



City of Doncaster Council

Minutes

Meeting: Health Protection Assurance Group
Date/Time: Wednesday 18th January 2023
Venue: MSTeams

Present:

Dr Victor Joseph, City of Doncaster Council, Public Health (Chair)
Carys Williams, City of Doncaster Council, Public Health
Laurie Mott, PIC, City of Doncaster Council
Sally Spridgeon-Davison, NHS Bassetlaw
Sarah Lindley, City of Doncaster Council
Sarah Gill, NHS England & NHS Improvement
June Chambers, UKHSA
Scott Forbes, City of Doncaster Council,
Mim Boyack, DBTH
Sarah Atkinson, City of Doncaster Council, Public Health
Dr Ken Agwuh, DBTH
Emma Gordon, City of Doncaster Council, Environmental Health
Sally Gardiner, City of Doncaster Council, Public Health (Note Taker)

1.	Welcome and Introduction
	The group were welcomed and introductions took place.
2.	Declaration of interest
	None were declared.
3.	Apologies for Absence
	Apologies received from Alison Swift.
4.	Minutes from previous meeting and Action Plan
	Noted actions for August 22 meeting were completed as below:- <i>June Chambers - I can now tell you that in 2001 and so far this year, there have not been any cases [hepatitis A, B and C] reported to PHE/UKHSA.</i> <i>Sarah Gill -The most recent data for Breast screening over the end of Dec 21 and into early 22 doesn't show much difference by locality across South Yorkshire. All the units are trying to improve the uptake but are not doing anything specific or different to Doncaster. Doncaster unit have worked hard at trying to bring women into the service who</i>

	<p><i>Did not respond during Covid. They continue to call and text women to remind them to book.</i></p> <p><i>All units are now going to be working on getting more ladies with Learning disabilities into the programme through targeted phone calls to check what reasonable adjustments are needed.</i></p> <p>Actions from last meeting</p> <p>Noted:-</p> <p>Comms actions were completed. Dr Agwuh added that there was inconsistency with visitors not wearing masks, decided to allow people at their discretion not to wear masks on corridors but we made it mandatory on clinical areas, wards etc.; this has been effective and coincided with increase in covid and helped us to contain; we hope review and to step down mask wearing soon.</p> <p>All actions are being taken forward based on recommendations from the health protection system's workshop.</p> <p>Recommendations 1-4: Sarah has been working with North PCN and got census data to help with data; focus on areas of Gypsy travelers and Roma population, there is ongoing work to target those communities.</p> <p>Cary's advised Recommendations 5 & 6 had been done and 7 was ongoing. 8 embedded in all plans going forward.</p> <p>Recommendation 9 noted monkey pox numbers come down now, guidelines in place, most vaccines done now in sexual health</p> <p>Recommendation 10 is ongoing Victor advised.</p> <p>Terms of Reference had been circulated for comments again. No comments received.</p> <p>The minutes from the previous meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record.</p>
5.	<p>COVID – Incident Rates and Log</p> <p>Laurie updated and presented data tables:-</p> <p>Modelled prevalence estimate by ONS showed January 2023 situation update.</p> <p>Key message is the prevalence of covid is falling across all regions with exception of north east.</p> <p>Sub-regional estimate shows, population prevalence of covid is 4.04%; 1 in 25, mid table for region, top third for England.</p> <p>Age breakdown Y&H – up until early January saw increases in 70 & 24 years old but this may have changed now.</p> <p>Doncaster is still testing more than others, 3rd in region, 40/100,000 tests in previous week. Similar the week before.</p> <p>BA5 seems to be gradually disappearing over last few months</p> <p>Hospital data showed yesterday 61 active covid cases, none in intensive care unit (ITU).</p>

	<p>Compared to last year it's a slightly better position of numbers in hospital Vaccination data continuing, rate of increase has fallen off considerably, but Doncaster has highest vaccination uptake rate at 67.3% for region Deaths – no noticeable increases.</p> <p>Victor reflected saying testing mainly referring to what is happening in care homes/hospitals, is there available data? Yes positive cases data but not on testing.</p> <p>Mim said DBHT still doing a lot of testing, days 0,3,5,7. Ken said continued testing for those patients going to be admitted mainly, due to mainly isolating as mandated to do, but step down coming soon. People coming with respiratory infections, dual testing is picking up covid with respiratory infections.</p> <p>Sarah Lindley updated and presented map of Doncaster showing COVID cases in the borough. Noted:- Currently monitoring 23 settings across Doncaster but not all covid related, 0 to be confirmed Closed 4482 cases, 4505 in total 23.6 7 rolling day average 17 live covid cases that we are monitoring at moment in predominantly adult social care, 1 school got covid outbreak at moment. No flu cases this week 1 Scarlet Fever, 3 Strep A.</p>
6.	<p>Health Protection Assurance & Monitoring Reports</p>
	<p><u>Infection, Prevention and Control</u> <u>DBTH</u> <u>Hospital report</u> Mim talked through report, noted:- Abbott ID Now POCT capacity across sites testing for COVID, flu and RSV. More machines remain in place to support elective activity. Helped to place patients, amount of flu cases had been able to isolate them. Only 3 active flu cases. Catheter passport work is ongoing across acute trust and care homes. A meeting is planned next week. Good joined up work with Catheter Team. Giving better advice to patients and using only when necessary. Zero MRSA Bacteraemia cases within the acute trust between October-December. Fit testing demand will continue to be high. The IPC team are not able to meet the demand. Fit testing resilience principles are now mandatory and are part of the EPRR core standards. This means that it is mandatory that all staff are fit tested on at least two masks and that they are fit tested every two years. This is being reviewed by Executive Team. Big challenge could be anyone, cleaning staff, e.g.</p>

Worked through with Executive Team. Having to prioritise. Noted training issue as well.

Shortage of Microbiology Consultants. Have had some help, COVID – 19 activity and Flu activity. Management of isolation/cohort facilities within the context of dual infection. Managed it, very proud of staff.

Deep Clean still a challenge due to capacity, noted issues and is on risk register.

Blood culture contamination rates 6.3% - unable to move forward with improvement work due to operational activity currently. Starting to do training with nutrition colleagues and hope to roll out training soon.

Working collaboratively with partners to try and address the MRSA cases within the IVDU population – First drop in planned for 27th January 2023. Got resources to make every contact count. any news on supply of Prontoderm for the IVDU population. Sorted this now.

Victor asked, how is blood culture contamination rate over time? Mim said staying at 4.5-6%, average is 3%. Noted got work to do on this and going to focus on medical staff training, but it's a huge resource implication.

Older Persons Care Homes report

Mim talked through the report, noted :-

To visit each older persons care home at least every 4-6 weeks unless circumstances require additional support. Noted going into 1 home weekly as had some concerns.

All the achievements listed.

Objective is to maintain support over next period and bring in LD side and, so bring everything in line going forward.

RDASH IPC Community Report

Noted receiving it and that Deborah has left.

Heard from Mim about the plans to bring in line at DBTH, noted Jo has met with contracts team to look at what the expectations are; 10% visited but Mim said they want to do much more a bring in line with our older people visits. At the moment will be getting out to see what they want, noted LD is different as going into their homes.

RDASH Hospital Report

Noted report received but representative not at meeting to present it.

Screening and Immunisation Update

Sarah updated highlighting the priorities and then the main points for each programme:-

BCG vaccine and SCID (Severe Combined Immuno-Deficiency):

Noted only getting 55-60% babies getting vaccine in timeframe, monitoring and working with trust, a lot to do with referral process, is an ongoing concern.

Issues to raise to Health Protection Board:

We are still monitoring uptake of BCG Vaccination at 28 days on a monthly basis and are working with the programme to improve the number of babies that achieve this target. We are working with the Trust to identify the main issues to help improve the number of babies who meet the target.

Diabetic Eye Screening

Issues to Raise at Health Protection Board:

We are still awaiting confirmation of Trust approval for movement of SLB services into DESP programme to avoid any delays.

Breast Screening

Issues to raise to Health Protection Board:

Uptake for breast screening is still lower than pre-covid rates and we would appreciate everyone's support to encourage women to come back to the service.

Seasonal Flu

Issues to raise to Health Protection Board:

Nationally an incident has been identified through PharmOutcomes and Immform (the secure data platforms utilised for vaccine data collection) whereby the incorrect vaccine has been inadvertently administered to over 65 years cohort in both pharmacies and GP practices. National comms has been sent out to all Pharmacies and GP practices, as a reminder of the recommended vaccinations for all cohorts,

The Public Health Programmes Team are constantly reviewing and contacting pharmacies and GP practices across South Yorkshire including within the Doncaster locality where the errors have been identified to ensure these individuals are recalled to receive the correct vaccine and reiterate recommended vaccinations, this has impacted on 21 patients in the Doncaster locality.

Flu uptake across all cohorts has not reached the levels at the same time as 21/22 season. This is mirrored across South Yorkshire.

Childhood Immunisations:

Issues to raise with Health Protection Board

Historically obtaining data of ethnic group vaccination uptake has been challenging. Continue to need support from partners to identify the barriers to uptake and how partners can work together to increase uptake within these undeserved communities.

Support is needed to increase MMR uptake across all areas of the city. School vaccinations Team needs to be supported to access schools and improve on communications to facilitate good uptake of vaccination programmes

Victor asked Sarah to highlight the areas of most concern. Sarah said Breast screening has low uptake, as does Cervical screening, targeted work is in hand focussing on low uptake areas of childhood vaccinations, Flu cohorts

Surveillance report

Noted reported, June said the Streptococcal Infection and Scarlet Fever cases looks low, but that's because 25,000 cases have not been fully uploaded on system yet. Not seen infections usually see this time of year. Flu came through later, will see a big increase in those in Feb/March data.

Emma Gordon said been struggling as not got notifications from hospital since December, but just got all now and there doesn't look to be higher numbers than expected for food borne infections.

June said there had been high numbers of E-coli in Yorkshire and the Humber Region though. Things not quite as expect to see maybe down to covid all things seeing are out of season. Scarlet fever been extremely high.

Ken said they'd had 4/5 cases Pneumococcal meningitis.

Discussed reporting discrepancies in system, June said it depends how data put on system or may have got lost in system. Issues with data not feeding through.

Ken mentioned seeing high rise in these cases nationally.

June advised that for the first time ever they'd had a Haemophilus Influenza type B in a 60 year old; seeing things not normally seen; this is keeping us on our toes and refreshing guidance, very strange times.

Air Quality and Pollution Control

Scott provided an update, noted:-

The latest Annual Status Report has been submitted to Defra on the air quality in Doncaster used data gathered throughout 2021.

Its conclusion is that in 2021 concentrations of nitrogen dioxide had not returned to pre-pandemic levels, so good news. Although slightly raised, compared to those of 2020, the long-term trend continues to be decreasing. Think has a lot to do with more people buying electric vehicles so cleaner vehicles out there.

Air Quality Management Areas that have remained in place are Bawtry Rd Bessacarr, Skellow 5 lanes end area, Carr House rd, Conisbrough near Castle, Market Place, Hickleton & Marr, Warmsworth A1 Roundabout.

1 unit to install in Bessacarr.

An accident in Skellow out the AQM unit there, insurance claim to get Refurbishment /modernisation programme has cost £300k

Following the resolution of technical problems, with respect to the sub metering for electricity, the programme is on schedule for completion by Spring 2024. As previously reported, this will mean that at 6 sites the monitoring of PM2.5 will be added to the suite of determinants.

The Air Quality Steering Group was relaunched with the Director of Public Health taking the Chair; this will add impetus to the group.

F40 Action plan to be worked on for DEFRA and out of that looking to develop a new air quality policy for the Council.

Within the borough, the highest concentrations of nitrogen dioxide are those recorded in the village of Hickleton/Marr. £25k funding was

	<p>secured to monitor traffic, do a survey to look at class/where vehicles coming from. Report to be released soon. A second survey is planned looking at Hickleton/Marr again looking at those results. Any solutions to reduce levels and look at natural cycle with hybrid vehicles, looking around 2032 natural reduction in emissions drop below the required levels.</p> <p>Working with Barnsley council as they are developing/building homes in their area on border in Goldthorpe, so expect to see increased traffic in area so working with their planning department/consultants to ensure not to increase traffic and so emissions through Hickleton/Marr. Noted photographs showing the external and internal views of the new Air Quality Monitoring Stations. Noted you can view live data on council website.</p> <p>Victor asked if Doncaster has met standards; Scott said no, not yet, close to it, getting better; most areas getting close to levels needed, but still a few concern areas like Hickleton & Marr and Balby road areas. Can't say it's great but getting better.</p> <p>Victor asked how the survey was actually done? Scott said it was done over a week using equipment that triggers APR system vehicle registration and laserbeam taking emission readings that were logged and broken down into type/range of vehicles, e.g vans/lorries/cars. The report is not completed yet but shows those vehicles of problem.</p> <p>Noted Scrutiny Panel questions could be addressed by looking on live webpage for council pollution area information.</p>
8.	TB Steering Group TB Cohort Review
	<p>Continue to meet regularly and pick up any TB cases/any concerns. Noted referral pathways, picking up late with DBTH and TB nurses. Also session with GP target (education session) is being planned. TB Cohort review to be started back up again soon.</p>
9.	Review of amended Terms of Reference
	No comments received.
10.	AOB
	None.
11.	Date and Time of the Next meeting
	Wednesday 19 th April 2023 @ 2-3.30pm