

**To the Chair and Members of the  
HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD**

**HEALTH PROTECTION ASSURANCE GROUP UPDATE**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1. The purpose of this paper is to provide exception report on health protection matters in Doncaster. All other assurance on elements of health protection is received at the Health Protection Assurance Group (HPAG) meeting that meets bimonthly. This report covers the period between December 2013 and February 2014 when the meetings of HPAG were held. However, some of the activities covered in the report were before the above time period.
2. HPAG has agreed a one-year forward plan, which contains the main agenda items to focus the work of the group.
3. The following are main items for the exception report:
  - a. **Suicide deaths:** the notification system for apparent suicide deaths from the Coroner's office to the NHS and local authority system needs to be re-established. There was a system in place prior to the disestablishment of the Primary Care Trust which did not continue, neither via Doncaster Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), nor with public health in the Local Authority. The implication of the absence of system of notification in place is that appropriate information and support are not provided timely to relevant agencies that need to know and act accordingly.
  - b. **Infection Prevention and Control (IPC):** A review of IPC service support in the community has identified some development needs in areas such as specialist advice, audit, and policy development. Options are being explored on how best to address these issues.
  - c. **Tuberculosis service:** Business continuity arrangements in relation to TB services in Doncaster have been reviewed. The Doncaster TB Steering Group is monitoring progress on these arrangements.

**EXEMPT REPORT**

4. Not applicable

## RECOMMENDATIONS

5. The Board is asked to note the exception report on health protection in Doncaster.

## BACKGROUND

6. From 1 April 2013, the Local Authority assumes the responsibility for public health and with it health protection for the local population.
7. Health Protection Assurance Framework was developed and completed for providing assurance. It identifies key elements of health protection, risks and mitigation measures.
8. In addition, Health Protection Assurance Group (HPAG) was established with its first meeting held in October 2013. It provides the governance structure for health protection assurance in Doncaster and it brings together a number of relevant agencies.

## OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9. Not applicable

## REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

10. Not applicable.

## IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY PRIORITIES

11. Impact:

	<b>Priority Outcome</b>	<b>Implications of this initiative</b>
1.	Doncaster's economy develops and thrives, underpinned by effective education and skills	
2.	Children are safe	Health protection impacts on how we keep our children safe from certain diseases, which are preventable such as by vaccination (e.g. MMR) and conditions that could be identified early by screening so that appropriate treatment can be given.
3.	Stronger families and stronger communities	
4.	Modernised and sustainable Adult Social Care Services with increased choice and control	
5.	Effective arrangements are in place to deliver a clean, safe and attractive local environment	Health protection assurance is needed to ensure that DMBC commissioned services comply with the requirements of infection prevention and control for a clean

		and safe environment where care is provided. This requirement is also stipulated in the Care Quality Commission standards.
6.	The Council is operating effectively, with change embedded and sustained with robust plans in place to operate within future resource allocations	The Health Protection ensures appropriate plans are in place to protect the health of the people of Doncaster. It has appropriate governance to ensure the delivery of the functions. The health protection work is delivered within Public Health financial grant.

## RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

12. Assumption: A robust health protection system in Doncaster will ensure that the people of Doncaster are protected from threats and hazards to health and that each individual organization discharges their respective duties effectively. The risks are that each agency may not discharge their functions effectively or there is lack of coordination and common understanding between them in achieving a shared goal of protecting the health of the people of Doncaster.

## LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

13. None

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

14. None

## CONSULTATION

15. This report follows evidence and discussion of members of Health Protection Assurance Group, and the relevant lead for elements of health protection.
16. This report has significant implications in terms of the following:

Procurement		Crime & Disorder	
Human Resources		Human Rights & Equalities	√
Buildings, Land and Occupiers		Environment & Sustainability	√
ICT		Capital Programme	

## BACKGROUND PAPERS

17. Forward Plan for 2014 on health protection



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