

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Report

Committee:	Hampshire Health and Wellbeing Board
Date:	6 October 2022
Title:	Health Protection Annual Report
Report From:	Director of Public Health

Contact name: Simon Bryant

Tel: 0370 779 3256

Email: Simon.Bryant@hants.gov.uk

Purpose of this Report

1. The purpose of this report is to present the Director of Public Health's Health Protection Annual Report, ahead of publication.
2. This is the first Health Protection report which describes the work undertaken in 2021 and early 2022 to protect the health of the people of Hampshire and describes the future focus of health protection activities in the year to come.

Recommendation

That the Hampshire Health and Wellbeing Board:

3. Notes the 2021-2022 Health Protection Annual Report of the Director of Public Health and proposed areas of work requiring partnership engagement

Health Protection Report

4. This first Health Protection Annual Report covers April 2021 to end of March 2022. It reflects the context within which the Health Protection function was being delivered and therefore focuses heavily on the COVID-19 pandemic response, with a summary of other issues.
5. During the COVID-19 pandemic the Council was asked to set up a Health Protection Board to oversee the local pandemic response. As the pandemic

has progressed and policy changes implemented, the need for a regular weekly board has shifted and the board stood down.

6. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the important role of the local authority within the wider health protection system. The coming year presents an opportunity for the Council to build on working relationships with key stakeholders across the system. A new quarterly Health Protection Board has been set up chaired by the Director of Public Health and bringing together Council colleagues and external partners to work on health protection issues of relevance to the Council.
7. Over the course of the next year, the three key areas of activity for the will be the following:
 - Working to operationalise the UK Government’s ‘living with COVID-19’ strategy: This will mean retaining a core surveillance function and ensuring that the most vulnerable members of our community are protected against surges in infection.
 - Responding to other emerging health protection matters: Through horizon scanning and use of the latest intelligence, the public health team will continue to prepare for and respond to emerging threats and health hazards, including infectious diseases and adverse weather events.
 - Renewing efforts across vaccination programmes: we will work with the NHS at strategic level in shaping the new national vaccination strategy, and at operational level to recover and improve delivery of routine vaccination programmes.
8. These three core activities will be underpinned by a strong communications plan for 2022-2023.
9. Oversight and assurance of the Council’s health protection work will be provided by the Hampshire Health Protection Board. This board, which first met during the height of the pandemic and focused on COVID-19, will now meet quarterly or as required to coordinate action across the system with regard to health protection.

Consultation and Equalities

10. This report considers some of the health protection issues that are relevant to Hampshire residents. It does not directly impact on people and communities as would a specific proposal or project. It identifies the current situation, including any activities already in place, which address these health protection issues, and explores future work areas which will further impact positively on Hampshire's population and future health protection requirements

Conclusions

11. The 2021-2022 Health Protection Annual Report sets out future priorities for delivery through joint work with partners across the health protection system and oversight by the Health Protection Board.

REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Strategic Plan

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	No
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	Yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	No
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	Yes

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
The Health and Social Care Act 2012	2012

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

1. Equality Duty

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

2. Equalities Impact Assessment:

This report considers some of the health protection issues that are relevant to Hampshire residents. It does not directly impact on people and communities as would a specific proposal or project. It identifies the current situation, including any activities already in place, which address these health protection issues, and explores future work areas which will further impact positively on Hampshire's population and future health protection requirements [For HWB Board reports, please delete this section if it is not relevant to what you are presenting]