

Lothian Joint Health Protection Plan 2018- 2020**Report by Mary Smith, Director Education, Communities and Economy****1 Purpose of Report**

This report asks the Cabinet to ratify the Lothian Joint Health Protection Plan (JHPP) for the period 2018/2020. An error in having the finalised report issued to the local authorities has delayed the opportunity for consideration. The Plan is attached at appendix 1 and the associated detailed reference document 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. Following the implementation of the Financial Strategy delivery of the plan has been prioritised within the reshaped Environmental Health Service resulting in the fact that lower risk matters will only receive attention as resources allow.

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 plan contributes across the Midlothian Council and its Community Planning Partners key priorities listed in the Single Midlothian Plan 2018-19; in particular;

- i) Reducing the gap in health outcomes, and
- ii) Reducing the gap in economic circumstances.

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. Monitoring and review of the plan is undertaken by a steering group comprising the Director of Public Health and Health Policy, NHS Lothian and the Chief Officer(s) of Environmental Health of City of Edinburgh, East Lothian, Midlothian and West Lothian Councils.

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 and workshop process which engaged NHS Lothian, Midlothian, City of Edinburgh, East Lothian and West Lothian Councils and a variety of 3rd sector organisations and interested parties.

3.8 Ensuring Equalities

An EqIA completed for the JHPP by the development committee identified no negative equalities implications.

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) ratifies the Lothian Joint Health Protection Plan(JHPP) 2018/20, and
- (b) remits the JHPP to the Chief Executive to sign off.

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Report Contact: Edel M Ryan

Tel No 0131 271 3742

E-mail edel.ryan@midlothian.gov.uk

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>

Appendix 1 - The Lothian Joint Health Protection Plan 2018-2020.