

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Health Scrutiny Panel

DATE: 16 January 2020

REPORT AUTHORS: Nisha Jayatileke, Screening and Immunisation Lead, NHS England South
Paula Jackson, Screening and Immunisation Lead, NHS England South

CONTACT OFFICER: Dr Liz Brutus - Service Lead Public Health (SBC)
(For all Enquiries) (01753) 875142

WARD(S): All

PART I **FOR COMMENT & CONSIDERATION**

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT ON IMMUNISATIONS AND SCREENING IN SLOUGH

1. Purpose of Report

- To provide an update on the national screening and immunisation programmes in Slough following a presentation to Slough Health Scrutiny Panel in January 2019.
- Provide an update on current commissioning arrangements and immunisation and screening programme coverage in Slough
- Highlight recent successes and key opportunities to maximise programme coverage and uptake with a view to reducing health inequalities in this area.

2. Recommendations

The Panel is recommended to:

- (a) Consider the actions being taken to deliver the national programmes for immunisation and screening and their progress in tackling health inequalities in Slough.
- (b) Request an update on progress of the Slough Local Action Plans for Immunisations and Screening annually (ideally mid-year eg June to complement this annual NHSE/NHSI Update) and ensure the actions are addressing the relatively lower uptake and health inequalities in both immunisation and screening in Slough.
- (c) Request an Annual Report on Immunisation and Screening from NHSE /NHSI for January 2021.

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 and early detection as provided through

the national immunisation and screening 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 and screening 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**

Context

5.1 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.

5.2 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. This second combined annual report from NHSE/NHSI follows up from their report in Jan 2019 and outlines the picture of immunisations and screening in Slough – in particular highlighting the achievements this year, further opportunities and future plans.

- 5.3 Panel Members may find it helpful to consider ‘The Ten Questions to Consider If You’re Scrutinising Local Immunisation Services’¹ which have relevance for both Immunisation and Screening. In view of Slough’s focus on health inequalities, Question 10 is particularly relevant. (See Appendix.)

Executive summary of Immunisations and Screening Report

- 5.4 The full report is in the Appendix but summarised below.
- 5.5 NHS England (NHS E) has continued to commission the services set out under the Section 7A agreement to a high standard, offering continued protection to the public. Data and evidence demonstrate that public health protection remains world class and we have achieved real success. Increasing access to screening and immunisation programmes, contributes to the wider prevention agenda and the implementation of the Five Year Forward View.
- 5.6 Some of the recent successes that have benefitted the local population include programmes to increase uptake and improvements to data quality for closer monitoring of progress. Examples include the development of a GP toolkit with tips and advice for primary care colleagues to improve immunisation uptake for their patients. The toolkit is implemented in many practices across Slough. In addition, data on immunisations delivered in primary care are now auto-extracted from the clinical record and entered electronically on the Child Health Information System (CHIS) which is not only more efficient but has also improved the accuracy of the data. The Slough Borough Council (‘the LA’), the school immunisation provider and NHS England have worked together to agree how they will address cultural and language barriers to improve uptake further in groups with lower historic vaccination rates. As part of the Thames Valley Cancer Alliance GP Quality Improvement Scheme, there are initiatives in place to improve cancer screening coverage.
- 5.7 Successful collaborative working has enabled improvements in some outcomes; however, there is still opportunity to improve uptake of cancer screening programmes and children’s immunisations, particularly PCV (pneumococcal) booster, second dose MMR, and the Hib/MenC booster. It is important to have a thorough understanding of opportunities and challenges that need to be considered in Slough to be able to support families take up the offer for vaccination and to work collaboratively with stakeholders to improve vaccine uptake.

6. Comments of Other Committees

- 6.1 This paper, ‘Immunisation and Screening Programmes - an update for Slough’ (Dec 2019) has not yet been seen by other committees. However, 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. In 2019, the focus has been on immunisations (rather than screening) and various updates on the progress of the Local Immunisations Action Plan have been provided to the Health Scrutiny Committee and Slough Wellbeing Board over the year.

¹ The Ten Questions to Consider If You’re Scrutinising Local Immunisation Services. Centre for Public Scrutiny. 2016. Available at: <https://www.cfps.org.uk/10-questions-ask-youre-scrutinising-local-immunisation-services/>

7. **Conclusion**

- 7.1 The national Screening and Immunisation programmes provide important opportunities for protecting health and wellbeing and preventing avoidable disease 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 particularly in Slough where uptake of both immunisation and screening are still below regional and England average levels. – also affect our population’s health and shape their individual health and wellbeing decisions on matters such as taking up invitations for screening and immunisation.
- 7.2 Over the last year, a large amount of work has been achieved by the various partners involved in commissioning, providing and reviewing immunisations and screening for Slough residents as detailed in the report. There has been a steady improvement in almost all areas although we know there is still more to do.
- 7.3 The strength of the Slough Immunisation Partnership has been that to complement smoother immunisation provision and data reporting, we are considering how we can work around the other factors that affect residents’ decision-making and uptake of immunisations. This includes understanding residents’ opinions and the impact of the social and environmental factors – the wider determinants of health - including for example, income levels, culture and language, education and skills, employment, housing and environmental factors. In 2020, we will pull together a similar local partnership to consider the most effective ways to improve screening uptake locally.

8. **Appendices**

A - Immunisation and Screening Programmes - an update for Slough. Dec 2019.

B - The Ten Questions To Ask If You’re Scrutinising Local Immunisation Services. Centre for Public Scrutiny. 2016

9. **Background Papers**

Health Scrutiny 17.01.2019. Immunisation and Screening Programmes - an update for Slough. Dec 2018.

Health Scrutiny 27.06.2019. Update on the Slough Local Action Plan for Immunisations.

Slough Wellbeing Board 13.11.2019. Update On Immunisations and the Slough Local Action