant Senior Manager / Lead Office (Director Level)	Trudi Grant	3/11/2017
	Cabinet Member / Portfolio Holder (if applicable)	Christine Lawrence (Cabinet Member)	6/11/2017
	Monitoring Officer (Somerset County Council)	Julian Gale	3/11/2017
Summary:	<p>The Somerset Health Protection Assurance Report (Appendix A) documents the progress made during the last 12 months and the identified priorities for the next year.</p> <p>In summary, the Director of Public Health has a high degree of assurance that measures are in place to protect the health of the Somerset population. There are still a number of areas of concern, which are captured on the SCC JCAD risk register system. There are still some major system changes on the horizon that impacts on the overall resilience of the health and social care system and its ability to respond robustly to outbreaks and incidents.</p>		
Recommendations:	<p>That the Health and Wellbeing Board notes the report and endorses the priorities proposed for 2017/18:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Overall System Resilience 2. Flu Immunisation 3. Antimicrobial Resistance 4. Air Quality 5. TB 		
Reasons for Recommendations:	<p>The priorities have been identified by Forum members, in collaboration with the Director of Public Health, as key issues that need to be addressed, if the DPH is to be assured that suitable arrangements are in place in Somerset to protect the health of the population.</p>		

Links to Somerset Health and Wellbeing Strategy:	Links to priority 2 by improving the resilience of individuals and communities to infections and other threats to public health.
Financial, Legal and HR Implications:	This is a statutory role of the Director of Public Health acting on behalf of the Secretary of State for Health.
Equalities Implications:	<p>There are no equalities implications arising directly from accepting this report. The identified priorities for the coming year will help to address health inequalities. In particular, achieving higher rates of immunisations for children looked after and other priority groups will improve health outcomes in these sub-populations.</p> <p>Air pollution impacts disproportionately on those who live in the worst affected areas, which in Somerset tend to be those inner urban areas with high levels of motor traffic, which will tend to contain housing disproportionately occupied by people from lower socio-economic groups.</p>
Risk Assessment:	Failure to address the identified priorities could lead to the Director of Public Health being unable to fulfil her role of being assured about arrangements in place to protect public health in the county.

1. Background

- 1.1. The Director of Public Health (DPH) of Somerset County Council has a statutory duty to seek assurance that measures are in place to protect the health of the Somerset population. In order to make sure that the DPH is fully informed about the work of partners and can be so assured, the Somerset Health Protection Forum was created in March 2013.

2. Options considered and reasons for rejecting them

- 2.1. Considered and not relevant.

3. Consultations undertaken

- 3.1. This report has been consulted with the Health Protection Forum Members.

4. Financial, Legal, HR and Risk Implications

- 4.1. There are no equalities implications arising directly from accepting this report. The identified priorities for the coming year will help to address health inequalities. In particular, achieving higher rates of immunisations in children in care and other priority groups, will improve health outcomes in these sub-populations.

Air pollution impacts disproportionately on those who live in the worst affected areas, which in Somerset tend to be those inner urban areas with high levels of motor traffic, which will tend to contain housing disproportionately occupied by people from lower socio-economic groups. Addressing air pollution in Somerset towns is largely concerned with minimising the impacts of motor vehicles, with implications for land use and transport planning.

5. Background papers

5.1. Somerset Health Protection, Strategic Action Plan. 2017-18 (Appendix B)