

**Report Title: Public Health Annual Report – Children’s Immunisations**

Date of meeting:	11 <sup>th</sup> September 2024		
Report to:	Health and Wellbeing Board		
Report of:	Director of Public Health		
Portfolio:	Health and Wellbeing		
Wards affected:	All		
Is this a key decision:	No	Included in Forward Plan:	Yes
Exempt/confidential report:	No		

**Summary:**

To inform the Health and Wellbeing Board about the 2023/24 Public Health Annual Report microsite on childhood immunisations in Sefton.

A draft version of the microsite will be available to view at the meeting.

**Recommendation(s):**

For the Health and Wellbeing Board to:

1. To provide any feedback ahead of the launch of the microsite.
2. To support collaborative work and identify key stakeholders that should be included in the task and finish group.

A draft version of the microsite will be available to view at the meeting

**1. The Rationale and Evidence for the Recommendations**

Currently in Cheshire and Merseyside children’s vaccinations are commissioned by NHS England Screening and Immunisations team and are delivered via general practice, schools immunisations teams, and through other ad-hoc routes such as community pharmacies and via the Living Well Bus service commissioned by the ICB and delivered by Cheshire and Wirral Partnerships NHS Trust.

The local authority has a role in seeking assurance around the quality and equity of coverage of the childhood immunisations offer via the statutory duties of the Director in Public Health. The Sefton Health Protection Forum fulfils this role, and through the work of this forum childhood immunisations has been identified as a priority area for collaborative action.

Childhood vaccination rates have started to recover following a period of reduced uptake during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, despite catch-up programmes, there has been an increasing inequality in vaccine uptake, which could mean some of the most vulnerable children and young people are susceptible to vaccine preventable illnesses.

Over the last year the health protection forum has identified several risks within Sefton associated with sub-optimal vaccination uptakes. This includes the recent national and regional increases in Measles and Whooping Cough. In response to this several initiatives have been delivered to increase local childhood vaccination uptake.

### **Childhood Immunisations in Sefton Microsite**

The 2023/24 Public Health Annual Report covers the topic of children's immunisations in Sefton. The report will use a web-based microsite to produce an interactive multimedia resource designed to be used by both people who live and work in Sefton.

The resource will make use of a series of short videos produced by Sefton Council Communications team and will provide information and advice around vaccinations, through work undertaken with experts in the region.

The report includes information on

- how vaccinations have been developed
- why they are important
- what the challenges are for delivery of programmes in Sefton
- what have we done in Sefton to support uptake and access to the childhood vaccination programme
- what we plan to do next (recommendations)

The microsite is due to go live in October 2024 - and will be regularly updated so that activity and up to date information can be added to the site throughout the year.

### **Development of microsite**

The childhood vaccination microsite will include information on work that has taken place recently, to improve vaccine uptake and address health inequalities, as well as being able to provide updates and progress on work taking place as an output of the immunisations task and finish group.

The report recommendations will be developed and monitored through the health protection forum. With the website supporting an iterative process, and updates being added as progress is made.

**A draft version of the microsite will be available to view at the meeting.**

## Report recommendations

Recognising the importance of working together to support uptake of the childhood vaccination programme, the key recommendations that we think will help support this work are:

1. Utilise the functions of the Sefton Health Protection Forum to review childhood immunisation uptake in Sefton, identifying trends and areas for further focus, through utilising a spotlight session to focus on the programmes in more depth at least once each year.
2. Set up a Health Protection Forum Sub-Group for immunisations which includes wider partners, to develop and support work to address barriers to accessing immunisations for children in Sefton, including ways we can tailor our offer for underserved communities.
3. Build collaboration with academic partners so that evidence around improving vaccination uptake can be translated into local action.
4. Support partners in Sefton who work with pregnant women, children, young people and their families, so that they have access to the latest information on the childhood vaccination programme so that we can support parents, care givers and young people to make informed decisions about vaccinations.

These recommendations will be developed through work with the Health Protection Forum and with wider system partners via the immunisations sub-group

### 2. Financial Implications

The report microsite does not include any recommendations with financial implications.

### 3. Legal Implications

The report microsite does not include any recommendations with legal implications.

### 4. Corporate Risk Implications

The report microsite does not have any recommendations with corporate risk implications.

### 5 Staffing HR Implications

There are no staffing implications.

### 6 Conclusion

#### Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

Not applicable

#### Equality Implications:

The equality Implications have been identified and mitigated.

The microsite is designed to be a source of information for people who live and work in Sefton. The accessibility of the information on the microsite is being reviewed in line with Sefton's accessibility policy.

**Impact on Children and Young People:**

The content of the report microsite is designed to provide a resource around childhood immunisations which can support decision making about vaccinations for parents, carers and young people. The report recommendations also provide a platform for looking at ways we can work as a system to improve access to and uptake of vaccinations in Sefton.

**Climate Emergency Implications:**

The recommendations within this report will have a Positive / Neutral / Negative impact.

There are no overall climate impacts in relation to the public health microsite.

Contact the Energy and Environmental Management Team when the proposal;

1. has a spend above one million pounds; or
2. identifies negative impacts which cannot be mitigated; or
3. is likely to have a high climate change impact – including
  - construction project - new build, rebuild, refurbishment, retrofit and demolition proposals
  - proposals which relate to business travel and staff commuting, for example, fleet vehicles and agile working
  - proposals which involve loss of green space, habitat or flood plain.)

**For more information contact [Gillian.Birmingham@sefton.gov.uk](mailto:Gillian.Birmingham@sefton.gov.uk) or [stephanie.jukes@sefton.gov.uk](mailto:stephanie.jukes@sefton.gov.uk) (tel. 0151 934 4552).**

**What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?****(A) Internal Consultations**

The Executive Director of Corporate Services and Commercial (FD.7767/24) and the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer (LD.5867/24) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

**(B) External Consultations**

The microsite content has been developed in collaboration with a range of partners from the local health system. The ongoing work on this topic which will be updated on to the microsite, will include consultation with wider stakeholders, via the Sefton Health Protection Forum network.

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**Appendices:**

There are no appendices to this report.