

# **Health Protection Assurance Forum Annual Report 2025**

15 December 2025

# Report overview

Herefordshire's health protection system remains stable:

- Health Protection Assurance Forum
- 'What Good Looks Like' audit finding
- UKHSA – LA – ICB Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
- Partnership and collaborative working between partners

Changes to two report topic areas (AMR & COVID-19 removed and replaced with communicable disease control and emergency planning)

# Key achievements

Well managed outbreaks and outbreak pathways by UKHSA and ICB

NHS screening programmes continue to perform well

Very low tuberculosis cases

Herefordshire has amongst the highest pre-school vax uptake rates in the Midlands

Engagement work to improve childhood vaccination uptake inc. LAC

Hfdshire early adopter site for bowel screening threshold change

Collaborative and cohesive partnership working

STI diagnoses in people accessing sexual health service remains low

# Example: 'What Good Looks Like' Audit

## 105 Standards: 99 Fully Met

### 5 Partially met

- Single adverse weather plan
- Supporting people with tuberculosis (TB) who are experiencing homeless and no recourse to public funds
- Targeting of underdiagnosed and “under engaged” populations with TB.
- Unregistered workers trained to support surge outbreak response
- Infection Prevention and Control Ratings for care homes

### 1 not met

Increase MMR second dose to 95%



# Challenges and risks

Vaccine preventable disease

Decline in cervical screening uptake in 24-29 year olds

Increasing referrals into drug and alcohol service

Drug related deaths

Decline in COVID-19 vaccination

Increase in synthetic opioids and contaminated drugs

Breast screening location

STI diagnoses in people accessing sexual health service remains low

# Future focus

Implementing 'what good looks like' action plan

Support changes to pre-school childhood immunisations programme

Increase flu vaccination in H&SC workforce

Secure new breast screening site in Hereford City

Implement findings from GIRFT report

Increase in synthetic opioids and contaminated drugs

Increase Hep B vaccination in drug & alcohol services

Increase cervical cancer screening uptake

# Questions...