

**Manchester City Council
Report for Resolution**

Report To: Health and Well-being Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 4 February 2010

Subject: NHS Manchester Update

Report of: NHS Manchester

Purpose of report

To provide Members of the Committee with an overview of developments across the Primary Care Trust.

Recommendations

To note the report

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Wards Affected:

All

Background documents (available for public inspection):



Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee
NHS Manchester Update: February 2010

This is the monthly update paper produced by NHS Manchester for the Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee. NHS Manchester is responsible for ensuring funding for health services is targeted where it is needed the most, that NHS care is of the highest standards and ultimately that local people lead longer, healthier lives. The update covers a range of topics that may be of interest to the Committee.

1. Alcohol pricing

The NHS Manchester Board has agreed to support a national campaign to establish a minimum price per unit for alcohol. The campaign has been developed in partnership with the Core Cities, a collaborative of ten primary care trusts in England's major cities outside London, and complements activity taking place in Greater Manchester on the same theme. Support for legislation is informed by strong evidence that increasing the price of alcohol would reduce consumption levels. Manchester has high levels of residents who drink to hazardous or harmful levels and estimates suggest new rules on alcohol pricing could significantly reduce deaths from related illnesses as well as reducing violent crime. The Core Cities will lobby for legislation to be passed before April 2011 prohibiting the sale of alcohol for less than 50p per unit.

2. Communications and engagement strategy

NHS Manchester's Board has approved a new communications and engagement strategy, which is being submitted as part of the national World Class Commissioning assessment of primary care trusts' effectiveness. The strategy sets out our approach to communicating and engaging with local communities, building on the Talking Health programme and other recent developments. NHS Manchester recognises this as a key aspect of its work and the strategy identifies its role in developing services that are sustainable for the future as one of its main priorities. It also includes a strong emphasis on engaging local people in making decisions about their healthcare and empowering people to lead healthier lives. Progress in delivering the strategy will be monitored quarterly by the Board.

3. Swine flu

The NHS response to the swine flu outbreak has been further scaled down, with the closure of the antiviral collection point at Gorton Clinic. The role of the antiviral collection point was to distribute antiviral medication to 'flu friends' collecting the medication on behalf of patients diagnosed with probable swine flu through the National Pandemic Flu Service. This role is now being provided on a smaller scale by six pharmacies across the city as demand has fallen considerably over the last few months.

At one stage of the outbreak, there were three dedicated antiviral collection points at Gorton, the Vallance Centre in Ardwick and Baguley Clinic. Although it is very encouraging that the number of reported cases has declined rapidly, as reported to the Committee last month it remains important that priority groups receive the swine flu vaccine to provide protection from future outbreaks.

Appendix 1: Forward Plan

The Forward Plan is an overview of forthcoming milestones for NHS Manchester.

Timescale	Issue	Summary
29 January 2010	World Class Commissioning submission`	NHS Manchester submits evidence to the Department of Health for its second annual assessment under the World Class Commissioning programme.
Spring 2010	New GP services launch in Longsight and Levenshulme	Two further new services due to be established to increase availability of GP appointments.
April 2010	World Class Commissioning assessment panel	NHS Manchester Board interviewed by external assessors as part of a detailed review of progress on commissioning against national measures.
Summer 2010	World Class Commissioning results	Department of Health publishes its review of each PCT's effectiveness as a commissioner of NHS services