

READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ADULT CARE AND HEALTH SERVICES

TO:	HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD		
DATE:	14 JULY 2017	AGENDA ITEM:	12
TITLE:	TUBERCULOSIS (TB) & ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE (AMR) PROGRAMME UPDATE		
LEAD COUNCILLOR:	COUNCILLOR HOSKIN	PORTFOLIO:	HEALTH
SERVICE:	WELLBEING	WARDS:	BOROUGH WIDE
LEAD OFFICER:	JO JEFFERIES	TEL:	01344 352745
JOB TITLE:	CONSULTANT IN PUBLIC HEALTH PROTECTION	E-MAIL:	Jo.Jefferies@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an information update to Reading Health and Wellbeing board on Tuberculosis (TB) and Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) programme activities and receive continued support for TB and AMR public engagement.
- 1.2 A strong TB pathway with good treatment completion will contribute to prevention and control of Multi-drug resistant TB and in doing so will also preserve antimicrobials for where they are most needed. Strong antimicrobial stewardship should help to ensure that antibiotics can continue to effectively treat latent and active TB.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 That the Health and Wellbeing Board continues to support public engagement for Tuberculosis (TB) and Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) programmes.

3. POLICY CONTEXT

- 3.1 The Collaborative TB Strategy for England sets out ten key aims to achieve a year-on-year decrease in incidence, a reduction in health inequalities and, ultimately, the elimination of TB as a public health problem in England. Reading's Health & Wellbeing Strategy aims to promote and protect the health of all communities, particularly those disadvantaged and TB is seen as a cause of health inequality in Reading. Antimicrobial resistance is one of the biggest challenges facing the world as evidenced by the high level meeting of the United Nations in September 2016, only the fourth time a health issue has been taken up by the UN General Assembly. The UK Five Year Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy, published in 2013 aims to reduce the development and spread of AMR by improving the knowledge and understanding of AMR, conserving the effectiveness of existing treatments and stimulating the development of new antibiotics, diagnostics and novel therapies.
- 3.2 Reducing number of people living with Tuberculosis (TB) is identified as 'Priority 8' in Reading Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2017-2020. By actively promoting latent TB

testing to eligible new entrants to the UK and tackling TB in underserved communities, the local authority, in partnership with other stakeholders can help reduce health inequalities in Reading.

3.3 Public Health Outcome Framework (PHOF) indicators, which councils are required 'to have regard to:

- 3.05ii - TB incidence
- 3.08 - Adjusted antibiotic prescribing in primary care by the NHS

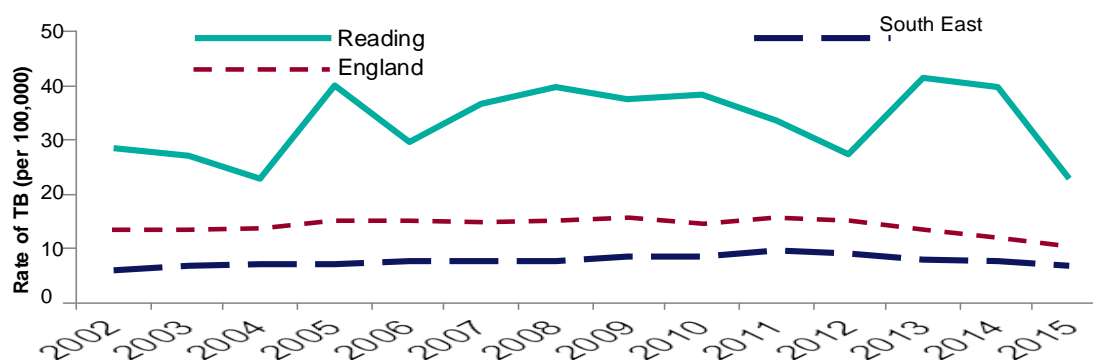
In addition the following indicators are of interest:

- TB Strategy Monitoring Indicators (by PHE Centre)
- Antibiotic Guardians per 100,000 population per calendar year by CCG (part of AMR local indicators set)

4. THE PROPOSAL

4.1 Current Position: Recent data from Public Health England shows that incidence of TB in Reading between 2002 to 2015 has been consistently higher than the England and South East average (Fig.1). Latest data from 2015 suggests that there were 37 cases of TB notified in residents of Reading, a rate of 23 per 100,000 populations. Six wards in Reading had greater than eight cases on average between 2013 and 2015. The wards with highest incidence were Park, Abbey and Whitley. Most cases occurred in those aged 40-49 years old, with a median age of 41 years old. In 2015, 22% of non-UK born cases were diagnosed within 2 years of entry, and 19% 2-5years since entry. Further information is attached as Appendix A- PHE Reading TB profile 2015.

Figure 1: Annual TB incidence rate 2002-2015



"South Reading CCG obtained funding from NHS England in late 2015 to improve the pathway into the New Entrant Screening Service and increase testing rates. Since the launch of the new LTBI screening referral system in South Reading practices in early 2016 there has been a substantial increase in testing. The new entrant screening service has invited 271 eligible people for latent TB screening, of whom 85% were tested, with a positivity rate of 20%. The work was recently presented at the National TB Nursing conference and the success of partnership working in Reading was noted."

4.2 A TB Advocacy, Communication and Social Mobilisation plan has been developed by a multi-agency group of local stakeholders including NHS TB teams, Public Health and

Communications Officers from Reading Borough Council and South Reading CCG and implemented to improve awareness of active and latent TB locally, reduce stigma and improve access to testing and treatment. The plan draws heavily on Latent TB Toolkit, national guidance produced by TB Alert and PHE.

- 4.3 The wellbeing team has been undertaking a range of information, consultation and engagement activities which support the delivery of actions set out in the Health and Wellbeing Action Plan and has been working to support the three building blocks of Health and Wellbeing Strategy including safeguarding vulnerable adults and children, recognising and supporting all carers and high quality coordinated information on TB to support wellbeing. The team has been developing links with community groups to identify eligible carers during community health and wellbeing events and encouraging them to access the LTB screening services.
- 4.4 A TB awareness workshop session for local authority staffs was organised. There were 28 participants from different departments including Children, Education and Early Help services, Corporate services, Environment & Neighbourhood services and Adult care & Health services. The outcomes of the session will be used to develop internal strategy and action plan to enable front-line RBC staff to raise awareness of TB and support those from under-served groups to access Latent TB testing and treatment.
- 4.5 Development and delivery of the "Sleeping TB" (Latent TB) campaign. Latent TB campaign leaflets & posters were disseminated and displayed in libraries, children's centres and leisure centres in Reading to ensure information about latent TB is cascaded to key population groups.
- 4.6 Key information on active and latent TB and map of high risk countries has been made available on Reading Services Guide and JSNA profile to facilitate public access to TB information.
- 4.7 Reading Borough Council has released new JSNA chapters on AMR during European Antibiotic Resistance Awareness Week (EARAW) 2016, explaining the concepts of antimicrobial resistance and stewardship, advocating for action at all levels and calling for support from the highest level of leadership.
- 4.8 A TB awareness event for healthcare workers was held in Reading in January 2016. The event, organised by CCG and delivered in conjunction with TB nurses, PHE and LA Public Health, aimed to raise awareness of TB and the new entrant screening service among professionals working in Reading and in doing so to improve referrals into NESS and the TB service.
- 4.9 'World TB Day' promotion event was organised in Broad St Mall, Reading on 24th March 2017 with the ultimate goal being to improve latent TB detection. The event was delivered in collaboration with South Reading CCG and the TB service at Royal Berkshire Hospital, linking with Reading Walk-in Centre and local community groups to advocate latent TB testing for eligible new entrants.
- 4.10 Latent TB community engagement events have been organised by the Wellbeing team during Southcote Fair and Women's World Café Day event to raise public awareness on latent TB and New entrant screening Services (NESS).
- 4.11 The Reading Wellbeing team has been working with South Reading Clinical Commissioning Group, Health Watch Reading and Public Health Shared team to facilitate a TB Knowledge, attitude and belief survey among communities bearing an

increased burden of TB in South Reading. Park, Katesgrove, Whitley and Abbey wards have historically had the highest incidence of TB in Reading. The groups bearing the highest burden of TB in Reading are those born or who have spent significant time in India, Pakistan and Nepal, however people from any country where the incidence of TB is high are at risk.

The survey questionnaire has been agreed and it is expected that the roll out will take place over the summer. Funding for the survey has been agreed in principle by South Reading CCG.

- 4.12 A new LTBI project manager post within South Reading CCG will enable continued engagement with GP practices, the new entrant screening service at RBH and target communities with the aim of improving access to the service, reducing do-not-attend appointments and reducing stigma which sometimes surrounds TB. This post facilitates partnership working with Reading Borough Council, primary care and the third sector in Reading and will work closely with the LTBI programme manager in Slough CCG to further embed new entrant screening through the LTBI Operations Group.
- 4.13 The LTBI Operations Group is a Berkshire-wide group which will ensure the delivery of LTBI objectives through collaborative working across Providers, CCG, Primary Care and local authority Public Health. This group will be administrated by the LTBI programme and project managers in Slough and South Reading CCGs and report to the Berkshire TB Strategy Group and to CCG as commissioners of the new entrant screening service.
- 4.14 Reading Borough Council participated in multi-agency pan-Berkshire Antibiotic Guardian campaign during European Antibiotic Awareness Week in November 2016, this encouraged professionals and the public to take one of a number of pledge in order to become an Antibiotic Guardian. South Reading CCG demonstrated a particularly significant increase, from 29.7 per 1000,000 in 2015 to 117 per 100,000 in 2016, one of the largest increases in the country. Within Berkshire, South Reading achieved the highest numbers of Guardians overall.
- 4.15 Berkshire AMR Stewardship Network has been established which aims to review local indicators, share good practice and focus and coordinate AMS strategy across the whole of Berkshire in both secondary and primary care. The group's submission on community engagement outlining Antibiotic Guardian campaign recently won recognition as a highly commended project at the National 2016 Antibiotic Guardian Awards. <http://antibioticguardian.com/antibiotic-guardian-awards-2017-winners/>
- 4.16 There is a need for continued professional and public engagement in line with NICE AMS Guidance NG63 "Antimicrobial stewardship: changing risk-related behaviours in the general population". The HWB is asked to support stakeholders to promote hand hygiene and increase understanding of the need for good antimicrobial stewardship in line with this guidance by continuing to encourage members of all HWB partners to pledge as Antibiotic Guardians and to support wider engagement with young people through schools, colleges and other settings in 2017.

5. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC AIMS

5.1 The activities contribute to the following Council's strategic aims:

- To promote equality, social inclusion and a safe and healthy environment for all
- Ensures that all vulnerable residents are protected and cared for
- Contributes to the narrowing of health gaps in Reading

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION

6.1 As described in section 4 above a range of community engagement and information promotion activities have been undertaken on TB and AMR including:

- Sleeping TB campaign
- Information provision via the Reading JSNA
- Stakeholder awareness raising events
- 'World TB Day' promotion
- Berkshire Antibiotic Guardian campaign
- Facilitation of a TB Knowledge, attitude and belief survey

Community engagement work in respect to TB has and will continue to focus on increasing awareness about TB, latent TB and NES services via the development and delivery of impactful, public-facing communication and social marketing campaign to increase awareness of active and latent TB and local services among under-served groups

7. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

7.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is not relevant to TB and AMR programmes. Although no formal EIA has been undertaken by the local authority, the latent TB communication and engagement plan was developed to take account of the ethnicity of the target groups and resources were developed in four different languages using language and images that the target populations could relate to.

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 No legal implications of the Latent TB awareness plan.

9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There has not been any financial implication on Reading Borough Council beyond staff time for the TB or AMS programmes. The new entrant screening service is funded by the four West of Berkshire CCGs. The communications and engagement campaign resources were funded by South Reading and Slough CCGs through funding received from NHS England to improve access to latent TB screening in high incidence CCG areas.

The LTBI Project Manager post is being funded by South Reading CCG and will work in partnership with Reading Borough Council, primary care and the third sector in Reading.

The Berkshire AMS Network receives no funding and remains reliant on the collaborative working of its members to carry out community engagement around AMR. Funding opportunities to increase this work are being sought.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- [Tackling TB Local Government's Public Health Role, LGA & PHE, 2014](#)
- [Latent TB Toolkit, PHE & TB Alert, 2016](#)
- [Tackling TB in Underserved Population: A Resource for TB Control Boards and their partners, PHE, 2017](#)
- [Tuberculosis Guideline NG33, NICE, January 2016](#)

- [Collaborative TB Strategy for England: 2015 to 2020, NHE & PHE, 2015](#)
- [The UK Five Year Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy, DH & DEFRA, 2013](#)
- [Antimicrobial stewardship: changing risk-related behaviours in the general population, NG63, NICE January 2017](#)
- [National Antibiotic Guardian Campaign](#)
- [Summary of Antibiotic Guardian campaign in Berkshire](#)