

REPORT TO:	HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD (CROYDON) 19 June 2019
SUBJECT:	Measles and MMR vaccination in Croydon
BOARD SPONSOR:	<i>Rachel Flowers</i>
BOARD PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT:	
<p>This information report addresses the following local priorities set out in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased healthy life expectancy and reduced differences in life expectancy between communities • Local organisations will work together to address the factors that drive health problems amongst the poorest and most disadvantaged. • Everyone’s health will be protected from outbreaks of disease, injuries and major emergencies and remain resilient to harm. • Earlier diagnosis and intervention means that people will be less dependent on intensive services • Guidance taken from the UK Measles and Rubella Elimination Strategy 2019 	
FINANCIAL IMPACT:	
None	

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to:

- 1.1 Note the contents of this report.
- 1.2 Encourage persons who arrange for the provision of any health or health-related services to agree to the Croydon Measles Elimination Plan and work closely together in an integrated manner to deliver the actions within it (Appendix B). This includes the active support and promotion of MMR vaccinations amongst individuals of all ages including patients, staff and the general population.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

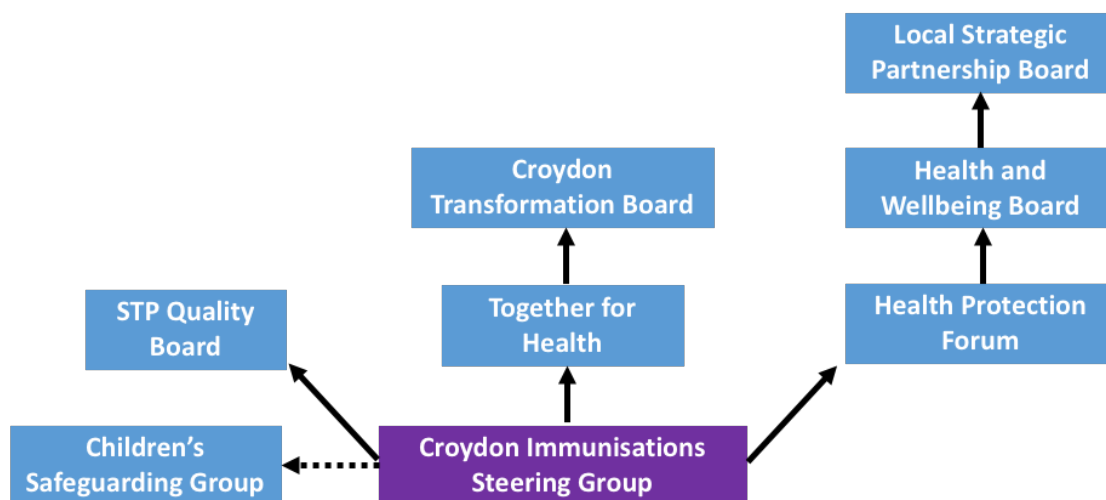
- 2.1 One of the four domains of public health practice is health protection.
- 2.2 It is the statutory responsibility of the Local Authority Director of Public Health to obtain assurance from partners across the system that the health of the local population is protected from communicable disease as well as environmental hazards.

- 2.3 The Croydon Health Protection Forum (HPF) was established in July 2015 as the local mechanism by which to support this role. It does so by:
- Identifying local health protection priorities
 - Gaining clarity on roles, responsibilities and accountabilities around commissioning and provision of services
 - Engaging with the relevant local and regional partners
 - Seeking assurance that arrangements currently in place to protect the health of residents are robust and implemented appropriately to local health needs
- 2.4 The health protection issues discussed at the Forum include, but are not limited to, adult and child immunisation programmes. Performance across childhood immunisation programmes has decreased in Croydon (see *Appendix A*).
- 2.5 A global threefold increase in measles cases and outbreaks across Europe and the UK call for concerted national and local action.
- 2.6 According to the latest nationally available data, only 67% of eligible children had received two doses of MMR in Croydon (2017/18). This is the 2nd lowest rate in the whole country with varying vaccination rates between GP practices across the borough.
- 2.7 After having received the mandate from the local NHS to lead on the improvement of the uptake of key immunisations in Croydon, the Public Health Team established a dedicated **Croydon Immunisation Steering Group** in April 2019. The initial aim of this group is to improve the uptake of MMR and to develop a local **Measles Elimination Plan**. In the future, the group will address other local immunisation priorities.
- 2.8 The steering group will facilitate a systems approach to the improvement of MMR uptake including.
- 2.9 A draft local Measles Elimination Plan was developed at the first meeting of the Group (see *Appendix B*) and will be completed at the next meeting of the Group on 17th July.
- 2.10 This aligns with the London Immunisation Plan and the UK Measles and Rubella Elimination Strategy 2019.¹
- 2.11 The focus on MMR also aligns with the strategic priorities of the One Croydon Alliance (i.e. to enable a better start in life and to improve quality of life). Immunisation indicators for MMR are included in the draft outcomes framework for the One Croydon Alliance.
- 2.12 Governance for the group is outlined in the diagram below

The group will report to the Health Protection Forum, the Proactive and Preventative care Board and the SWL STP Quality Board.

1

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/769970/UK_measles_and_rubella_elimination_strategy.pdf



2.13 The first meeting of the Immunisation Steering Group was held in April 2019 and included representatives from the following organisations:

Croydon Council Public Health	Croydon Council/CCG Children's Commissioner	Croydon Council Gateway Service
Croydon Clinical Commissioning Group	Public Health England South London Health Protection Team	NHS England London
Croydon Health Services	National Behavioural Insights Team	Croydon Council Communications representative
Homeless Health Service		

2.14 The aims of the Immunisation Steering Group are to:

- To improve immunisation rates of key immunisation (MMR, Flu, BCG, Hep B)
- To develop local action plans where necessary
- To serve as a platform for partners to identify and review current and emerging immunisations issues
- To strengthen collaborative working relationships amongst partners and support priority immunisations areas through identifying issues and barriers and generating recommendations to address these issues
- To assure the Director of Public Health, via the Health Protection Forum, that appropriate arrangements are in place to protect the health of the public, in relation to immunisations

2.15 Actions related to each of the four sections of the UK Measles and Rubella Elimination Strategy are as outlined below.

- Achieve and sustain 95% coverage in the routine childhood programme

- Achieve and sustain 95% coverage with two doses of MMR vaccine in older age cohorts through opportunistic and targeted catch up (>5 years old) <18 years old
- Strengthen measles and rubella surveillance
- Ensure easy access to high-quality, evidence-based information

2.16 The outcomes of this steering group will be reported to the Health and Wellbeing Board Executive Group via a quarterly Health Protection Report, and where appropriate will be discussed at the Health and Wellbeing Board.

3. CONSULTATION

3.1 Feedback has been collated from members of local and regional organisations involved in the commissioning and provision of MMR as well as allied partners as part of the steering group processes.

4. FINANCIAL AND RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 There are no direct financial implications from this report

Approved by: Lisa Taylor, Director of Finance, Investment and Risk

5. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 The Head of Litigation and Corporate Law comments on behalf of the Director of Law and Governance that there are no further legal considerations arising from this report.

Approved by: Sandra Herbert, Head of Litigation and Corporate Law on behalf of the Director of Law and Governance & Deputy Monitoring Officer

6. EQUALITIES IMPACT

6.1 The measles elimination action plan aims to address inequalities and improve outcomes of all those with protected characteristics. Improved vaccination rates protects vulnerable members of society who are the most at risk if there is an outbreak of measles and may lack protection if they are unable to have vaccination due to underlying conditions.

Approved by: Yvonne Okiyo, Equalities Manager

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APPENDICES:

Appendix A – Childhood immunisation programme performance
Appendix B – Measles and Rubella Elimination Action Plan

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

None