

HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
20 JULY 2017
SEASONAL FLU IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME 2016/17
REPORT OF HEAD OF LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To review the performance of the seasonal flu immunisation programme 2016/17 and the effectiveness of work to improve uptake rates.

2 Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to
- a) scrutinise the local approach to seasonal flu vaccinations in Nottingham and work to increase uptake in target groups; and
 - b) identify any recommendations for improvement to inform the seasonal flu immunisation programme 2017/18.

3 Background information

- 3.1 NHS England is responsible for commissioning the seasonal flu immunisation programme and providing system leadership. Contracts to provide immunisation services are held with a range of providers including GP practices, school aged providers and pharmacies. The effectiveness of the programme depends on the uptake of the vaccine being high and equitable across the eligible population. In support of this, the NHS England team has a role in supporting providers as well as monitoring uptake and taking action where uptake could be improved, whilst acknowledging that vaccination is also a choice for those eligible to receive it.
- 3.2 The Local Authority Director of Public Health has an assurance function in relation to ensuring immunisation arrangements are fit for purpose and delivering service of high quality. Locally, work takes place through the Health Protection Strategy Group which has an oversight role.
- 3.3 The Committee has focused on reviewing performance of the seasonal flu immunisation programme because it not only impacts on the individual but also contributes to reducing winter pressures on health and social care services.
- 3.4 In October 2016 the Committee reviewed the seasonal flu immunisation programme 2015/16 and noted that although more people had been vaccinated in Nottingham City than in previous years this was because

there had been an increase in the number of eligible people and was not reflected in the uptake figures. Uptake for all of the cohorts was below the national average and target. The Committee reviewed the proposed actions for improving uptake during the 2016/17 season and requested that performance of the 2016/17 immunisation programme be reported to the Committee so that the effectiveness of those actions could be assessed.

- 3.5 A report prepared by NHS England and Local Authority Public Health is attached reviewing the seasonal flu immunisation programme 2016/17 and colleagues from both organisations will be attending the meeting to answer questions in relation to this.

4 List of attached information

- 4.1 Report from NHS England North Midlands Screening and Immunisation Team 'Review of Seasonal Influenza (Flu) Immunisation Programme 2016-2017'

5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

- 5.1 None

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

- 6.1 Report to and minutes of the Health Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 20 October 2016

7 Wards affected

- 7.1 All

8 Contact information

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