

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Health Scrutiny Panel

DATE: 27 June 2019

REPORT AUTHORS: Dr Liz Brutus - Service Lead Public Health (SBC)

CONTACT OFFICER: Tim Howells – Public Health Officer (SBC)
(For all Enquiries) (01753) 875144

WARD(S): All

PART I **FOR COMMENT & CONSIDERATION**

UPDATE ON THE SLOUGH LOCAL ACTION PLAN FOR IMMUNISATIONS

1. Purpose of Report

Provide an update on the Slough Local Action Plan for Immunisations (and Screening) that was agreed in the Health Scrutiny Panel meeting on 17 Jan 2019.

2. Recommendations

The Panel is requested to:

- (a) Review the proposed Local Action Plan for Immunisations to ensure it has actions tailored to the needs of Slough and relevant partners are addressing the relatively lower uptake and health inequalities in immunisation.
- (b) Identify a Panel Champion for Immunisations to raise community awareness and support events such as the proposed Immunisation workshop – Autumn 2019.
- (c) Request a further 6 month update on the Local Action Plan for Immunisations (to coincide with the next Annual Screening and Immunisations Report) in Jan 2020.
- (d) Approve the postponement of the Screening element of the Local Action Plan until Jan 2020.

3. The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan

3a. Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities

The current programme is aimed at supporting local residents to improve their health and wellbeing through improved prevention as provided through the national immunisation programmes. In particular, this work supports the Joint Wellbeing Strategy priorities:

- Protecting vulnerable children
- Increasing life expectancy by focusing on inequalities

Data from the immunisation activities contribute to further developing the base of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and understanding the needs and health inequalities of our population.

3b. **Five Year Plan Outcomes**

The primary outcomes where delivery will be enhanced by the paper are:

- Outcome 1: Slough children will grow up to be happy, healthy and successful
- Outcome 2: Our people will be healthier and manage their own care needs

4. **Other Implications**

(a) Financial

There are no financial implications directly resulting from the recommendations of this report and outlined activities are within the current budget and resources.

(b) Risk Management – None. There are no identified risks associated with the proposed actions.

(c) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

There are no Human Rights Act implications to the content of this report.

(d) Equalities Impact Assessment

The content of this report does not require an Equalities Impact Assessment.

5. **Supporting Information**

Background

- 5.1 Historically, Slough has had some of the lowest uptake of screening and immunisation programmes in the South East of England, contributing to poor health in both adults and children and our health inequalities. Over the last 5 years, there have also been various changes in the organisation of the commissioning and delivery nationally. The combined annual report in Jan 2019, for the first time, therefore outlined the picture of immunisations and screening in Slough, their current provision, the challenges and opportunities and future plans.
- 5.2 While NHS England is responsible for commissioning screening and immunisation programmes in England. Locally this is co-ordinated and managed across Thames Valley by the Public Health Commissioning team at NHS England, South East under an agreement known as Section 7a. Through concerted local partnership working, there have been some encouraging progress in recent years however considerable challenges remain across the various immunisation and screening programmes in Slough.

Local Action Plan

- 5.3 Given the fragmented provision of service provision, commissioning and assurance, Slough Public Health are leading the Local Action Plan work in partnership with key stakeholders. The stakeholders in Slough include providers such as Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (BHFT) and Slough GPs; the commissioners ie Thames Valley NHSE-PHE Immunisations Team and others players such as East Berkshire CCG.
- 5.4 Since the Health Scrutiny meeting in January 2019, the report was circulated to the Slough Wellbeing Board and its working group, the Slough Health and Care Partnership Board. This has had the benefit of raising awareness of the issue of low immunisations more broadly.

Initial focus on immunisations

- 5.5 A small working group has been established and has met twice. The working group has discussed that we are likely to be more effective if we focus on either immunisations or screening, especially given the different main target age groups and associated partners involved. On balance, given the current 'energies' amongst key partners in Slough, we propose that the initial focus is on immunisations. Once there is sufficient momentum on the Immunisations plan, we will establish a similar group on Screening.
- 5.6 A working draft of the Slough Local Action Plan for Immunisations is being developed and presented as a working draft. It is in the Appendix but its key objectives and areas of focus are summarised below.
- 5.7 The objectives of the Local Action Plan over the next 18 months (ie to end of Apr 2021) are to (1) Increase overall immunisation uptake and coverage for Slough residents and (2) Reduce inequalities across Slough's population groups. The main areas of action are:
- a. Galvanising the Immunisation system in Slough
 - b. Understanding population need
 - c. Improving data quality & sharing of data
 - d. Reducing variation in Immunisation Coverage
 - e. Improving uptake in agreed priority groups
 - f. Increasing awareness and addressing vaccine hesitancy

6. Comments of Other Committees

- 6.1 This Update paper on the Slough Local Action Plan for Immunisations has not yet been seen by other committees but the original paper, 'Annual Report on Immunisations and Screening in Slough – Jan 2019' was presented to both the Slough Wellbeing Board and Slough Health & Care Partnership Board who welcomed the recommendations for a Local Action Plan.

7. **Conclusion**

- 7.1.1 The national Immunisation programme provides important opportunities for protecting health and wellbeing and preventing avoidable disease in Slough with cost-effective and evidence-based interventions. However, their uptake also acts as marker of health inequality in certain groups which we must be vigilant to.
- 7.1.2 Slough Public Health is leading local partners to implement this working version of the attached Local Action Plan for Immunisations. We would welcome review every 6 months and hope to see an increase in overall immunisation uptake and reduction of inequalities across key groups.

8. **Appendices**

- 1. Slough Local Action Plan for Immunisations – working draft (17.6.2019)

9. **Background Papers**

None