

Health and Wellbeing Board

17 October 2016

Health Protection Forum Annual Report 2015/16

1. Purpose

The first Health Protection Forum Annual Report (Appendix 1) draws together a brief summary of the work undertaken by all agencies working together to improve and protect the health of Walsall residents.

The Health Protection Forum is part of the Health and Wellbeing Board infrastructure and is therefore required to report to the Health and Wellbeing Board as part of its governance structure.

2. Recommendations

That the Health and Wellbeing Board notes the main points of the Health Protection Forum Annual Report that describes the key actions of 2015/16 and recommendations for future work.

3. Report detail

The Walsall Health Protection Forum is a subgroup of the Health and Wellbeing Board and has been in existence since Public Health moved to Walsall Council in 2013.

The Health Protection Forum is a partnership forum which covers the following areas

- Health emergency planning
- Immunisation and screening
- Control of communicable diseases, including tuberculosis, sexually transmitted disease and healthcare associated infections
- Pollution control
- Environmental health and trading standards.

The purpose of the Walsall Health Protection Forum is to:

- Facilitate a co-ordinated strategic approach to health protection issues in Walsall
- Provide an accountability framework for a number of existing partnership groups with a health protection remit and support the establishment of new groups where appropriate
- Receive assurance from the partner organisations leading relevant work streams regarding:
 - Appropriate strategies/plans and testing arrangements
 - Progress against outcomes
 - Review all significant incidents/outbreaks to identify lessons learned and to make recommendations to commissioners/providers/partners regarding necessary changes

- Receive and review risk registers from all subgroups, make recommendations to subgroups regarding mitigating actions and to commissioners where appropriate
- Encourage continuous quality improvement in health protection services in Walsall
- Provide health protection input into the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

The Health Protection Annual Report provides a summary of each organisations work in the past year and recommendations for service improvement (Please see Appendix 1).

4. Implications for Joint Working arrangements:

The Health Protection Forum is made up of a number of agencies who are required to work together to coordinate health protection within Walsall, maximising the impact we have and minimising identified risks. The Forum is aware that we constantly need to reassess the way we work as resources become more constrained and further risks emerge.

5. Health and Wellbeing Priorities:

The Health Protection Forum and its work contributes to a number of the Health and Wellbeing strategy's themes

- Give every child the best start in life and enable them to make the most of who they are – e.g. Childhood immunisations
- Create healthy sustainable places and communities
- Reduce the burden of preventable disease, disability and death

In addition it also meets the Marmott objectives, which the themes of the strategy mirrors in particular

- Give every child the best start in life
- Create and develop healthy sustainable places and communities
- Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention – e.g. cancer and non-cancer screening, immunisation, infection control and communicable disease control

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