

Health Protection Collaborative

Terms of Reference

Aim

Provide assurance to the Board on Health Protection matters for the Borough and support local system working to ensure a robust and resilient local health protection system.

Scope

The Collaborative will cover the full range of health protection responsibilities including:

- Infectious disease control
- Chemical / biological threats
- Links to local / regional / LRF emergency planning work – providing a systems approach at local level
- Screening and immunisations

Beyond the specific scope of the work, the Collaborative's work will link to Covid recovery work (inequalities, mental wellbeing, economic impact, health and wellbeing impacts of Covid and next steps / recovery) but the detail of this wider work will be lead and progressed by the Health and Wellbeing Board and its respective member organisations.

Purpose

The group's aims are to:

- Maintain good practice and learning from the Covid-19 pandemic including next steps planning, IPC, focus on the most vulnerable, support to the broader recovery efforts and preparation for future pandemics and health protection challenges
- Develop and maintain system partnerships to help ensure a resilient local health protection system and to deliver the Collaborative's key aims e.g. partnerships with the regional health protection team / UKHSA and the regional partnership team (RPT); regional IPC work and the regional Covid-19 care home group; links to the developing ICS system and work at local level
- Protect the most vulnerable – implementing the new national approach
- Build and progress settings-based work e.g. care sector, schools – building health protection plans to promote prevention activity across health protection issues, particularly supporting Winter resilience
- Work with our communities on health protection issues – taking communities with us and building on the partnerships developed during the Covid-19 pandemic

Governance

The Collaborative will be a working group that reports to the Health and Wellbeing Board. It will provide oversight and assurance regarding Health Protection, on behalf of the Board, acting as a

multi-agency forum that support the DPH in discharging their statutory health protection assurance function. The Collaborative will work closely with wider system partners as needed and link with national, regional and neighbouring local authority health protection arrangements through the Director of Public Health. It is proposed the Collaborative takes quarterly updates on general health protection matters to the Health and Wellbeing Board, with more frequent updates brought as needed in the interim e.g. on Covid, and that the frequency of reporting is kept under review.

The Social Care Protection Operational Group will also report to the Collaborative through regular light touch updates at Collaborative meetings, to ensure joining up of the agenda and to strengthen communications between the two groups. The Social Care Group has a developing agenda to provide holistic support to the sector, but will retain a key focus on health protection issues.

Chair

The Collaborative will be chaired by the Director of Public Health (SBC) and vice chaired by the Consultant in Public Health (SBC). The agenda will be set by the Chair but in consultation with and with input from members of the group. The agenda will also be directly informed by the Health and Wellbeing Board. The Collaborative meetings will be supported by Democratic Services in SBC.

Decision making

The aim will be decision-making by consensus. The final decision will rest with the DPH (or by delegation by the DPH to the Consultant in Public Health) in their statutory role in being responsible for assurance on health protection matters for the local population.

Meeting frequency

The Collaborative will meet monthly initially. Meeting frequency will be reviewed as needed.

Membership

Regular membership is as follows. Additional members will be co-opted onto the group as needed for specific discussions. Colleagues from UKHSA and NHSE may not be able to attend every meeting given their geographical patches but will be included in all group email communications; have existing relationships with the DsPH; and will be asked to attend specific discussions as needed.

Member	Organisation
DPH (Chair)	SBC
Consultant in Public Health (Vice Chair)	SBC
Health & Wellbeing Manager – Health Protection	SBC
Director of Adults & Health	SBC
Public Health Intelligence Specialist	SBC
Community Protection & Resilience Service Manager	SBC
Environmental Health Service Manager	SBC
Health & Safety Service Manager	SBC
Head of Service	TEWV
CEO	HASH
Associate Director of Nursing, Patient Experience & Quality	NTHFT
Safety & Quality Performance Manager	NTHFT
Director of Commissioning, Strategy & Delivery (C&YP)	TV CCG

Consultant in Public Health	UK Health Security Agency Regional Health Protection Team
Screening & Immunisations Commissioning lead	NHSE / I
Communications Manager	SBC

Review

The terms of reference will be reviewed annually, with authority delegated to the Chair to make minor amendments prior to this as needed.

April 2022