

Date: Tuesday 22 October 2024 at 4.00 pm

Venue: Jim Cooke Conference Suite, Stockton Central Library, Church Road,
Stockton-on-Tees TS18 1TU

Cllr Marc Besford (Chair)
Cllr Nathan Gale (Vice-Chair)

Cllr Stefan Barnes
Cllr John Coulson
Cllr Lynn Hall

Cllr Carol Clark
Cllr Ray Godwin
Cllr Vanessa Sewell

AGENDA

9 URGENT ITEM: Care and Health Winter Planning Update (Pages 7 - 26)

Members of the Public - Rights to Attend Meeting

With the exception of any item identified above as containing exempt or confidential information under the Local Government Act 1972 Section 100A(4), members of the public are entitled to attend this meeting and/or have access to the agenda papers.

Persons wishing to obtain any further information on this meeting, including the opportunities available for any member of the public to speak at the meeting; or for details of access to the meeting for disabled people, please

Contact: Senior Scrutiny Officer, Gary Woods on email gary.woods@stockton.gov.uk

KEY - Declarable interests are:-

- Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI's)
- Other Registerable Interests (ORI's)
- Non Registerable Interests (NRI's)

Members – Declaration of Interest Guidance



Table 1 - Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Subject	Description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain
Sponsorship	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the council) made to the councillor during the previous 12-month period for expenses incurred by him/her in carrying out his/her duties as a councillor, or towards his/her election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
Contracts	Any contract made between the councillor or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/civil partners (or a firm in which such person is a partner, or an incorporated body of which such person is a director* or a body that such person has a beneficial interest in the securities of*) and the council — (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.
Land and property	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the council. 'Land' excludes an easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not give the councillor or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/ civil partners (alone or jointly with another) a right to occupy or to receive income.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the council for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to the councillor's knowledge)— (a) the landlord is the council; and (b) the tenant is a body that the councillor, or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/ civil partners is a partner of or a director* of or has a beneficial interest in the securities* of.
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities* of a body where— (a) that body (to the councillor's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the council; and (b) either— (i) the total nominal value of the securities* exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the councillor, or his/ her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/civil partners have a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

* 'director' includes a member of the committee of management of an industrial and provident society.

* 'securities' means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

Table 2 – Other Registerable Interest

You must register as an Other Registrable Interest:

- a) any unpaid directorships
- b) any body of which you are a member or are in a position of general control or management and to which you are nominated or appointed by your authority
- c) any body
 - (i) exercising functions of a public nature
 - (ii) directed to charitable purposes or
 - (iii) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union) of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management

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Adult Social Care and Health Select Committee

22 October 2024

URGENT ITEM: CARE AND HEALTH WINTER PLANNING UPDATE

Summary

The Committee is requested to consider and provide views on the Health and Wellbeing Board's *Care and Health Winter Planning Update* report prior to its forthcoming presentation to the Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council (SBC) Cabinet on 14 November 2024.

Detail

1. The Committee is asked to receive the attached report for information, which has been added to this meeting agenda to ensure the Committee has the opportunity to review and comment ahead of the report going to the SBC Cabinet.
2. The report is owned by the Health and Wellbeing Board and covers the Council's care and health winter planning arrangements, as part of the Board's system assurance role. The report will be going to the Health and Wellbeing Board meeting on 30 October 2024.
3. Members may wish to familiarise themselves with last year's update. This was originally scheduled to be considered by the Committee in December 2023 but, due to staff sickness / unavailability, it was agreed that the report should be referred to the Executive Scrutiny Committee for consideration at its next meeting in January 2024. Details of last year's report, and the subsequent discussion points, can be found at (see item ESC/27/23):

<https://moderngov.stockton.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=1142&MId=1322&Ver=4>

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AGENDA ITEM

**REPORT TO HEALTH
AND WELLBEING
BOARD**

30TH OCTOBER 2024

**REPORT OF DIRECTOR
OF ADULTS, HEALTH &
WELLBEING**

CARE AND HEALTH WINTER PLANNING UPDATE

SUMMARY

This briefing provides an update to Health and Wellbeing Board on care and health Winter planning work across the Council, working with partners. This includes measures in place across Adult Social Care (ASC) to respond to Winter pressures and the associated increase in service demands.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board notes the update report and consider it in the context of the Board's assurance role.

DETAIL

Winter Planning

1. Significant challenges continue to be evident for communities and across the health and wellbeing system as we head into Winter 2024 including the ongoing with cost-of-living pressures, seasonal illness, the unpredictable impact of Covid given it does not yet have an established seasonal pattern, and very real financial and workforce pressures across organisations.
2. A range of activity is underway, having commenced in late Summer, to plan for and mitigate the impact of Winter. As in previous years, the Tees Valley Local A&E Delivery Board (LAEDB) has oversight of NHS planning and coordination with partners, feeding into regional (Northeast and North Cumbria) arrangements and has Local Authority representation. The LAEDB are compiling a comprehensive overview of Winter plan arrangements and will share this with the wider system in November.
3. The Health and Wellbeing Board seeks assurance on the systems in place to mitigate and respond to the impacts of Autumn and Winter at a local level, as the statutory body with oversight of the health and wellbeing system.

4. The North East Health Protection network continues to meet to consider the impact and mitigation of infectious disease and feed into regional and local arrangements including emergency planning discussions.
5. Adult Social Care Winter planning takes place in Spring, utilising key learning from previous years – the work underway is summarised later in this briefing.
6. Cleveland Local Resilience Forum (LRF) also continue to support wider system resilience as needed. The borough's Major Incident Plan, updated in 2023, ensures that an appropriate response can be put in place in the event of a major incident due to adverse weather.
7. Through our links to the national weather warning systems and communications resources through the Department of Health and Social Care, our usual arrangements are in place to communicate key messages to our communities when we are warned of adverse weather events. For example advice on keeping warm and checking on vulnerable neighbours in the event of sudden cold snaps.
8. In addition to the LRF and local NHS-lead Winter planning infrastructure, there is a local multi-agency Health Protection Collaborative which reports to the Health and Wellbeing Board. The Collaborative maintains oversight of key health protection issues on behalf of the Board, facilitates joint working and brings updates to the Board for assurance. The Collaborative is chaired by the Director of Public Health and covers key issues such as infectious disease control, screening and immunisations and public health key messaging on protecting the local population's health and wellbeing in adverse weather events. It also provides local public health support and advice into the major incident planning process.
9. During 2023/24 some specific work on integration across health and care has been underway, with a focus on 'Home First' and on admissions avoidance. Updates on this work are covered in this briefing. This work is lead by a 'Coalition of the Willing' of leaders from across the health and care system and reports into Team Stockton.

Integration workshops

10. A range of organisations have been meeting for facilitated discussions throughout 2024, to bolster joint working and identify and progress areas of closer collaboration and integration. Two key areas of focus are admissions avoidance and Home First, both of which support the approach to Winter planning and response as well as contributing to the wider work across organisations on a more coordinated and proactive early intervention offer, particularly for those at highest risk of poor health.

Admissions avoidance

11. Analysis of key population data across the system has been taking place (and continues to develop) to identify the main causes of admission to hospital and needing support from social care in the Winter months.

Infectious Disease Surveillance

12. The main national monitoring system for Covid-19 population prevalence through the ONS was stopped in 2023. Recognising the ongoing need of broader surveillance than hospital data, a smaller version of the survey was reinstated from October 2023 to support ongoing population surveillance.
13. According to the latest England data for Covid-19 infections, 8.9% of people in the North East had Covid (week commencing 23rd September 2024), an increase on the previous week (5.4%). 13.4% of people in England were positive for Covid (week commencing 30th September).
14. Covid-19 hospitalisations in the North East were 8.1 per 100,000 (week commencing 30th September), which is an increase on the previous week (6.6 per 100,000) and higher than the England average (4.55 per 100,000); however they remained significantly below those seen in Spring 2023 and Christmas 2022. Covid-19 continues to have an unpredictable pattern of peaks and troughs of cases and has not yet settled into a seasonal pattern as with flu.
15. As expected for Autumn, North East Influenza infections (0 to 0.6% positivity) and RSV infections (1.6% positivity) remain low (for the week commencing 23rd September 2024). National RSV positivity had a small increase to 1.6%, and national flu positivity had a small increase to 1.9% for the week commencing 30th September. Higher influenza and RSV rates are most common between December and February.

Covid, flu and vaccinations

16. The Tees Valley Vaccination Board continues to have oversight of the flu and Covid vaccination programmes and reports into the regional ICB (Integrated Care Board) immunisation board. Locally, public health continues to monitor population vaccination coverage and works with the ICB to identify and plan targeted vaccination clinics for areas with lower vaccination coverage and higher risk groups.
17. Nationally there was a decrease in flu vaccination rates in Winter 2023/4 compared to Winter 2022/3 across all age groups except 2-3yr olds, although uptake in those aged 65yrs+ remained good (77.8%).¹ Equally Covid vaccination uptake rates in recent vaccination campaigns have declined compared to uptake in the height of the pandemic.
18. To protect vulnerable groups at greater risk, the national decision was taken to start staggered flu vaccination (commencing for some groups 1st September 2024) and wider flu and Covid-19 rollout on 3rd October 2024. **APPENDIX 2** sets out eligible groups. Vaccines are being evolved constantly in response to these viruses.
19. The NHS have started inviting people for their Covid-19 vaccination in priority order of risk and those eligible will be able to book an appointment through the National Booking Service website or by calling 119. The borough is well covered for Covid vaccinations across the Primary Care Networks (PCNs – groups of GP practices) and the local GP Federation (Hartlepool and Stockton Health).
20. Community pharmacies also offer flu and COVID-19 vaccinations to those who are eligible. Flu and COVID-19 vaccinations may also be purchased from pharmacies by population groups who are not eligible for free vaccinations through the NHS. (Please find a list of

community pharmacies who have signed up to offer COVID-19 and Flu vaccines in **APPENDIX 3**). COVID-19 and flu vaccinations can be administered together, where this is available.

21. Public health and the GP Federation are working together to explore delivery of some bespoke clinics in deprived areas and with vulnerable groups which are typically associated with lowest uptake.
22. A national vaccination programme for RSV (respiratory syncytial virus) has commenced; it is recommended during pregnancy and for adults aged 75-79yrs. RSV can make babies and older adults seriously ill and is a key reason for people seeking healthcare support (GP and hospital) in the Winter months.
23. National communications messaging to promote flu, COVID-19 and RSV vaccinations has been disseminated widely, supported by local joint working between SBC and the NHS. SBC is also supporting messaging on flu, COVID-19 and RSV vaccines through our community wellbeing champions network.
24. Occupational health flu and Covid vaccination programmes have started in NHS trusts and primary care. NHSE are undertaking proactive work to increase vaccinations among staff and among patient groups (e.g. pregnant women, long stay patients, people with a learning disability) with a particular focus on clinicians being a 'trusted voice' (based on evidence).
25. Free flu vaccinations for SBC employees are again provided this year by the Council's Occupational Health team with the aim to vaccinate 600 staff starting in October 2024. To reflect the changes in eligibility in the national flu programme, all SBC staff are eligible, but vaccination of frontline health and social care workers are prioritised. Ongoing promotion of staff vaccination continues through our forums and links with the local care sector.

Health Protection work with key settings

26. People most at risk in Winter and more vulnerable from cold weather include:
 - people aged 65 and older
 - babies and children under the age of 5
 - people on a low income (so cannot afford heating)
 - people who have a long-term health condition
 - people with a disability
 - pregnant women
 - people who have a mental health condition
27. Work continues with the care sector through provider forums and updates with adult social care managers as needed. This provides the opportunity to disseminate key messages and resources, 'temperature check' with providers on impact of Winter illness and provide support as required.
28. Key relevant Health protection messages (including about infection prevention control and vaccinations for young people) are regularly shared with school settings via the schools' newsletter and also as needed directly with schools.

Local health protection response

29. General health protection principles and measures apply into the Autumn and Winter, regarding the management of Covid. Though it is not yet established as a 'seasonal' illness, national policy now means that prevention and response reflect guidance for other respiratory illnesses. Should there be a new variant that warrants considering a step-up of response, SBC public health will liaise closely with the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) on this and any further action needed. In the meantime we continue to monitor the position, liaise with UKHSA and offer support and advice particularly to our care sector as required.
30. Dissemination of consistent and clear messages on keeping well in Winter remains important and includes:
- Good hand and respiratory hygiene
 - Avoid passing on infections – Stay at home if you are unwell
 - Flu, Covid and RSV vaccinations – Get vaccinated
 - Keeping warm and getting help with heating
 - Getting advice if unwell (pharmacy, 111, GP)
 - Looking out for others

Adult social care support

31. To collaborate effectively with North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Systems (ICS) to alleviate anticipated winter pressures facing the health and social care sector for 2024-2025, Adult Social Care (ASC) will continue to deliver a range of key services and step up support in several areas where pressure in the system is identified.

Demand and capacity management

32. The Council monitors the care market to understand capacity and quality pressures to ensure we can meet our statutory duties. Currently (September 2024) the biggest challenge to the market is the capacity for nursing care home provision. Work is progressing (led by the ICB and supported by staff from ASC) to ensure we have sufficient capacity to meet current and future demands.
33. In relation to our care at home provision, the new framework will go live on 4th November 2024. This framework has been designed in collaboration with stakeholders and people accessing support to address some of the challenges the market has faced over the past 24 months. It includes an expectation that the primary provider (we have retained the model where a provider has responsibility for a locality) will pick up new care packages within the timeframes identified in the framework agreement (3 days). Where they lack the capacity, we will expect them to subcontract to another provider on the framework agreement for a mutually agreed timeframe, to allow mobilisation of the primary provider.
34. As part of our established approach to introducing a new framework, kick start meetings will take place in November plus enhanced contractual monitoring and provider support to ensure the transition into the new framework is as seamless as possible.
35. Contractually, all providers are required to submit Winter Contingency plans by 31st Oct each year. We are expecting 100% return on these and will continue to monitor compliance and use these plans to support our management of pressures over the period.

36. From a quality perspective, we aim to ensure all providers are operating effectively and able to provide care and support to those people who need that support. Managing the quality of care provision is an essential element of winter preparedness. For 24/25 we are delivering a full PAMMS schedule for all 30 care homes on the Older Persons Care Home framework. (PAMMS = Provider Assessment and Market Management Solution, an electronic assessment tool enabling the Council to monitor and evaluate quality developed by the Access Group). In addition, we have capacity to undertake up to a further 6 assessment of services which intelligence indicates may be at risk, to ensure we can support proactively.
37. Registered care homes and care at home providers continue to attend the care provider forums for key messages and support throughout the year.

Ensure adult social care teams have sufficient staff and access to care capacity to continue supporting people to live independently in their own homes wherever possible in line with Care Act 2014 principles

38. ASC introduced monthly performance meetings in March 2024 to monitor staff capacity and demand. The Performance meeting enables and supports contingency planning across operational teams, this has included the deployment of our peripatetic social work staff to meet areas of most need and the reallocation of work between teams where capacity issues are identified. Where capacity is identified in the wider market (care at home provision and residential care), commissioning staff are involved in the discussion and take these issues forward through their contractual networks.
39. The Operational Performance meeting is part of the Performance Framework which enable capacity and staffing issues to be escalated through to the Strategic Performance group and where required through to Performance SMT and the Directors Performance Dashboard.

Ensure a home first approach

40. The Virtual Frailty Wards (Hospital at Home) implemented in 2023 continue to operate in Stockton-on-Tees. The current system has capacity to support people in their own home, negating the need to be taken to hospital, when safe.
41. We have continued to develop services to address current and projected demand in the system including a pilot to offer overnight support for people being discharged from hospital to support them to return home (this pilot will go live in November 2024).
42. The current commissioned D2A provision has been brought in house (from 7th October) and will be delivered by the Council's reablement service allowing these people to receive a more reablement focused support to ensure they can remain as independent as possible. The demand on reablement following this transfer will be monitored and any capacity / demand issues will be addressed as part of the performance approach identified above.

Monitor the impact of winter on local people and the social care workforce

43. ASC have established processes which support the day-to-day management of activity in the system. The Holding List procedures allow managers to risk assess and priorities any referrals awaiting allocation and alongside the regular monthly performance meetings

(where teams share information around capacity and waiting lists), provides a clear and current picture of the waits across the service and potential bottlenecks because of demand and/or capacity in the system.

44. Alongside the weekly meeting to review outstanding placements or POC, this provides a clear route to support the escalation process in place for any urgent cases and options / resources needed to ensure people are kept safe.
45. The Adult **Safeguarding** Team has well established processes in place to address concerns and section 42 enquiries, including daily meeting with the Police, Housing and CGL. The Team is currently fully staffed at present and can manage ongoing demand across the system and this is supported by regular meetings across the service to monitor work pressures and capacity within teams with the ability to move resources across teams to meet any increased demands in any areas.

Housing

46. The Council's Homelessness Service includes a Rough Sleeper Team who both respond to reports of rough sleeping and visit areas where rough sleeping may previously have occurred, with the aim of identifying those who may require advice and support. Whilst this is an all-year-round service, it is vitally important in the Winter months. In addition, the Council is committed to adopt the SWEP (Severe Weather Emergency) Protocol. SWEP is a universal offer to provide temporary accommodation for people sleeping rough in periods of severe weather (extreme cold, wind, snow, rain and heat).

Supporting our communities

47. Following the success of last year's conference, SBC public health has arranged a Winter health conference for 1st October 2024 at the Employment and Training Hub, aiming to empower the VCSE sector and community groups with information, networks and resources to support communities this Winter. As last year, the event will support sharing information, experiences, good practice and building relationships, with presentations from a wide range of speakers with over 50 attendees from a wide range of communities and organisations.
48. The draft [Anti-Poverty Strategy](#) has been co-produced working with the Positive Living (lived experience group) to understand how residents can help themselves and where the support of the Council is required. The Strategy [action plan](#) covers lots of planned activity which support residents with Winter Wellbeing.
49. A Winter Wellbeing guide is being developed by the Fairer Stockton and Public Health teams, together with updated webpages. These will be circulated across networks and partnerships to help those most needing support.
50. The second Stockton Winter Health and Wellbeing Festival will take place on 28th November 2024. This event will bring together a range of partners and organisations to engage with residents and provide information, advice, support as well as a host of fun activities and entertainment and a focus on mental health and wellbeing.
51. The Warm Homes Healthy People programme in the borough (funded through public health) offers support with boiler repairs, emergency heating, energy saving as well as debt and benefits advice: <https://www.stockton.gov.uk/Warm-Homes-Healthy-People>.

52. More widely, SBC continues to work closely with VCSE partners and the community in supporting the borough's residents, particularly those experiencing hardship due to the cost-of-living situation. Further details are outlined as follows.

Information and advice

53. Information and advice is provided through a range of means including:

- A Cost of Living Booklet ('Here to Help') providing an extensive range of information on both Council and partner services. A revised version is currently being pulled together to share in the coming weeks. The existing one which is also still useful can be found [here](#).
- A central 'Here to Help' one-stop shop of information on the Council's website
- Regular features in Stockton News promoting cost of living and winter wellbeing support services (see **APPENDIX 5**)

Food support

54. We have five hubs opened between September 2023 and March 2024. To date, we have 2,776 active members. Every week, our communities gather to manage the distribution of food, building friendships, skills, and connections. We have created 1,759 volunteering opportunities in the community (totaling over 5,000 volunteer hours). We have distributed over 12,800 sets of bags, equivalent to over 396,000 meals. Every week, we improve diets with a diverse variety of healthy produce and products. 80% of this is made up of chilled goods and fruit and veg – delivering maximum nutritional benefit for members. The hubs also help reduce the stress of stretched finances. So far residents have benefited from a cumulative saving of around £320,000 by shopping with *The Bread and Butter Thing*. Agencies attend the various sessions to give advice and support to volunteers, also enabling volunteers to talk to residents collecting their shopping, regarding support available such as Red Balloons, CAB, SBC energy efficiency team, Cancer Support and SBC's Learning & Skills team.

55. The Food Aid Fund is an SBC grant that offers financial help to projects that provide food and personal hygiene products to Stockton-on-Tees residents. These include foodbanks, food clubs, food pantries, community cafés, VCSE organisations and churches. For the Summer 2024 funding round, we supported 47 organisations with a grant of up to £500 (total of £20k) to be spent by 30th September 2024.

Community Spaces (previously known as Warm Spaces)

56. The Council's network of 70 Community Spaces play a key role in supporting the Council's commitment to addressing inequality and poverty. Each venue offers a non-judgemental 'warm welcome' to residents who may be struggling with the cost of living or social isolation. Community Spaces are a key component of the Powering Our Futures Communities mission, helping to build community capacity and community resilience. The Fairer Stockton-on-Tees Team and Public Health have committed to continue to work collaboratively to support those experiencing social isolation.

57. All five 'The Bread and Butter' hubs are also registered as Community Spaces. A directory of Warm Spaces is promoted on the Council's website <https://www.stockton.gov.uk/community-spaces-directory>.
58. To ensure Community Spaces are addressing our communities' needs and that VCSE partners are appropriately supported, an annual evaluation recently concluded in September 2024. This [report](#) provides an overview of the Community Spaces scheme and the main issues highlighted through monitoring conversations gathered between March and June 2024. Current challenges and recommended priorities for 2024/25 are also outlined. The report has been presented to the Adult Social Care and Health Select Committee and the Health and Wellbeing Board.
59. 87% of Community Spaces provided a response to this year's annual monitoring. The majority stated that they were content with the scheme and would like to remain part of it for 2024-25. Social isolation and the cost of living (struggling to pay utility and food bills) remain the two key reasons people attend a Community Space.
60. The value of Community Spaces to the Borough's residents is detailed in the case studies in the Appendix 1 of the annual monitoring [report](#). For example, the Wilson Centre, Long Newton stated: "The key issues are around loneliness and the need for companionship. People are happy to come to us. It is warm and comfortable and a focal point of the village. They talk about their problems and this really helps people."
61. In acknowledgement that most venues are run by our wider VCSE partners £60,000 of Public Health funding was secured (split equally between 2023/24 and 2024/25). This has allowed the Council to operate a small grants fund to help with potential set up costs and vitally to support the long term-sustainability of venues. Looking ahead, it is imperative that Community Spaces venues are empowered and supported to achieve long-term sustainability by accessing wider funding. Work is ongoing to identify potential funding sources and vitally to support (and where appropriate up-skill) partners to make funding bid applications.
62. A Community Spaces network was launched in June 2024 as part of 'Community Spaces Thank You' event. This provided an opportunity to celebrate / thank staff and volunteers across the Borough, to network and deliver advice and support (for example a Catalyst presented on funding and bid writing support). Quarterly in-person Community Spaces Network events will be arranged with the aim of continuing to share ideas / provide updates on funding and training. Events will be supported by regularly newsletters/emails as opportunities arise.
63. A major development within the Community Spaces scheme is establishment of *The Thornaby Warm Welcome* (detailed on page 15 of the Community Spaces annual report) which has been rolled out across the Borough (**APPENDIX 4**).
64. Winter Warm Boxes: Funding was secured through CAB, with boxes distributed to those who most needed them through e.g. Community Spaces, Housing Officers and CAB. The project was highly regarded and all venues hope that this will be repeated for Winter 2024/25. Positive feedback from residents included: "*The hat was so warm, it has really helped me stay warm while watching TV on an evening*"; "*Love the Warm packs, my ninety-year-old neighbour struggles in these cold, winter months and it was great to give her these essentials to keep her warm. She said the gloves and socks have particularly made a difference*".

Consultation and Engagement

65. This report outlines a range of activity being undertaken in partnership with local communities and the VCSE to provide and improve access to support helping people to be as healthy as possible through Winter.

Next Steps

66. Beyond continuing the work described in this briefing, key updates or proposed changes in approach (e.g. in response to a new threat to population health) will be brought to the Corporate Management Team on through to Cabinet as needed.

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References

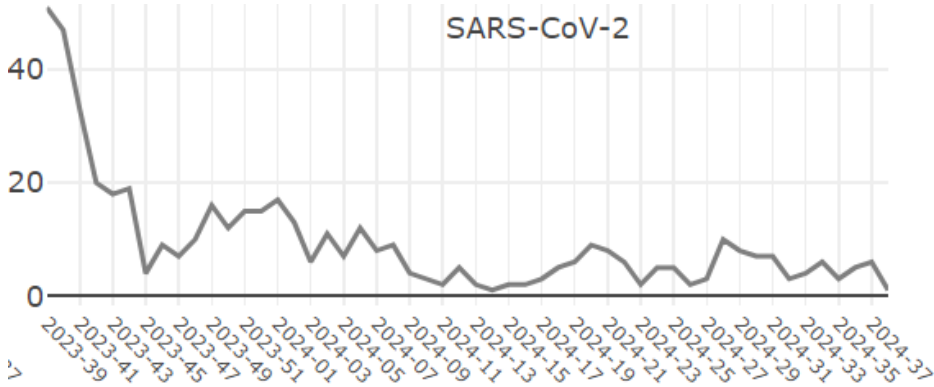
1. UKHSA: [https://www.gov.uk/government/news/18000-flu-related-deaths-in-past-2-winters-as-jab-uptake-falls#:~:text=Flu%20vaccine%20uptake%20rates%20winter,\(3%2C908%2C092\)%20compared%20with%2049.1%25](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/18000-flu-related-deaths-in-past-2-winters-as-jab-uptake-falls#:~:text=Flu%20vaccine%20uptake%20rates%20winter,(3%2C908%2C092)%20compared%20with%2049.1%25)

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1

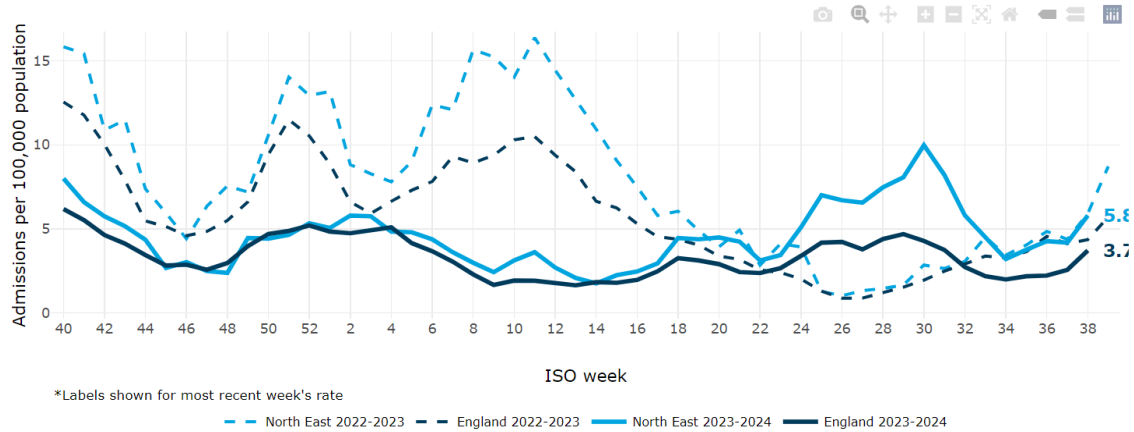
Communicable disease update (week commencing 16 September 2024 – most recently available at LA level)

Reported cases of COVID-19 in Stockton-on-Tees:

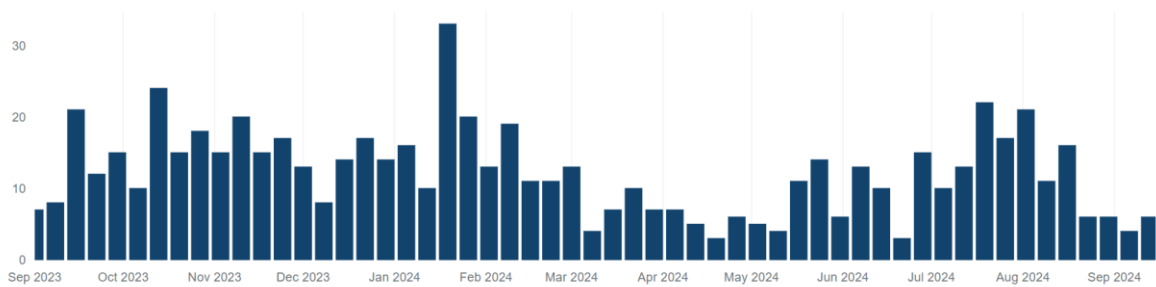


COVID-19 hospitalisations in the North East (and England):

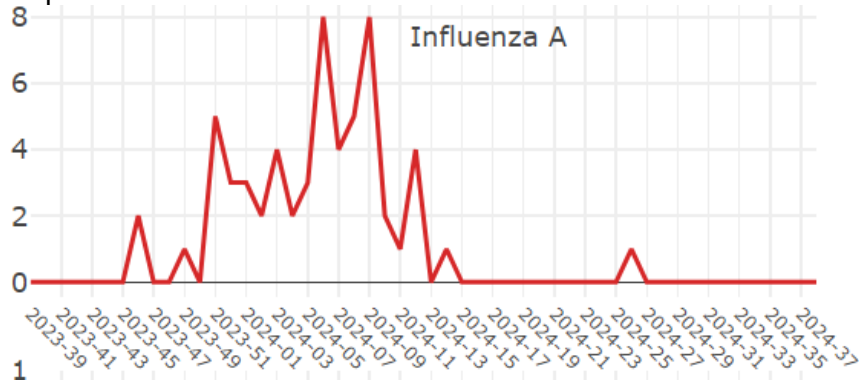
Figure 4. Hospital admissions with confirmed SARS-CoV-2 – SARI Watch (Mandatory Surveillance)



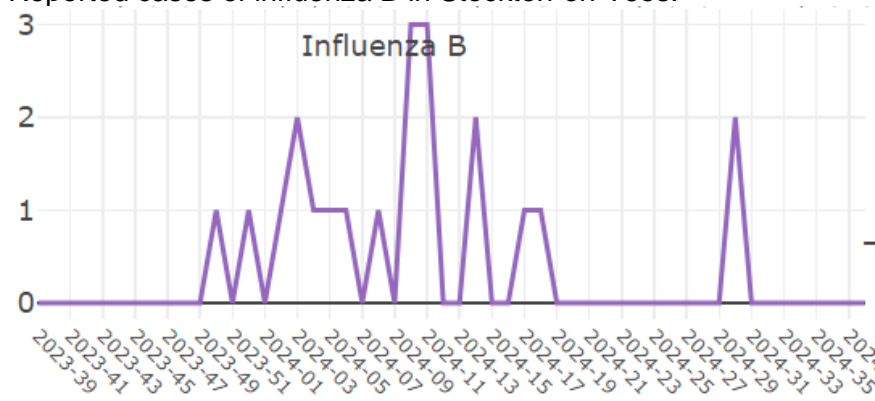
COVID-19 deaths in the North East (only up to 13 September 2024):



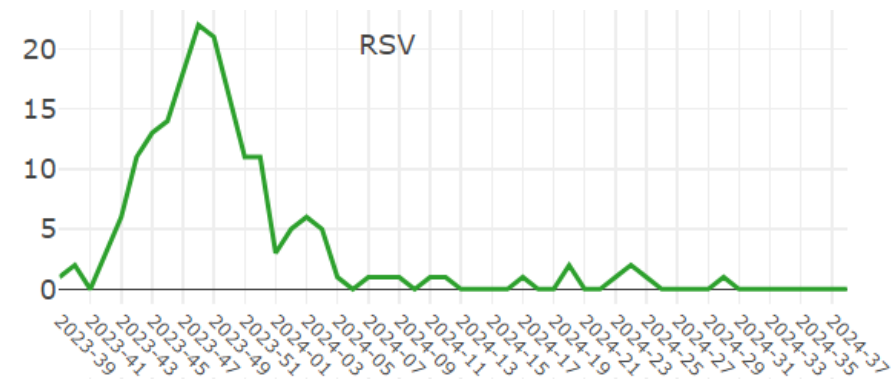
Reported cases of influenza A in Stockton-on-Tees:



Reported cases of influenza B in Stockton-on-Tees:



Reported cases of RSV in Stockton-on-Tees:



APPENDIX 2

Flu and COVID-19 vaccination eligible groups

Eligible Cohorts for NHS Covid & Flu Vaccination	Spring 2024 Seasonal Booster	Summer InterSeason	Autumn / Winter 2024/25 Seasonal Booster		
	COVID	COVID	COVID	FLU	
	Apr-24 to Jun-24	Jul to Aug-24	Oct-24 to Jan-25	Sep-24	Oct-24 to Mar-25
75+	✓		✓		✓
65+			✓		✓
All Residents in Older Adult Care Homes*	✓		✓		✓
All Residents in Care Homes which includes Older Adults*	✓		✓		✓
All Residents in Other Care Homes					✓
Housebound	*** Immuno-Suppressed Only		*** Clinical At Risk		✓
New Immunosuppressed 6 months+ (Primary Vaccination)**	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Immunosuppressed 6 months+ (Boosters)	✓		✓	Clinical Judgement	✓
<u>Clinical Risk 6 months+***</u>				Children 6 months to 17 yrs;	
Chronic diseases & conditions (Respiratory, Heart & Vascular, Kidney, Liver, Digestive System, Spleen, Neurological inc stroke/TIA, cerebral palsy or MS)	*** Immuno-Suppressed Only		✓	Clinical Judgement for 18+	✓
Endocrine Disorders, Morbid Obesity					
Serious genetic abnormalities					
Severe Mental Illness					
Pregnant women				Pregnant Women	
Frontline health and social care workers			✓		✓
Staff working in care homes for older adults			✓		✓
Household/Close Contacts of people with immunosuppression 12-64					✓
Carers aged 16 to 64 years					✓
School aged children 4-16 (Reception to Year 11)				✓	✓
All children aged 2 or 3 years on 31 August				✓	✓

APPENDIX 3**Community pharmacies offering flu and Covid-19 vaccinations, Autumn 2024**

Pharmacy	Address	Post code	Vaccine offer
Allied Pharmacy	Varo Terrace	TS18 1JY	COVID-19 & Flu
Allied Pharmacy	Yarm Lane	TS18 1YE	COVID-19 & Flu
Cohens Chemist - Yarm	Yarm Medical Centre, 1 Worsall Road, Yarm	TS15 9DD	COVID-19 & Flu
Davidson Pharmacy	3 Station Road	TS23 1AG	COVID-19 & Flu
Eaglescliffe Pharmacy	Unit 4 Orchard Parade, 18 Durham Lane, Eaglescliffe	TS16 0EH	COVID-19 & Flu
Fairfield Pharmacy	26-28 Glenfield Road	TS19 7PQ	COVID-19 & Flu
Harry Hill Chemist	8 Kenilworth Road, Billingham	TS23 2HZ	COVID-19 & Flu
Ingleby Barwick Community Hall	Haresfield Way, Beckfields Avenue	TS17 0YL	COVID-19 only
Newham Pharmacy	9-10 High Newham Court, Stockton-on-Tees	TS19 8PD	COVID-19 & Flu
Pharmacy Express - Thornaby	113 Lanehouse Road, Thornaby-on-Tees	TS17 8AB	COVID-19 & Flu
Synergise Pharmacy	56 Yarm Lane, Stockton-on-Tees	TS18 1EP	COVID-19 & Flu
Fairfield Pharmacy	26-28 Glenfield Road, Stockton-on-Tees	TS19 7PQ	COVID-19 & Flu
Preston Farm Pharmacy LTD	Unit 2 Harley Court	TS18 3WB	COVID-19 only
Stockton Pharmacy	70 Bishopton Lane	TS18 2AJ	COVID-19 & Flu
Pharmacy World	45 REDHILL ROAD, ROSEWORTH,	TS19 9BX	Flu only
The Pharmacy – Billingham	Abbey Health Centre	TS23 2DG	COVID-19 & Flu
Well – Stockton-on-Tees	161-162 High Street, Stockton-on-Tees	TS18 1PL	COVID-19 & Flu
Well – Stockton-on-Tees	QUEENS PARK SURGERY FARRER STREET	TS18 2AW	Flu only
Asda Pharmacy	ASDA SUPERSTORE, PORTRACK LANE,	TS18 2PB	Flu only
Morrisons Pharmacy	TEESSIDE RETAIL PARK, THORNABY,	TS17 7BP	Flu only
Boots	12-14 HIGH STREET NORTON	TS20 1DN	Flu only

Boots	UNIT 21B,GOODWOOD SQUARE, TEESIDE RETAIL PARK,	TS17 7BW	Flu only
Boots	NORTON PRIMARY HC CTRE, BILLINGHAM ROAD, NORTON,	TS20 2UZ	Flu only
Expertcare Ltd (Norton Pharmacy)	UNIT 6, HANOVER PARADE, GLEBE CENTRE,	TS20 1RF	Flu only
Boots	THORNABY MEDICAL CENTRE, TRENCHARD AVENUE, THORNABY,	TS17 0EE	Flu only
Asda Pharmacy	ALLENSWAY, THORNABY,	TS17 9EN	Flu only
Newham Pharmacy	9-10 HIGH NEWHAM COURT, HARDWICK ESTATE,	TS19 8PD	Flu only
Tesco Pharmacy	DURHAM ROAD,	TS21 3LU	Flu only
Hepworth Chemist	20 GREENSIDE, LOWFIELDS,INGLEBY BARWICK,	TS17 0RR	Flu only
Kelly Chemist	32 Myton Road, Ingleby Barwick,	TS17 0WG	Flu only
Pharmacy Express	UNIT 9 SUNNINGDALE DRIVE, EAGLESCIFFE,	TS16 9EA	Flu only
Tesco Pharmacy	LEEOLME ROAD, BILLINGHAM,	TS23 3TA	Flu only
Eaglescliffe Pharmacy	Unit 4 Orchard Parade, 18 Durham Lane, Eaglescliffe,	TS16 0EH	Flu only
Boots Yarm	UNIT 1, 44 HIGH STREET, YARM,	TS15 9AE	Flu only
Whitworth Chemists	7 HEALAUGH PARK, LEVEN PARK, YARM,	TS15 9XN	Flu only
Wynard Pharmacy	UNIT 8, 138 THE STABLES, THE WYND, WYNYARD,	TS22 5QQ	Flu only

APPENDIX 4

Warm Socials

Area	When	Where
ROSEWORTH STARTS 7TH OCTOBER	Mondays 1pm-3pm	Hope Church Centre Ragpath Lane, Roseworth, TS19 9AT
Thornaby	Tuesdays 10am-12pm	Thornaby Pavilion Wrightson House, Thornaby, TS17 9EW
Billingham	Tuesdays 10:30am-12:30pm	Billingham Forum The Causeway, Town Centre, TS23 2LJ
STOCKTON STARTS 25TH SEPTEMBER	Wednesdays 10:30am-12:30pm	Fountains Shopping Mall, Enterprise Arcade 35-37 High Street, TS18 1SB
Thornaby	Thursdays 1pm-3pm	Thornaby Pavilion Wrightson House, Thornaby, TS17 9EW
Newtown	Fridays 11am-1pm	Newtown Community Resource Centre 123, Durham Road, Stockton-on-Tees, TS19 0DE

APPENDIX 5

Stockton News (example of a recent article)

Our People

A Fairer Stockton-on-Tees

A Fairer Stockton-on-Tees is the Council's commitment to tackling inequality and making the Borough a better place to live for everyone. Visit www.stockton.gov.uk/a-fairer-stockton-on-tees to find out more about the strategy.

The Bread and Butter Thing

There are now five 'The Bread and Butter Thing' low-cost food hubs across the Borough, including new hubs at Newtown and Roseworth.

The scheme offers three bags of food worth around £35 for only £8.50, including fresh fruit and veg, chilled food and cupboard staples like cereal. You can also pay just £5 for an individual bag or £17 for a six bag 'family' deal.

Find out more at www.stockton.gov.uk/the-bread-and-butter-thing

Free boiler servicing available

As part of the Council's 'Warm Homes Healthy People' scheme, we are offering free boiler servicing to eligible residents across the Borough from July to September 2024.

To qualify, you must be the homeowner and have not accessed the scheme within the past two years, be claiming a means tested benefit and be 65 years or over. For residents under 65, you must be in receipt of a disability benefit, have a long term illness made worse by the cold, live with a child under 5 who has a long term illness made worse by the cold or you are living with dementia.

For further details of the eligibility criteria please visit www.stockton.gov.uk/Warm-Homes-Healthy-People or call 01642 528215 for further advice and information.



Going for gold family fun day

Come and join our free family fun day on Saturday 20 July with a range of activities between 10am and 2pm in Stockton town centre.

The fun day includes sports and games, crafts and activities and an eco-clothing shop offering free, donated school uniforms, sports wear, board games and hygiene products.

For more information, visit www.teesvalley-ca.gov.uk/visit/whats-on



Help us Kit out the Borough!

Do you have children's or young adult's sports clothes and footwear you no longer need?

We are looking for donations of good condition sportswear with drop off points at Billingham Forum, IB Leisure, Stockton Splash, Thornaby Pavilion and Thornaby Pool. Just look out for the Kit out the Borough donation bin.

For more information, contact sportsdevelopment@stockton.gov.uk

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