



**REPORT TO: MORAY INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD ON THURSDAY 24
SEPTEMBER 2020**

SUBJECT: FLU IMMUNISATION DELIVERY PLAN - MORAY UPDATE

BY: SEAN COADY, HEAD OF SERVICE

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1. To inform the Board on the current position of the Flu Immunisation Delivery Plan for Moray 2020.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1. It is recommended that the Moray Integration Joint Board (MIJB):

- i) **Note the locality based and mixed model arrangements to deliver the flu immunisation programme in Moray in 2020.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Vaccination Transformation Programme (VTP) is one of six work streams included in the Health and Social Care Moray (HSCM) Primary Care Improvement Plan (PCIP), with the aim to redesign local vaccination delivery and to move vaccination services out of general practice to NHS Delivery.
- 3.2 The VTP is divided into five different workstreams, this includes influenza.
- 3.3 Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, all immunisation programmes were delivered through a mixed model, at a local level, consisting of: dedicated immunisation teams (pre-school and school); secondary care paediatric services, midwifery services and general practice.
- 3.4 At a national level and in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, it has been clarified and confirmed that the VTP be extended for a further year, due for completion by March 2022.

- 3.5 The COVID-19 pandemic has clearly posed many additional challenges, as per Scottish Government (SG) directive issued in April 2020, clear instruction has been given, that during this time, it is crucial to maintain national immunisation programmes, where safely and practicably possible. That this will assist in avoiding outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases and allow to provide important protection to children and other vulnerable groups. It will also avoid increasing further, the number of patients requiring health services and hospitalisation from vaccine preventable diseases.
- 3.6 Anecdotal evidence suggests that the uptake of immunisation across pre-school, school and vulnerable adult populations groups have decreased during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 3.7 For this year's national Flu Immunisation Programme there are additional population groups/cohorts to be offered the vaccine i.e 55 – 64 years olds. Due to the impact of COVID-19 it is expected there will be a significant increased uptake across all eligible population groups for flu immunisation this Autumn and Winter.
- 3.8 Through the remobilisation of services a locality based and mixed model for flu immunisation delivery has been adopted, with HSCM working in partnership with all GP practices to deliver the flu immunisation programme in a variety of venues i.e. community hospitals, community and church halls.
- 3.9 For each of the four localities (Buckie, Cullen and Fochabers; Elgin; Forres and Lossiemouth; and Keith and Speyside) detailed Locality Flu Immunisation Delivery Plans are in place.
- 3.10 The flu immunisation delivery programme will commence on the 29 September 2020 for a period of no less than three months (December 2020).

4. KEY MATTERS RELEVANT TO RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1. Each locality, led by the Chief Nurse, Locality Manager and Immunisation Co-ordinator, will undertake to deliver flu immunisations utilising the resources made available to them.
- 4.2 A Lead Nurse will be based at each flu immunisation venue, with Health Visiting and School Nursing; and District Nursing teams contributing to this role and responsibility.
- 4.3 Additional staff i.e. NHS Grampian Nurse Bank; General Practice and FY2's (2nd year of doctor training after graduation from medical school) are being actively recruited to help deliver the flu immunisation programme.
- 4.4 Community Midwives will offer and deliver flu immunisation to pregnant mothers.

- 4.5 District Nurses will continue to immunise patients in nursing homes and care establishments as well as the housebound.
- 4.6 The Pre-school Immunisation and School Immunisation Teams will continue to immunise infants, pre-school and school aged children.
- 4.7 The Peer to Peer Programme and Grampian Occupational Health Services will offer and deliver flu immunisation to health and social care staff.
- 4.8 The national Scottish Immunisation and Recall System (SIRS) programme is to be adopted to schedule all flu immunisation appointments.
- 4.9 A Grampian Communication Plan is in place and includes a dedicated Flu Call Centre (01224 555999) to deal with any questions/queries and to process any change requests to appointment days/time. The Flu Call Centre telephone number will also be detailed on patient flu immunisation letters that will be sent centrally. The Flu Call Centre will go live in due course as part of the Grampian Flu Communication Plan 2020.
- 4.10 At the current time, the staffing levels required to deliver flu immunisation are positive for Elgin and the main towns across Moray i.e. Buckie and Forres, significant effort continues to be made, by HSCM, to secure safe staffing levels for rural and remote localities.
- 4.11 The learning from the delivery of the 2020 flu immunisation programme will aid to inform a sustainable way of delivering the programme in 2021 and beyond.

5 SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP)) and Moray Integration Joint Board Strategic Plan “Moray Partners in Care 2019 – 2029”

In line with the Health and Social Care Moray Integration Scheme, prepared in line with the requirements of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014. Effective governance arrangements support the delivery of plans.

(b) Policy and Legal

Complies with the terms of the Integration Scheme.

(c) Financial implications

Financial resource required to deliver the flu immunisation programme are included and will be met within the NHSG Remobilisation Plan and the HSCM Primary Care Improvement Plan. No finalised costs are available as yet.

(d) Risk Implications and Mitigation

If HSCM is unsuccessful in recruiting the workforce numbers to deliver the flu immunisation programme there may be a very short delay in ensuring all eligible population groups receive the vaccine. Any such groups will be offered appointments as soon as practical and safe to do so.

(e) Staffing Implications

The co-ordination and delivery of a mass flu immunisation programme, during a pandemic, sets a significant workforce resource challenge for HSCM.

(f) Property

None arising directly from this report.

(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact

An Equalities Impact Assessment is not required because there are no service, policy or organisational changes being proposed.

(h) Consultations

The Head of Service and Chief Financial have been consulted on this report and their comments incorporated.

6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 Delivery of the flu immunisation programme with additional cohorts, the anticipated increase in demand, the continued impact of Covid-19 and the remobilisation of services is a significant challenge. This report outlines the plan that has been progressed to date and recommends that the MIJB note the locality based and mixed model to deliver the flu immunisation programme in Moray in 2020.**

Author of Report: Tracey Gervaise, Children & Families Health Services Lead Moray
Background Papers: with author
Ref: