

## Health and Wellbeing Board

18 September 2018

### Children 0-14 : Unintentional Injuries

#### Recommendations:

- The HWBB is asked to support the development of a multi-agency steering group which will drive forward a three year accident prevention action plan;
- The HWBB to agree the terms of reference and governance arrangements for this steering group, including reporting back to the HWBB, as well as other key strategic forums, (Warwickshire Children's Safeguarding Board, Children's Transformation Partnership Board, Children's Joint Commissioning Board).

#### 1. Background:

In Warwickshire, there has been a rise in childhood hospital admissions over the past few years. As a Local authority we have a responsibility to deliver on the Public Health Outcomes Framework indicator 2.7: to reduce hospital admissions from unintentional and deliberate injuries for children and young people. To that end a small multi-agency working group is currently driving this agenda forward including representation from Public Health, Fire and Rescue, Family Nurse Partnership, South Warwickshire CCG, Warwick hospital A & E and Citizens Advice Bureau.

#### 2. Outline of the position in Warwickshire:

Hospital admissions following an injury amongst 0-4 year olds and 0-14 year olds are currently significantly higher than the national and regional averages and higher than the majority of our statistical neighbours. There has been a notable rise in these admissions since 2012/13.

Over the five year period injuries of 0-14 year olds accounted for 44% for all Warwickshire's attendances, and 16.4% of hospital admissions. Rate of A&E attendance for injuries were generally higher amongst 0-14 year old males. Contrary to national evidence, the data showed a weak correlation between A & E attendance for injuries and deprivation in Warwickshire.

The majority of A&E attendances occurred at home (77%, 0-4 year olds, 57% 0-14 year olds). Head injuries accounted for over half of all under one year olds attending A&E for injury, followed by soft tissues injuries and burns/scalds. Amongst 0-4 year olds, 29% had head injuries, followed by lacerations (18%) and soft tissue damage (17%). The main reason for attendance amongst 0-14 year olds was due to soft tissue inflammation (30%), dislocations/fracture (18%) and 15% for head injuries.

The main type of injury that resulted in admission to hospital in 0-14 year olds in Warwickshire was injuries to the head (31% of admissions), injuries to the elbow and forearm (16%) and poisoning (11%).

A full report on injuries leading to a hospital admission in 0-14 year olds in Warwickshire is on the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2018 website:

<http://hwb.warwickshire.gov.uk/2018/06/28/injuries-leading-to-a-hospital-admission-in-0-14-year-olds-in-warwickshire/>

### 3. A collaborative approach:

A Stakeholder workshop was held on 5th June 2018 (during Child Safety Week 2018) and facilitated by Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT), which focused on how partners can work better together to prevent unintentional injuries to under 5's in Warwickshire. The aims and objectives were:

- to look at the Warwickshire picture relating to injuries and prevention;
- develop a collaborative ownership and commitment to action from partners across all sectors;
- agree priority actions for Warwickshire;
- to celebrate the work being undertaken each day by colleagues across the agencies; and
- promote and advertise the Making Every Contact Count training opportunity.

**3.1 Outcomes of the workshop:** the workshop identified the following recommendations, all of which are in line with Public Health England, ROSPA and CAPT evidence based guidance:

1. **Provide strategic leadership:** through a multi-agency steering group with a clear link of governance to the HWBB and other relevant strategic forums;
2. **Develop the MECC workforce** to ensure consistent accident prevention knowledge and understanding with frontline 0-5 multi-agency practitioners through tailored MECC training;
3. **Focus on five key injuries:** carry out further analysis of hospital data in partnership with A&E departments/CCG's and Public Health Coventry;
4. **Commissioned contracts/services** to include unintentional injuries prevention responsibilities.

The workshop concluded that reducing unintentional injuries requires a **whole system approach** to address the key determinants. The local authority, DCS, DPH together with CCGs, STPs as well as Third Sector partners are in an ideal position to provide strategic leadership for injury prevention through focused planning, coordination or services and commissioning to support the necessary collaborative approach for this task. **A copy of the workshop report is available as an Appendix.**

#### 4. Evidence for preventable work:

Evidence suggests that most unintentional injuries are preventable through increased awareness, improvements in the home environment and greater product safety. Research has found that home safety interventions and the use of the injury prevention briefing increase the use of smoke alarms and stair gates, promotion of safe hot tap water temperatures, fire escape planning and storage of medicines and household products. This aligns well with the Warwickshire's Making Every Contact Count commitment.

Our existing programmes and services present excellent opportunities to drive reductions in unintentional injuries. For example, there are opportunities to integrate safety advice within all contacts with parents - taking a multi-agency MECC approach to tackling this priority agenda.

We need to work closely with Coventry, which also has significantly higher rates of 0-4 and 0-14's childhood admissions following an injury, to share findings in relation to UHCW admissions and to collaborate, as far as possible, on prevention approaches, evidence of impact and learning.

#### 5. Outline work programme for multi agency group.

The stakeholder workshop confirmed the importance of a partnership approach to this priority agenda, with the focus in the first instance, being primarily on the 0-5 accident prevention. Subject to approval of HWBB, the first steering group meeting would be convened in October 2018 and would develop a three year action plan focused on the following areas:

Areas of focus
1. Further understand the admissions data at each of the hospitals to discern internal processes and practices and explanations as to why the rates of admissions are so high and understand the threshold for admissions;
2. Develop an integrated MECC (with specific child accident prevention training incorporated) course for all frontline 0-5 multi-agency practitioners who have contact with families 0-5.
3. Facilitate partnership working to reach professionals who have an interest in child accident prevention and consider how they could incorporate this into their current practices.
Indicators of success
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Admissions at each of the three hospital sites (GEH, UHCW, SWFT) are fully understood ;</li> <li>Admissions processes improved to reduce admissions</li> <li>A new module of child accident prevention training is incorporated into the</li> </ul>

existing MECC programme

- Front line practitioners who have contact with families 0-5 received the enhanced training
- Local councils (road safety, child death overview panels, trading standards, libraries), public health, health services, fire and community police, housing associations, voluntary and community groups are fully engaged in promoting child accident prevention strategies in their practice.
- Evidence of an effective marketing and communications campaign to improve risk assessment and increase accident prevention awareness.

## 6 Timescales associated with the decision and the next steps

- Establish and hold first multiagency steering group, October 2018.
- Develop three year action plan, January 2019
- Multiagency and health and Wellbeing Board endorsement of the action Plan January – March 2019
- Action Plan implementation March 2019 - March 2020
- Six monthly update reports to Health and Wellbeing Board From January 2019

## 7. Appendices

- Injuries leading to a hospital admission in 0-14 year olds in Warwickshire - a review of hospital episode statistic data.
- Workshop report: Safe Children: together we've got this! Workshop report (5th June 2018).

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