

## Pandemic Flu: Statement of Readiness

**Board Meeting**

**1 September 2009**

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Author(s)/Presenter and title	Dr Sue Greig Pandemic Flu: Statement of readiness
Sponsor Director	Dr Jeremy Wight
Purpose of Paper	
<p>To provide assurance to NHS Sheffield Board on NHS Sheffield's state of readiness, and that of the wider Sheffield health and social care economy, with respect to Pandemic Flu. The plan is attached in the supporting information pack for Board members. Appendices to the plan are available on request from the PCT.</p>	
Key Messages	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All NHS organisations are required by DH to formally publish a statement of readiness against the DH Surge and HR guidance at their September Board meeting.</li> <li>• NHS Sheffield's Pandemic Influenza Plan has been comprehensively revised in line with all up to date DH guidance, including surge and HR guidance.</li> <li>• All health and social care organisations have assured NHS Sheffield that they have detailed plans to manage demand and capacity during such a period, in line with the DH guidance on Surge Management.</li> <li>• A commissioner led Sheffield Operational Response Forum has been established to coordinate strategic planning and decision making during the surge period</li> </ul>	
Strategic/Performance implications including links to Achieving Balanced Health	
<p>Business continuity plans are in place which will minimise any adverse impact on performance.</p>	
Resource Implications (including Revenue, Capital, Staffing etc.)	
<p>£500,000 has been identified to cover response to date and the cost of a vaccination programme.</p> <p>A wave of swine flu affecting large numbers in Sheffield could lead to major additional activity and hence cost as local providers.</p>	
Links to Targets eg Business Plan, UoR, WCC, SfBH, NHSLA, IG Toolkit, and BAF	
<p>BP 1.33: Ensure NHSS has emergency plans that are fit for purpose, and tested, cognisant of NHSS role as lead PCT within LRF.</p>	

<b>Associated Risks to the PCT</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential significant financial risk.</li> <li>• Potentially significant numbers of deaths, impacting on high level targets.</li> <li>• Potential risk to achievement of access and other targets</li> <li>• Potential reputational risk</li> </ul>
<b>Consultation Requirements</b>
<p>Sheffield's Pandemic Flu Plan includes detailed plans for ongoing communications and community engagement</p>
<b>Equality/Diversity Impact</b>
<b>Recommendations</b>
<p>The Board is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Note the action taken and being taken.</li> <li>• Endorse the assurance provided in the plans set out above and the revised Pandemic Flu Plan August 2009 with respect to NHS Sheffield's state of readiness against the DH Surge and HR guidance.</li> </ul>

## PANDEMIC INFLUENZA : STATEMENT OF READINESS

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### 1 Introduction/Background

DH requires all NHS Boards to formally publish a statement of readiness against the DH surge and HR guidance at its September meeting. This paper sets out the steps that have been and are being taken to provide assurance to the Board on NHS Sheffield's state of readiness and that of the wider Sheffield health and social care economy.

### 2 State of Readiness

All NHS organisations have been advised by DH to prepare for a second and potentially more severe wave of the H1N1 virus from autumn 2009 of up to five months duration, and to be at peak preparedness by September 2009. The requirements for all NHS Boards was set out in Ian Dalton's letter of 2 July 2009 and these have all been addressed via NHS Sheffield's Pandemic Flu seven workstreams (which now includes a workstream on the vaccination programme).

### 3 Revised Pandemic Influenza Plan

NHS Sheffield's Interim Pandemic Influenza Plan (January 2009) has been comprehensively revised in the light of all the more recent DH guidance and local experience. The revised plan (August 2009) is attached (Appendix 1).

### 4 Managing demand and capacity (surge guidance)

The Yorkshire and Humber SHA has requested that all NHS and social care organisations individually complete and RAG rate a capacity planning template by 28 August 2009. The checklist reflects the DH guidance on managing demand and capacity in health care organisations (surge) published in April 2009. As part of the SHA's assurance process the SHA will be holding 'Confirm and Challenge' meetings with the four Lead PCTs on 10 September 2009 (including NHS Sheffield in its role as lead PCT for South Yorkshire). The meetings will review plans that have been developed in partnership with local partners including members of the local resilience forums and re affirm 'command and control' arrangements in the four sub regions.

NHS Sheffield is responsible both for our individual completion of the checklist and for coordination of response across the health and social care economy. NHS Sheffield is working with partners across the health and social care economy through the Sheffield Pandemic Flu Coordinating Group currently meeting monthly. The seven workstreams leads have the responsibility to ensure that commissioning and NHS provider assessments on preparedness are shared and understood and

any concerns addressed. This has been clarified in revised roles and responsibilities for workstream leads circulated on 18 August 2009 (attached - Appendix 2).

## 5 Sheffield Pandemic Flu Operational Response Group

A commissioner led Pandemic Flu Operational Response Group has also been established to act as a forum for sharing strategic planning and decision making on managing demand and capacity across the health and social care economy. The first meeting of this group took place on 24 August 2009. The key outputs from the first meeting were;

- An agreement to model discharges and average length of stay associated with forecast demand on admissions – This will assist Provider Services (PS) and Sheffield City Council (SCC) services respond to enable increased bed capacity in secondary care. All providers have given assurance on surge planning and have worked on the same forecasts for considering demand.
- The coordination of SCC crisis teams, consortia and PS to enable more effective sector working
- Agreement on Communications outputs, including to the third sector
- A standardised situation report for ensuring all providers, including GPs, SCC and third sector are aware of the daily activity and pressures during the next expected surge. This can be built on the Flucon report.
- Agreements on defining essential services.
- Sharing of first draft for discussion on contracting and commercial considerations for responding to providers during a surge.
- Paediatric critical care scaling up to be coordinated via network and paper to be available in September on options.

This work forms part of the secondary care and provider management workstream led by NHS Sheffield Director of Performance which covers demand and capacity planning for all health and social care providers.

Coordination of completion of the SHA demand and capacity planning template with respect to primary and community care, communications and vaccination programme are the responsibility of the respective NHS Sheffield workstream leads. At the workstream leads meeting on 27 August 2009 assessments against the SHA capacity planning template for these areas will be shared and plans put in place to address any areas of concern.

## 6 Human Resources Guidance

The Workforce workstream has updated the pandemic flu plan in line with the NHS Employers/DH *Pandemic flu Human Resources Guidance for the NHS* . At the workstream leads meeting on 27 August 2009 further assessments against DH HR guidance will be shared and plans put in place to address any areas of concern.

## 7 Recommendations

Note the action taken and being taken.

Endorse the assurance provided in the plans set out above and the revised Pandemic Flu Plan August 2009 with respect to NHS Sheffield's state of readiness against the DH Surge and HR guidance.

Paper prepared by Dr Sue Greig

On behalf of Dr Jeremy Wight, Director of Public Health

August 2009