

Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

3.12.2020

Title

**Childhood Immunisation Uptake in
Barnet**

Report of

Director of Public Health

Wards

all

Status

Public

Urgent

No

Key

No

Enclosures

Officer Contact Details

Janet Djomba, janet.djomba@barnet.gov.uk

Public Health Consultant

Summary

This report is to update on childhood immunisation uptake in Barnet. The uptake remains below national targets to maintain herd immunity, but is comparatively high within London and in NCL region. Delays and decrease in immunisation uptake have been reported during the first wave of Covid-19 pandemic due to operational issues and anxiety among parents. Q1 2020/21 data show similar uptake level of routine childhood immunisation than in previously, with rates remaining below targets maintaining herd immunity. Barnet flu and immunisation forum has increased activity to address barriers identified during Covid-19 pandemic and continue implementation of action plan to increase childhood immunisation.

Officers Recommendations

1. Identifying and addressing barriers for immunisation uptake due to Covid-19 pandemic

2. Continuing implementation of action plan to increase childhood immunisation uptake in Barnet

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

2. A report on childhood immunisation has been given to HOSC in October 2019, including current status of immunisation uptake and presentation of the action plan to increase childhood immunisation in Barnet. This brief report is to give an update on the development over the last year.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Barnet flu and immunisation forum is a multiagency group consisting of representatives from Public Health England, Barnet Council, NHS England, NCL CCG, and CLCH (Health Child Programme provider and school immunisation provider). Meetings of the forum were set quarterly to review current status and agree on further steps.

In February 2020 the action plan has been presented at a Barnet GP training session on immunisation.

The Covid-19 pandemic has had significant impact to implementation of the action plan. With partners operating in business continuity mode and using all available resources for the pandemic response, the quarterly meetings have been suspended temporarily. Instead of this a core group across Barnet PH and CCG continued to monitor childhood immunisation status, identify issues and provide support where possible.

The resulting lockdown and restrictions have caused a significant disruption to the immunisation programme. Despite guidance from NHS that baby and childhood should continue as per programme, we have experienced severe delays or missed vaccination due to following main reasons:

- Delayed birth registration
- Parents not following immunisation appointments during lockdown, either because
 - o anxiety over Covid-19 situation or
 - o not knowing that immunisation programme should continue

GPs /practices have been given guidance and support on infection prevention and control including PPE to ensure safety for staff and parents. Parents were encouraged to follow the immunisation programme for their children and given advice on the birth registration.

According to NCL CCG, there are currently 200 unregistered babies in Barnet for the period from February to September 2020. Communication is ongoing is with registry office to catch up.

Childhood immunisation uptake in Barnet

The latest uptake data that have been presented at the last NHS NCL performance board and Barnet Immunisation steering groups are not published yet and therefore cannot be shared. It's been reported that childhood immunisation rates have been affected by Covid-19 pandemic less than expected with Barnet's rates remaining below national targets, but comparatively high across NCL. However, the uptake is still below the target of 95% and actions to increase uptake are still required.

The most recent published data is for Q1 2020/21. As presented in Figure1 only 83.5% of children in Barnet have received their first dose of the MMR by the age of 2, well below the recommended 95% needed to maintain herd immunity. By the age of 5 only 77.5% of children have received their second dose of the MMR (Figure 4).

MMR vaccination rates in Barnet have been consistently below 95% for the past years, same as other routine childhood vaccinations in Barnet as presented in Figures 2-4.

Source of all figures is NHS COVER dashboard, accessible for registered user on: https://future.nhs.uk/PublicHealth_Analysis/view?objectID=17954160

Figure 1: Uptake of 1st dose of MMR in 2 years old

Cover of vaccination evaluated rapidly programme (COVER): LA time series (quarterly)
Filter using the boxes below.

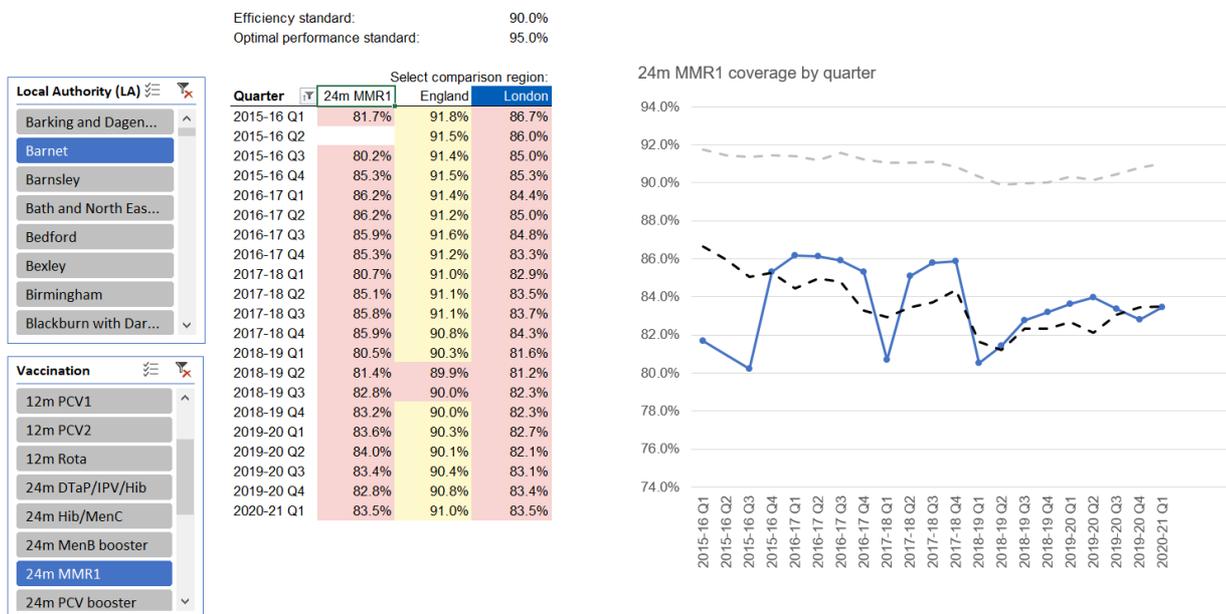
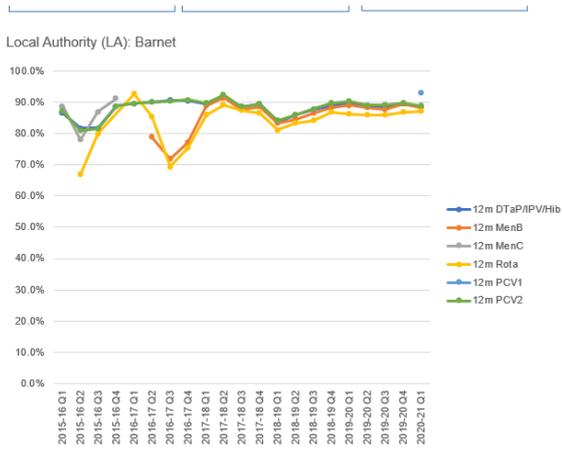
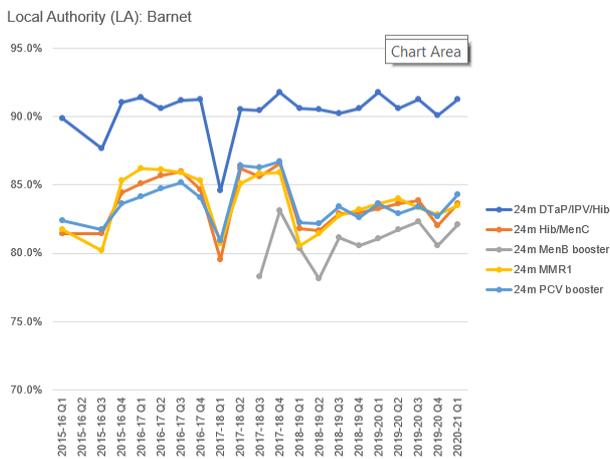


Figure 2: Immunisation uptake for age cohort 1 year old.



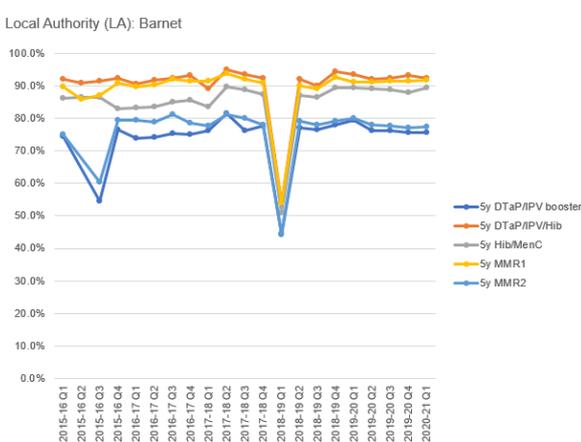
Quarter	12m DTaP/12m MenB	12m MenC	12m Rota	12m PCV1	12m PCV2
2015-16 Q1	86.6%	88.8%			87.2%
2015-16 Q2	81.7%	78.1%	66.9%		81.0%
2015-16 Q3	81.8%	87.0%	80.0%		81.6%
2015-16 Q4	88.8%	91.3%			88.8%
2016-17 Q1	89.7%		92.6%		89.6%
2016-17 Q2	90.0%	78.9%	85.5%		90.0%
2016-17 Q3	90.7%	71.9%	69.4%		90.3%
2016-17 Q4	90.5%	77.2%	75.3%		90.8%
2017-18 Q1	89.4%	88.9%	85.9%		89.8%
2017-18 Q2	91.8%	91.4%	89.1%		92.5%
2017-18 Q3	88.6%	87.7%	87.4%		88.6%
2017-18 Q4	89.4%	88.7%	86.5%		89.4%
2018-19 Q1	83.7%	83.3%	81.1%		84.3%
2018-19 Q2	85.8%	84.6%	83.2%		86.1%
2018-19 Q3	87.6%	86.6%	84.1%		87.9%
2018-19 Q4	89.0%	88.4%	86.7%		89.9%
2019-20 Q1	88.8%	89.1%	86.2%		90.3%
2019-20 Q2	88.9%	88.3%	85.8%		89.0%
2019-20 Q3	88.6%	87.8%	86.1%		89.2%
2019-20 Q4	89.4%	89.6%	86.7%	92.8%	89.8%
2020-21 Q1	88.6%	88.3%	87.2%		88.9%

Figure 3: Immunisation uptake for age cohort 2 years old.



Quarter	24m DTaP/24m Hib/Mc	24m MenB	24m MMR1	24m PCV b
2015-16 Q1	89.9%	81.4%	81.7%	82.4%
2015-16 Q2				
2015-16 Q3	87.7%	81.4%	80.2%	81.7%
2015-16 Q4	91.0%	84.5%	85.3%	83.6%
2016-17 Q1	91.4%	85.1%	86.2%	84.2%
2016-17 Q2	90.6%	85.7%	86.2%	84.7%
2016-17 Q3	91.2%	86.0%	85.9%	85.2%
2016-17 Q4	91.3%	84.6%	85.3%	84.0%
2017-18 Q1	84.6%	79.6%	80.7%	81.0%
2017-18 Q2	90.5%	86.2%	85.1%	86.4%
2017-18 Q3	90.5%	85.6%	85.8%	86.3%
2017-18 Q4	91.8%	86.6%	85.9%	86.7%
2018-19 Q1	90.6%	81.8%	80.4%	82.2%
2018-19 Q2	90.5%	81.6%	81.4%	82.1%
2018-19 Q3	90.2%	82.9%	82.8%	83.4%
2018-19 Q4	90.6%	83.0%	83.2%	82.6%
2019-20 Q1	91.7%	83.3%	83.6%	83.6%
2019-20 Q2	90.6%	83.6%	84.0%	82.9%
2019-20 Q3	91.3%	83.8%	83.4%	83.4%
2019-20 Q4	90.1%	82.0%	82.8%	82.6%
2020-21 Q1	91.3%	83.6%	83.5%	84.3%

Figure 4: Immunisation uptake for age cohort 5 years old.



Quarter	5y DTaP/IPV	5y DTaP/IPV/5y Hib/Men	5y MMR1	5y MMR2
2015-16 Q1	74.4%	92.2%	86.2%	89.6%
2015-16 Q2		91.0%	86.5%	85.8%
2015-16 Q3	54.6%	91.6%	86.5%	87.2%
2015-16 Q4	76.6%	92.4%	82.8%	90.8%
2016-17 Q1	73.8%	90.5%	83.4%	89.9%
2016-17 Q2	74.3%	91.7%	83.7%	90.2%
2016-17 Q3	75.4%	92.3%	85.1%	92.2%
2016-17 Q4	75.1%	93.4%	85.7%	91.6%
2017-18 Q1	76.1%	89.3%	83.6%	91.6%
2017-18 Q2	81.4%	95.1%	89.7%	93.9%
2017-18 Q3	76.3%	93.5%	88.8%	92.0%
2017-18 Q4	77.7%	92.3%	87.5%	90.9%
2018-19 Q1	44.3%	54.0%	51.1%	54.0%
2018-19 Q2	77.1%	92.0%	87.2%	90.0%
2018-19 Q3	76.7%	90.1%	86.6%	89.0%
2018-19 Q4	78.0%	94.5%	89.3%	92.7%
2019-20 Q1	79.4%	93.7%	89.4%	91.3%
2019-20 Q2	76.3%	92.2%	89.1%	91.1%
2019-20 Q3	76.2%	92.3%	88.8%	91.5%
2019-20 Q4	75.5%	93.4%	88.0%	91.6%
2020-21 Q1	75.8%	92.5%	89.4%	91.9%

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

4.1 No other options have been considered

5. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

The Barnet flu and immunisation forum meetings have been reinstated in late summer and are now taking place monthly during the pandemic response to provide monitoring of immunisation and support for partner organisation. While the priority during the first wave of pandemic has been to maintain current levels of immunisation, we are now taking steps to increase the uptake. The actions include:

- communication to parents through health visitors, early years settings and media channel
- supporting GPs with advice on IPC and PPE, and information material
- providing health visitors and early years setting with relevant guidance and information
- collaborative working across Barnet council and NCL CCG
- sharing experience and expertise across NCL through different professional/stakeholder groups.

6. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

6.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

6.1.1 Childhood immunisation as part of health protection is Public Health statutory duty. Immunisation uptake has impact on performance indicators and corporate risks.

6.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

6.2.1 Recommendations are considering and utilising existing resources

6.3 Social Value

6.3.1 Due to its impact, childhood immunisation contributes to better health and wellbeing not only in CYP but entire population

6.4 Legal and Constitutional References

6.4.1 Childhood immunisation as part of health protection is Public Health statutory duty.

6.5 Risk Management

6.5.1 Risk management is taking place according to corporate risk register.

6.6 Equalities and Diversity

5.6.1 Activities are targeting different population groups considering their specifics to prevent health inequalities.

6.7 **Corporate Parenting**

5.7.1 The action plan on increasing immunisation uptake specifically considers children in care and is therefore in line with corporate parenting strategy.

6.8 **Consultation and Engagement**

6.8.1 Consultation and engagement are planned with frontline stakeholder and eventually with parents groups.

5.9 **Insight**

5.9.1 Insight and intelligence are provided by NHSE, and NCL CCG for more granular data.

7. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

7.1 Report for HOSC October 2019:
<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/b33407/Childhood%20Vaccination%20Rates%20in%20Barnet%20October%202019%2028th-Oct-2019%2019.00%20Health%20Overview%20and%20Scrutin.pdf?T=9>

7.2