

# **Northumberland Health Protection Assurance and Development Partnership (HPADP)**

## **Terms of Reference**

### **1. Background**

Health protection can be described as preventing or reducing the harm caused by communicable diseases and minimising the health impact of environmental hazards. Health protection is delivered through a system-wide approach which involving a range of partners, including NHS organisations and Directorates within Northumberland County Council. The United Kingdom Health Security Agency (UKHSA) North East Health Protection Team (HPT) delivers a specialist regional health protection response including general health protection information and advice, incident and outbreak management.

Northumberland County Council has a health protection duty, under section 6C of the National Health Service Act 2006. This duty is fulfilled by the Director of Public Health who is responsible for the Council's role in planning for and responding to incidents which present at threat to the public's health. In practice, partners work closely together and the Director of Public Health's role is to seek assurance that appropriate arrangements are in place to protect the health of residents, that these are implemented and are responsive to local health needs.

### **1. Purpose**

The purpose of the Northumberland HPADP is to support the Director of Public Health's statutory oversight and assurance role of health protection and provide assurance to the Northumberland Health and Wellbeing Board that adequate arrangements are in place for the prevention, surveillance, planning and response required to protect the health of the local population.

The HPADP will provide a link between the Health and Wellbeing board and partner organisations which have roles in the delivery of health protection functions.

The HPADP will act as mechanism for the exchange of information, scrutiny and analysis of data between partners who have a role in health protection across Northumberland. The HPADP will be a forum where partners use information to identify and agree developments to strengthen the health protection response in Northumberland, with a particular focus on understanding and reducing the health impact of inequalities.

### **2. Scope**

The HPADP will consider the following topics:

- Prevention and control of communicable diseases
- Immunisation
- Cancer and non-cancer screening

- Health and social care associated infections in community settings
- Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response
- Environmental Hazards

### **3. Objectives**

The HPADP will support the DPH to undertake their health protection role by:

- Providing strategic oversight of the health protection system across Northumberland including health protection intelligence, highlighting risks, inequalities, areas of good practice and areas where performance could be improved
- Identifying and mitigating against inequalities in the delivery of health protection functions across Northumberland and consider vulnerable groups and rural populations
- Co-ordinating public health input into system and place-based plans and policies relevant to health protection, for example, pandemic planning and air quality
- Working collaboratively to share information from different sources, plan and undertake data analysis to understand health protection related inequalities. For example: Immunisation uptake (childhood and adult programmes), communicable disease epidemiology
- Work collaboratively to identify opportunities to improve local health protection arrangements, which may be informed by the Health and Wellbeing Board, DPH Report and Joint Strategic Needs and Assets Assessment and liaise with operational partners to oversee development activity
- Sharing learning from local, regional and national sources including inquiries, incidents, outbreaks, or root cause analyses and explore how this can be embedded within the local health protection system
- Producing and presenting an annual health protection report to the Health and Wellbeing Board
- Lead the local strategic response to a significant health protection incident and if required, HPADP members would coordinate initial additional operational response from their respective organisations. The HPADP would provide the core membership if a multiagency health protection group was required, for example in response to a pandemic

#### 4. Membership

Chair: Consultant in Public Health, Northumberland County Council

Vice Chair TBC

Executive Director of Public Health, Inequalities and Stronger Communities	Northumberland County Council
Business Resilience and Emergency Planning Lead	Northumberland County Council
Public Protection ( <i>rep to be confirmed</i> )	Northumberland County Council
Senior Manager – Commissioning (Adult Social Care)	Northumberland County Council
Director of Education, SEND and Skills	Northumberland County Council
Senior Primary Care Development Manager	North East and North Cumbria ICB
Consultant in Health Protection	UKHSA North East Health Protection Team
Consultant Microbiologist /Director of Infection Prevention and Control (DIPC)	Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Head of Infection Prevention and Control (IPC)	Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Consultant in Public Health	Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Head of Infection Prevention and Control	Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust
Associate Director of Nursing and Quality	Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust
Screening and Immunisation Lead	NHS England
Immunisation Coordinator	NHS England
Screening Coordinator	NHS England
Executive Officer Northumberland LMC	Northumberland Local Medical Committee

## **5. Meetings and conduct of business**

The expectation is that all partner agencies will:

- Support the aims and objectives of the Partnership
- Discuss organisational changes (including any changes in representation) that may impact on collective working
- Report on progress on mutually agreed actions
- Share relevant information and promote collaborative and innovative work
- Consider inequalities as an integral part of their health protection contribution

Meetings will be chaired by the Consultant in Public Health, Northumberland County Council, the Vice Chair, or their appointed deputy

Meetings will be held every two months and focus on one of the key topics included within section 2

Meeting papers will be circulated at least a week prior to meetings and minutes will follow in a timely fashion

Minutes will be produced by the NCC Public Health Team.

## **6. Reporting arrangements**

The Health Protection Assurance and Development Board will report to the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) annually and at any other time as requested by the HWB or at the discretion of the HPADP Chair

## **7. Review**

Terms of reference will be reviewed annually, next review August 2024

**Draft v3 July 2023**