

BRIEFING TO OLDHAM HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Report Title: Operational Local Health Economy Outbreak Plan

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Requirement from the Health and Wellbeing Board:

To note that the Operational Local Health Economy Outbreak plan has been endorsed by Oldham Cares and Local Authority.

1. Background

1.1 The Operational Local Health Economy Outbreak Plan is an agreed joint plan between the Health Protection team and the CCG which has been requested by the AGMA Civil Contingencies Resilience Unit to ensure clarity on operational roles and responsibilities for each responding organisation in the event of an outbreak. It is intended to act as a companion to the GM Multi-agency Outbreak Plan, providing operational detail helping responders quickly provide an effective and coordinated approach to outbreaks of communicable disease (e.g. Hepatitis A in nurseries and schools, Influenza Outbreaks in a Care homes etc.)

1.2 It is important for each organisation, having signed off this plan, to support staff to engage in appropriate exercising to embed the multi-agency response to an outbreak and create familiarity over key tasks.

1.3 Recommendations to Health & Wellbeing Board

The Health & Wellbeing Board are asked to endorse the joint plan to support staff to engage in appropriate exercising to embed the multi-agency response to an outbreak and create familiarity over key tasks.

2. What the issue is?

Oldham is seen to be a safe and greatly improved borough. As a Co-operative Council, we are working with our communities and businesses to keep Oldham a secure, safe and successful place to live and work.

2.1 Aim of the Plan

This document has been developed to supplement the “Greater Manchester Outbreak Plan” at an Oldham level ensuring the right people are contacted at

the right time to ensure that the borough is resilient and can respond appropriately to outbreaks. It focuses on the most likely outbreak scenarios and provides the contact details should an outbreak control team need to be called, and an immediate response made by health and social care partners across the borough.

It has been designed to ensure that an appropriate lead from each organisation is contacted as they will know which member of their service will need to be called, and is therefore output/effect focused e.g. identifying clinical staff to provide antibiotics to a large number of school children both in and out of normal working hours.

The plan details the key protocols and policies required to manage outbreaks of communicable disease. Examples of template scenario's with response activity and key responders both 'in' and 'out' of hours and contact numbers for appropriate health economy partners is provided.

2.4 Objectives of the Plan

- To outline roles and responsibilities at a local operational level
- To outline the key tasks / activities involved in responding to outbreaks
- To give key considerations and outline some specific requirements needed for different outbreaks
- For the DPH and the Chief Clinical Officer at the CCG to sign off the plan before approval at the Health & Wellbeing Board.

2.5 Primary Objectives

- The primary objective in the management of an outbreak is to protect public health by identifying the source of an outbreak and implementing necessary control measures to prevent further spread or recurrence of the infection. This should be underpinned by a risk assessment, with regular re-assessment of the risk.
- The protection of public health takes priority over all other considerations, and this must be understood by all members of the Outbreak Control Team (OCT).

2.6 Secondary Objectives

- Responsibility for managing outbreaks is shared by all the organisations who are members of the OCT. This responsibility includes the provision of sufficient financial and other resources necessary to bring the outbreak to a successful conclusion.
- The great majority of incidents and outbreaks are dealt with as part of normal service provision, and may not impact greatly on routine services or require an OCT to be convened.
- On occasion, outbreaks are of such magnitude that there may be significant implications for routine services and additional resources are required. In this instance the Director of Public Health may declare a

major outbreak / incident and therefore the major incident plans of organisations affected will be invoked as appropriate.

3. Relationship with the Oldham Locality Plan:

This paper aligns to the aims of Oldham Cares by:

- Improving health outcomes during emergency preparedness
- Strengthening joint approaches across the partners with a focus on prevention, emergency preparedness and building resilience between partner organisations
- Reducing unnecessary interventions including hospital admissions

4. Conclusion

- 4.1** This plan has been signed off by the DPH and the Chief Clinical Officer at the CCG and will be presented at the Health Protection Sub-group and Health & Wellbeing Board
- 4.2** This plan will ensure an effective and coordinated approach to the management of outbreaks of communicable diseases within Oldham. It is important that all strategic, tactical and operational staff of organisations identified within this plan understand and are aware of their roles and responsibilities.
- 4.3** The Health & Wellbeing Board are requested to note the joint plan in supporting staff to engage in appropriate exercising to embed the multi-agency response to an outbreak and create familiarity over key responsibilities and tasks.