

EVALUATION OF FLU PROGRAMME

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To outline the 2018/19 local flu vaccination programme, including uptake achieved amongst eligible groups.

2. BACKGROUND

The flu vaccine has been recommended in the UK since the late 1960s with the aim of directly protecting those who are at a higher risk of influenza associated complications. The national flu programme runs each year from the beginning of September to the end of March. The flu vaccination programme is commissioned directly by NHS England and is delivered through several providers including GPs, local pharmacies, schools, antenatal care and other settings such as Specialist Substance Misuse providers.

Public Health have an oversight role during the flu programme, co-ordinating the local flu programme and ensuring the vaccine is available to all eligible groups. CCGs have devolved responsibility through the section 7a agreement, to support with the implementation of the flu programme.

Locally the flu vaccination programme is co-ordinated by the Flu Task Group, a multiagency group lead by Public Health. Each year a flu action plan is developed to ensure the flu vaccine was available to all eligible populations in particular at risk groups and that the flu vaccine was widely promoted across the borough.

This report outlines the 2018/19 flu programme, including uptake of the flu vaccine amongst eligible groups, levels of flu and flu like illness and highlights key achievements and challenges.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- **That the Peoples Board note the contents of the evaluation report**

4. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Evaluation of St Helens Flu Programme 2018/19

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