



Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

7th December 2021

Title	Update on the Childhood/School aged immunisation action plan
Report of	Director of Public Health and Prevention
Wards	All
Status	Public
Urgent	No
Key	No
Enclosures	Report on the childhood/school aged action plan 2021-2023
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Summary

Immunisation programmes are the safest and most effective way of protecting against vaccine preventable diseases. The Barnet Childhood and School-aged Action Plan has been developed to improve immunisation coverage in Barnet, with recognition that partnerships are essential to the delivery of an effective, equitable and quality assured immunisation service. Collectively, there is an urgent need for the action plan to address declining coverage trends, reduce inequalities and protect our population against vaccine preventable diseases. The action plan has been developed with a range of stakeholders and is currently in development subject to approval from the Barnet Flu and Immunisation forum.

In parallel, the Barnet Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) have identified childhood immunisations as a priority for the inequalities workstream, a task and finish group has been set up to address this. The group has appropriate representation across Barnet ICP to help the success of the workstream. The ICP childhood immunisations task and finish group are contributing to the delivery of the action plan.

The following actions are in progress:

- An in-depth analysis of the childhood immunisation data to assess uptake in specific communities.

- Development of a parent/carer survey to understand the barriers, motives, and opportunities to promote vaccination uptake in children aged 0-5 living in Barnet.
- A survey to understand the operational delivery of childhood immunisations in low and high performing GP practices.

Officers Recommendations

- 1. Support the implementation of action plan to increase childhood and school aged immunisations in Barnet**
- 2. Update the members on the developments of the action plan and ongoing engagement work**

1. Why this report is needed

- 1.1 The last update on childhood immunisation was presented to the HOSC in May 2021. Since then, the action plan has been developed setting out Barnet's vision on improving vaccination coverage and population health. The strategy has been built and will be implemented through a partnership approach bringing together members from across Barnet Council, North Central London Commissioning Group, wider healthcare system partners and providers as well as community groups and the public.

2. Reasons for recommendations

- 2.1 The strategies addressed in the action plan are being implemented, the report is brought to the committee to keep them aware of the developments.

3. Alternative options considered and not recommended

- 3.1 No other options have been considered

4. Post decision implementation

- 4.1 Five key priority areas have been identified to improve coverage in the borough over the next two years (2021-2023):
 - Service delivery missed vaccinations
 - Data sharing and data quality
 - Training and development
 - Community engagement and promotion
 - Reducing inequalities
- 4.2 Strategies have been developed for each priority area in partnership with stakeholders using evidence-base to inform action. The existing Barnet flu and immunisation forum will be responsible for providing oversight and will monitor progress against the action plan at each meeting and resolve or escalate issues communicated by the implementation team.

5. Implications of decision

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.1.1 Childhood immunisations are a part of local government's Public Health statutory duty. Immunisation uptake has an impact on performance indicators and corporate risks

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

- 5.2.1 N/A

5.3 Legal and Constitutional References

- 5.3.1 The Council's Constitution (Article 7) sets out the terms of reference of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee as having the following responsibilities:

"To perform the overview and scrutiny role in relation to health issues which impact upon the residents of the London Borough of Barnet and the functions services and activities of the National Health Service (NHS) and NHS bodies located within the London Borough of Barnet and in other areas."

Childhood immunisations are a part of local government's Public Health statutory duty

5.4 Insight

- 5.4.1 Insight and Intelligence are obtained through multiple sources including North Central London Health Intent platform and UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) vaccine coverage collections.

5.5 Social Value

- 5.5.1 Effective immunisation programmes help ensure every child in Barnet is given the best start in life by protecting them against vaccine preventable diseases.

5.6 Risk Management

- 5.6.1 N/A

5.7 Equalities and Diversity

- 5.7.1 Equality in immunisation is an important way to address health inequalities. The action plan aims to reduce inequalities in immunisations, allowing everyone to have the same opportunities to lead a healthy life, no matter where they live or who they are. Ensuring that coverage is not only high overall but also within underserved communities, which is important for disease control and elimination strategies.

5.8 Corporate Parenting

- 5.8.1 N/A

5.9 Consultation and Engagement

- 5.9.1 The Barnet Flu and Immunisation forum have been consulted on the strategy and will

approve the final document.

5.10 **Environmental Impact**

5.10.1 N/A

6. Background papers

6.1 Barnet Childhood/School aged Immunisation Strategy and Action Plan, 2021-2023