

Cabinet

6 March 2025

Coventry and Warwickshire Health Protection Strategy 2025 - 2030

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

1. Approves the Coventry and Warwickshire Health Protection Strategy 2025 - 2030 as set out in Appendix 1 to this report.
2. Authorises the Director of Public Health in consultation with Executive Director for Social Care and Health and the Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Health to develop and implement a detailed action plan to deliver the Strategy.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 Coventry City Council and Warwickshire County Council are the leads for the development of the refreshed system-wide Coventry and Warwickshire Health Protection Strategy 2025-30 (Appendix 1).
- 1.2 Alongside the key strategic functions of the health protection system, four key strategic priority areas have been identified. These are
 1. Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and Blood Borne Viruses,
 2. Population immunisations,
 3. Reducing health harms from environmental hazards
 4. Tuberculosis.
- 1.3 The strategy has undergone extensive consultation via the Coventry and Warwickshire Health Protection Committee in January 2025, engagement with key partners and a professional stakeholders survey.

2. Financial Implications

- 2.1 There are no additional financial implications arising from this report. Allocation of resource to support implementation of strategy priorities will be met from the Public Health grant and will be considered as part of the accompanying delivery action plan.

3. Environmental Implications

- 3.1 One of the focus areas for the strategy will be reducing health harms from environmental hazards and we will continue to work with relevant teams within the County and District and Borough Councils including those involved in climate change, sustainability and environmental health to ensure the strategy is aligned to ongoing work in these areas.

4. Supporting Information

- 4.1 The Health and Social Care Act 2012 brought Public Health related statutory functions within the remit of Local Government, which includes an assurance function around “Health Protection”. The duties in relation to health protection are set out in the Local Authorities (Public Health Functions and Entry to Premises by Local Healthwatch Representatives) Regulations 2013 (regulation 8) which refers to arrangements to deal with the following matters:

- infectious disease
- environmental hazards and contamination
- extreme weather events

There is a system-wide Coventry and Warwickshire Health Protection Committee which coordinates work for the delivery of these functions.

- 4.2 The refreshed Coventry and Warwickshire Health Protection Strategy 2025-30 is a system-wide strategy. The vision is that all people are protected from infectious diseases and environmental hazards, and when such hazards occur, the impacts are minimised. Key strategic functions of the health protection system include:

- Outbreak and Incident response
- Emergency Planning Preparedness and Response/EPRR (including pandemic preparedness)
- Infection prevention and control (IPC)
- Prevention and health promotion – Sexual health and Oral Health.

- 4.3. Alongside the key strategic functions of the system, **four key priorities** and challenges will shape the priorities for this strategy. These are:

1. Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and Blood Borne Viruses
2. Population immunisations
3. Reducing health harms from environmental hazards
4. Tuberculosis

- 4.4. Two cross-cutting themes underpin the refreshed strategy: health equity and Anti-Microbial Resistance. This reflects the importance of these issues throughout the health protection priorities. Each theme within the strategy has considered health equity and inequalities and reference is made within the strategy to those issues. As the detailed delivery plan is developed, equality

impact assessments will be considered and undertaken where necessary in respect of specific activities.

- 4.5. A strategic refresh point is planned for 2027/28. At this time the strategy can update the system on focus area progress and enable strategic plans to accommodate emerging health protection issues. The Health in All Policies approach and the Health Equity Assessment Tool (HEAT) will be used to proactively identify issues in respect of access to services across the priority themes. The tool includes consideration of service user protected characteristics, socio-economic deprivation, geography and inclusion health group membership. The outputs will be used to tailor services to specific groups with system partners.
- 4.6. A detailed action plan will be produced to accompany this strategy alongside monitoring key measures of success.
- 4.7. System-wide professional stakeholder engagement for the strategy took place at the Coventry and Warwickshire Health Protection Committee in January 2025. In addition, stakeholders were also asked to complete a survey to capture their views on the strategy content which will be incorporated into the final version of the strategy.

5. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

- 5.1 Subject to Cabinet approval, the launch of the Health Protection Strategy 2025-30 will take place in March 2025.

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Coventry and Warwickshire Health Protection Strategy 2025 - 2030

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The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Local Member(s): N/A This is a countywide report

Other members: Councillors Jo Barker, John Holland, Tracey Drew, and Kate Rolfe