

Somerset Health protection Annual Assurance Report 2019

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<p>Summary:</p>	<p>The Somerset Health Protection Assurance Report 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 (DPH) is assured that systems are in place to protect the health of the population, however there are opportunities during 2020 to strengthen these.</p> <p>Throughout 2019 there have been significant challenges within and affecting Somerset that required a system wide response, while these challenges were met there were questions raised regarding capacity and opportunities identified for improvement through planning, prevention and mitigation.</p> <p>These lessons are captured throughout this document and reflected within the 2020 strategic priorities, which are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Communicable Diseases <p>Ensure robust communicable disease incident and outbreak response arrangements are in place and embedded across the Somerset system.</p> <p>Key actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Continue to support Public Health England (PHE) to finalise the Incident and Outbreak Response Framework- Continue to work with the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to ensure commissioned services are in place to respond to outbreaks- Translate the Tuberculosis (TB) service specification into the clinical service delivery- Ensure People with Blood Borne Viruses (e.g. HIV, Hepatitis) are identified and supported by appropriate services in Somerset
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- Develop a Burden of Disease Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) to inform system commissioning and provide assurance that the system has capacity and training to support this work

2. Environmental Hazards

Ensure initiatives to reduce or mitigate the impacts of environmental hazards on population health are supported and prioritised.

Building on existing organisational priorities, key actions include:

- Explore working with the Housing Partnership on environmental hazards relating to housing. Consider establishing a task and finish group to identify work around minimising the health impact of cold homes, improving housing standards and messages specific to infectious disease threats.
- Respond to Climate Change Emergency/deliver air quality strategy. Link in with the JSNA that is focused on Climate Change

3. Infection Prevention and Control

Ensure infection prevention and control priorities address local need and reflect national ambition. Recognising areas for improvement identified during 2019 and the context surrounding infection prevention and control, key actions include:

- Somerset Infection Prevention and Control and Antimicrobial Assurance Committee (SIPPAC) – to continue to provide assurances to DPH regarding infection, prevention and control in Somerset.
- Somerset needs to continue to tackle the rising numbers of Gram-negative Bacteraemia (Bacteraemia is the presence of bacteria in the blood) which are responsible for approximately 24% of all cases of healthcare-associated bacteraemia and 45% of all cases of community-acquired bacteraemia through:
 - Delivering the Invasive Group A Streptococcus (IGaS) Action Plan
 - Delivering the CCG Gram Negative Action plan.
 - Delivering a snapshot audit of Ecoli cases

	<p>4. Resilience</p> <p>Ensure local and regional emergency response arrangements are in place to protect the health of the population. Working closely with local and regional forums, key actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue to provide assurance to DPH that the Health and Care system is resilient - Members to partake in Local Health Resilience Forum (LHRF) / Local Resilience Forum (LRF) exercises - Design a solution to ensure Radiation Monitoring capacity in place, should an incident occur - Mass casualty planning - Monitoring the impact of EU Exit process <p>5. Screening and immunisation</p> <p>Ensure screening and immunisation programmes meet national standards and where work is required to increase uptake, reflect local priorities to achieve national standards. In support of the existing screening and immunisation programme in Somerset, key actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Refine quarterly Screening and Immunisations assurance to Health Protection Forum. - Somerset Immunisations group to deliver on the local elements of the Measles Elimination Strategy - Establish Somerset Screening Group to deliver NHS Long Term Plan ambitions around cancer screening - Improve Children Looked After vaccination data - Flu (improve uptake of at-risk flu vaccination rates)
<p>Recommendations:</p>	<p>That the Health and Wellbeing Board considers and comments on the priorities proposed for 2020/21 covering:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communicable Diseases; 2. Environmental Hazards; 3. Infection Prevention and Control; 4. Resilience; and 5. Screening and Immunisations.
<p>Reasons for recommendations:</p>	<p>The Somerset Health Protection Forum and Director of Public Health have identified actions within these priorities as key issues to address in order to be assured that suitable arrangements are in place to protect the health of the Somerset population and</p>

	reaches vulnerable populations within Somerset	
Links to The Improving Lives Strategy	Please tick the Improving Lives priorities influenced by the delivery of this work	
	A County infrastructure that drives productivity, supports economic prosperity and sustainable public services	
	Safe, vibrant and well-balanced communities able to enjoy and benefit from the natural environment	<i>Yes</i>
	Fairer life chances and opportunity for all	
	Improved health and wellbeing and more people living healthy and independent lives for longer	<i>Yes</i>
Financial, Legal, HR, Social value and partnership Implications:	<p>This is a statutory role of the Director of Public Health acting on behalf of the Secretary of State for Health.</p> <p>There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report.</p>	
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.</p> <p>The recommendation to undertake a health equity audit on the uptake on one adult screening programme during 2019, will give insight into uptake of programmes among different groups that make up our local population.</p>	
Risk Assessment:	<p>Failure to address the identified priorities could lead to the Director of Public Health being unable to be assured about arrangements in place to protect public health in the county.</p>	

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. The Health Protection Forum includes representation from Public Health, CCG, District Council Environmental Health, Bristol Water, Public Health England, NHS England, Civil Contingencies

Unit, Wessex Water.

2. Improving Lives Priorities and Outcomes

2.1. By protecting the health of the population of Somerset we 'improve the lives' of Somerset's residents, by ensuring partners work together for the benefit of our residents and that we work to reduce health inequalities.

3. Consultations undertaken

3.1. No consultations have been undertaken; this is an assurance report

4. Request of the Board and Board members

- 4.1.
- To consider and comment on the information presented within the Health Protection Annual Report
 - Recommend that the HWBB are in agreement that the Director of Public Health is assured that systems are in place to protect the health of the population in Somerset, across: communicable disease control, environmental hazards, infection prevention and control, resilience and Screening and Immunisation programmes.
 - Agree the proposed priorities for work in 2020 (pages 14-16)

5. Background papers

5.1. [Protecting the health of the local population: the new health protection duty of local authorities under the Local Authorities \(Public Health Functions and Entry to Premises by Local Healthwatch Representatives\) regulations 2013 \(Department of Health, Public Health England & Local Government Association, May 2013\);](#)

6. Report Sign-Off

	Seen by:	Name	Date
Report Sign off	Relevant Senior Manager / Lead Officer (Director Level)	Trudi Grant	05/03/20
	Cabinet Member / Portfolio Holder (if applicable)	Christine Lawrence	Click or tap to enter a date.
	Monitoring Officer (Somerset County Council)	Scott Wooldridge	Click or tap to enter a date.