
Select Committee on Health and Adult Social Care (HASC) - 18 November 2010

Report of the Joint Director of Public Health

'2009 INFLUENZA PANDEMIC – THE DUDLEY RESPONSE

Purpose of Report

- 1 This report describes the course of the influenza pandemic in Dudley, considering the containment, treatment and vaccination phases; organisational preparedness; the service response; and lessons learned for improving future response to similar threats.

Background

- 2 In April 2009, a new form of influenza emerged in Mexico. The virus was characterised by Center for Disease Control, USA (CDC) as Influenza Type A (H1N1). The World Health Organisation (WHO) declared a pandemic on 11 June 2009.
3. Over the 18 months since then the virus ('swine flu') has become established worldwide. In response to WHO pandemic alerts, the UK, and Dudley's public services, put in place their established pandemic plans.
4. This report includes statistical information to demonstrate the impact on services in Dudley Borough, including the impact on schools derived from schools absence surveillance.

Finance

5. No financial issues arising from this report

Law

6. No legal implications identified.

Equality Impact

- 7.

Recommendation

8. The Committee is recommended to receive and discuss the report in the context of its health scrutiny role.



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