

Lothian Joint Health Protection Plan 2014- 2016
Report by Ian Johnson, Head of Communities and Economy**1 Purpose of Report**

This report asks the Cabinet to approve the Lothian Joint Health Protection Plan (JHPP) for the period 2014/2016.

A copy of the Plan has been made available in the Members' Library.

2 Background

2.1 Section 7 of The Public Health etc.(Scotland) Act 2008 requires that, in conjunction with the relevant Local Authorities, the Health Board must prepare a Joint Health Protection Plan for its area. The guidance relating to the implementation of the Act requires that such plans are formally submitted to the relevant Local Authority Committee for approval and members will recollect that previous plans have been brought before Cabinet for approval.

2.2 The Plan has been developed through a consultative process via a working group comprising NHS Lothian's Director of Public Health and Health Policy, a Consultant in Public Health Medicine and the Chief Officer(s) Environmental Health of the City of Edinburgh, East Lothian, Midlothian and West Lothian Councils.

2.3 The plan aims to:

- Provide clarity about which agency and persons have overall responsibility in protecting the public health.
- Ensure preparedness and enhance co-operation among agencies in combating major emergencies, for example bioterrorism and lessons from SARS.
- Resolve gaps and uncertainties in the adequacy of statutory powers that might be required for communicable disease control particularly for emerging hazards, for example early interventions in avian or pandemic flu.
- Update the principles and concepts underpinning public health legislation for the twenty-first century to reflect changes in public health ethics and values, new scientific developments and the response to globalisation.

2.4 There is a statutory duty that the Plan is to be a public document published by the relevant NHS Board on their website and made

available on request. Reference to the plan will be made on the Midlothian Council website with a link to the Lothian Health website.

3 Report Implications

3.1 Resource

There are no known additional resource implications (human or financial) arising from this report at this time

3.2 Risk

Environmental Health is a statutory function and the JHPP is produced in pursuance of the requirements of the Public Health etc. (Scotland) Act 2008. Failure to fully contribute to the production, publication and delivery of a Joint Health Protection Plan (JHPP) for the relevant NHS area would leave the local authority open to the challenge of failing in its statutory duty.

3.3 Single Midlothian Plan and Business Transformation

Themes addressed in this report:

- ☒ Community safety
- ☒ Adult health, care and housing
- ☐ Getting it right for every Midlothian child
- ☐ Improving opportunities in Midlothian
- ☐ Sustainable growth
- ☐ Business transformation and Best Value
- ☐ None of the above

3.4 Key Priorities within the Single Midlothian Plan

Due to the wide ranging health implications, the Joint Health Protection Plan contributes across the Midlothian Council and its Community Planning Partners key priorities.

The plan specifically contributes to:

- i) the Community Safety Partnership vision that Midlothian is a safe place to live, work, visit and grow up in; and
- ii) addressing health inequalities and strengthening the provision of local health services.

3.5 Impact on Performance and Outcomes

The JHPP is a statutory requirement that seeks to deliver those aims listed in paragraph 2.3 above. To facilitate this a Joint Health Protection Action Plan is contained at Appendix II of the JHPP.

3.6 Adopting a Preventative Approach

The JHPP is focused on partnership working through activities, resources and support that strengthen the skills, abilities and confidence of organisations to take effective action. It contributes to ensuring that emerging situations covered by the plan have swift intervention to prevent crises escalation.

3.7 Involving Communities and Other Stakeholders

This plan was developed utilising a consultative process which engaged NHS Lothian, Midlothian, City of Edinburgh, East Lothian and West Lothian Councils.

3.8 Ensuring Equalities

An EqIA has been completed for the JHPP. There are no equalities implications arising.

3.9 Supporting Sustainable Development

There are no sustainability implications arising from this report.

3.10 IT Issues

There are no IT issues arising from this report.

4 Recommendations

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- (a) approves the Lothian Joint Health Protection Plan(JHPP) 2014/16, and
- (b) remits the JHPP to the Chief Executive to sign off.

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Background Papers:

The Public Health etc (Scotland) Act 2010.

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/scotland/acts2008/asp_20080005_en_1

JHPP Guidance 2009 - specifically Annex D.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Health/NHS-Scotland/publicact/Part1Guidancefinal/Q/EditMode/on/ForceUpdate/on>