

## BRIEFING PAPER FOR Health and Wellbeing Board

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| 1. | <b>Date of meeting:</b> | <b>16<sup>th</sup> May 2018</b>                                   |
| 2. | <b>Title:</b>           | <b>Rotherham Health Protection Annual Report 2017</b>             |
| 3. | <b>Directorate:</b>     | <b>Adult Social Care, Housing &amp; Public Health Directorate</b> |

### 4. Background

- 4.1 The Health and Social Care Act 2012 placed a new statutory duty on local authorities in England to protect the health of the local population. These health protection roles and responsibilities, overseen by the Director of Public Health on behalf of the council, are discharged by the Health Protection Committee. Each year, the Health Protection Committee, which is accountable to the Health and Wellbeing Board, provides an annual report outlining the collective actions to prevent or reduce the harm or impact on the health of the local population caused by infectious diseases or environmental hazards, major incidents and other threats.
- 4.2 This is Rotherham's third annual report for the Health and Wellbeing Board. It highlights the main areas of health protection activity in Rotherham over the period 1st January 2017 to the 31st December 2017.

### 5. Key Issues

- 5.1 The Health Protection Committee continues to highlight the importance of good communication, continuous surveillance and having effective public health systems in place. This has been achieved by maintaining strong working relationships and by clarifying our roles and responsibilities. These underpin the local public health response to threats, outbreaks and major incidents.
- 5.2 Organisations have maintained effective responses to incidents or outbreaks by ensuring that there is;
- continuous monitoring of data and local intelligence to enable early detection of emerging infections or hazards
  - timely and accurate information shared securely with the relevant agencies
  - use of local expertise to inform the relevant control measures and a proportionate response implemented
  - regular review and testing of local plans for the prevention, planning and response to protect the public's health

## **6. Key actions and relevant timelines**

- 6.1 The Health Protection Committee continues to meet on a quarterly basis with regular updates from ad-hoc or task and finish groups.
- 6.2 The Committee works collectively to bring system wide improvements and improved outcomes for the population. Some examples include;
- Managing and embedding lessons learned on a range of health protection incidents in the community, e.g. Health Care Associated Infections (HCAIs), water borne infections, vaccine preventable infections
  - Pursuing clarity on the roles of the agencies involved in health protection and emergency planning through a number of exercises testing local and regional plans
  - Improving joint working between directorates within the RMBC and key external partners, for example, around infection prevention and control in the community, air quality and incident management
  - Continued improvements by the Screening and Immunisation Team (SIT) and partners to maintain and improve on screening and immunisation across Rotherham
  - Quarterly updates from the Director of Public Health and the CCG Accountable Officer to the Local Health Resilience Partnership (LHRP) on existing plans and arrangements to respond to public health emergencies
- 6.3 Maintain and update the Public Health risk register and the Rotherham Health Protection Assurance Framework.

## **7. Recommendations to Health and Wellbeing Board**

- 7.1 That Health and Wellbeing Board notes the content and recommendations of the Health Protection Annual Report 2017.

## **8. Name and contact details**

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