

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde	Paper 26/117
Meeting:	NHSGGC Board Meeting
Meeting Date:	27 August 2026
Title:	Joint Health Protection Plan 2025-2027: Workplan Progress Update
Sponsoring Director:	Dr John O'Dowd, Interim Director of Public Health
Report Author:	Helen Benson, Consultant in Public Health

1. Purpose

The purpose of the attached paper is to:

Provide the NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (NHSGGC) Board with an updated delivery position against the items on the Public Health (Health Protection) Liaison Working Group ("Med Vet") workplan. This workplan is a component of the Greater Glasgow and Clyde Joint Health Protection Plan 2025-2027.

2. Executive Summary

The paper can be summarised as follows:

The [Joint Health Protection Plan](#) (JHPP) provides an overview of health protection (communicable disease and environmental health) priorities, provision and preparedness for the NHS Board area. Over the course of Spring 2025, the previous JHPP underwent review and update by a working group of colleagues from NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Protection and Local Authority Environmental Public Health teams, to finalise the 2025-2027 JHPP.

Though not required by the guidance, the GGC JHPP includes an outline work plan which will be taken forward over the life of this plan by the partner agencies and the wider Public Health (Health Protection) Liaison Working Group. The group have delegated authority from the DPH to develop detailed action plans and timescales for each of these objectives to be progressed over the next two years. Items on the workplan have been chosen as representing a range of health protection topics and activities including preparedness, resilience and public engagement.

BOARD OFFICIAL

Since the endorsement of the JHPP 2025-2027 in summer 2025, individual items on the workplan have been progressed by relevant colleagues, while Med Vet has continued to meet regularly as a group, enabling wider discussion and joint learning.

Status updates of individual workplan items are summarised below, with more detail included in the full paper.

Workplan item	Current Status
1) Following completion of review and revision in 2025, we will test the Incident Management Plan in a full-scale incident management exercise in autumn 2026.	On track – planning work underway for an exercise in October 2026
2) Following publication of updated national guidance for enteric pathogens including Shiga Toxin-producing <i>Escherichia coli</i> (STEC) and Hepatitis A, we will review and revise documentation and procedures to ensure local practice remains in line with national guidance.	On track – local documentation for public health management of hepatitis A cases updated, with update of STEC documentation underway
3) Given the growing threat from avian influenza to commercial flocks, wild birds and the potential for transmission to mammalian species, and following the preparation of single Scottish guidance on zoonotic influenza, we will further progress and finalise joint zoonotic influenza response plans in 2025.	On hold pending availability of national guidance
4) The Greenock Port Health Plan will be reviewed, updated and subject to exercise.	Work on updating and exercising the plan is yet to be progressed.
5) Following a pilot exercise to gather structured patient feedback in 2024, we will continue to work with the NHSGGC Patient Experience and Public Involvement Team to develop and trial methods for gathering feedback from patients and stakeholders.	Following the 2024 pilot to capture feedback from patients and stakeholders we have not actively run a feedback-gathering initiative within the Clinical Public Health team, but continue to explore methods for gathering feedback that are suitable for our stakeholders.
6) After resuming joint training sessions between partners over the course of the last Plan, we will continue to explore and promote opportunities for joint training and CPD.	On track – several joint learning events over the past 12 months with further opportunities planned

Workplan item	Current Status
7) We will work with partners and colleagues in our respective organisations to support the implementation of the Good Food Nation Plan, promoting food security and healthy food environments for our local population.	On track – since endorsement of the JHPP, the Public Health Health Improvement lead for the Good Food Nation Plan has started in post and is coordinating action across NHS GGC
8) We will work with partner organisations to produce and share communications aimed at supporting our population to understand health benefits and minimise risks from animal contact and outdoor activities. These may include but not be limited to animal visitor attractions, countryside visits, wild swimming and other recreational water use.	On track – active discussions with national colleagues to inform the development of local communications

3. Recommendations

The NHSGGC Board is asked to consider the following recommendations:

- Note the achievements in relation to the public health priorities and the planned work to further address these over the remaining duration of the Joint Health Protection Plan.

4. Response Required

This paper is presented for assurance.

5. Impact Assessment

The impact of this paper on NHSGGC's corporate aims, approach to equality and diversity and environmental impact are assessed as follows:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| • Better Health | <u>Positive</u> impact |
| • Better Care | <u>Positive</u> impact |
| • Better Value | <u>Neutral</u> impact |
| • Better Workplace | <u>Neutral</u> impact |
| • Equality & Diversity | <u>Positive</u> impact |
| • Environment | <u>Positive</u> impact |

6. Engagement & Communications

The issues addressed in this paper were subject to the following engagement and communications activity:

This paper has been prepared in discussion with MedVet members and members of Public Health SMT.

7. Governance Route

- Corporate Management Team
- Population Health and Wellbeing Committee

8. Date Prepared & Issued

Paper prepared: 6 July 2026

Paper issued: 19 August 2026

Annual Strategy Update: Joint Health Protection Plan 2025-2026 Workplan items

RAG Status Key

(Based on operational targets reported in latest quarterly assurance report or equivalent)

Green = On target or better

Amber = Some progress

Red = Not started

Grey = No data available or no target set

1. Exercising of the Board Incident Management Plan

Full description of work plan item	Resource & Finance position (on budget/deviation?)	Lead	RAG Status (Based on operational targets reported in latest quarterly assurance report or equivalent)	
Following completion of review and revision in 2025, we will test the Incident Management Plan in a full-scale incident management exercise in autumn 2026	On budget	Helen Benson	Green	
Impact (Planned impact) reported against required content for Joint Health Protection Plans AND NHS GGC's Corporate Aims For indicators/ measurement see RAG status	Current Position		Risks to delivery (Type and description)	Mitigating action required (Detail)
- Health protection: planning infrastructure - Health protection: national and local priorities - Health protection: resources and operational management - Health protection services: capacity and resilience - Better Health	Planning is underway for a full exercise of the Incident Management Plan in Autumn of this year. This will include a full-day participatory exercise to include stakeholders from all relevant agencies. A short-life working group is meeting regularly to plan the exercise, scheduled to take place on October 7th at a central Glasgow venue. Model outbreak scenarios are being reviewed, with plans to choose a scenario and injects that maximise participation from all attendees. Planning for the exercise will include consultation with relevant stakeholders as to their learning needs and those of colleagues in their agency. This will be an in-person event to maximise engagement with the additional benefit of networking between participants.		N/A – planning is on target	N/A

BOARD OFFICIAL

	Following the exercise, an additional shared learning session is planned, to act as a debrief and to share key learning points. This is planned to take place online to maximise participation among colleagues and stakeholders who may not be able to attend the in-person event. Learning from the exercise will inform a further review and update of the Incident Management Plan.		
--	--	--	--

2. Update of local protocols for public health management of enteric pathogens in line with national guidance

Full description of work plan item	Resource & Finance position (on budget/deviation?)	Lead	RAG Status (Based on operational targets reported in latest quarterly assurance report or equivalent)	
Following publication of updated national guidance for enteric pathogens including Shiga Toxin-producing Escherichia coli (STEC) and Hepatitis A, we will review and revise documentation and procedures to ensure local practice remains in line with national guidance.	N/A	Helen Benson	Green	
Impact (Planned impact) reported against required content for Joint Health Protection Plans AND NHS GGC's Corporate Aims For indicators/ measurement see RAG status	Current Position		Risks to delivery (Type and description)	Mitigating action required (Detail)
- Health protection: national and local priorities - Health protection: resources and operational management - Better Health - Better Care	With the NHS GGC Health Protection team, work is routinely undertaken to ensure local practice relating to the management of enteric infections is in line with national guidance. Following publication of the Scottish national Hepatitis A guidance in 2025, an audit was undertaken on local public health management of cases. This subsequently informed an update of the local Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). Equivalent		N/A – planning is on target	N/A

BOARD OFFICIAL

	work is underway to review and update our local STEC SOP and linked materials. Upon publication of updated national guidance for enteric and zoonotic pathogens, we routinely review this for new content, share with the Public Health (Health Protection) Liaison Working Group (the "Med-Vet") colleagues as appropriate, and incorporate discussion on new content into departmental Continuing Professional Development (CPD) sessions.		
--	--	--	--

3. Development of joint zoonotic influenza response plans

Full description of work plan item	Resource & Finance position (on budget/deviation?)	Lead	RAG Status (Based on operational targets reported in latest quarterly assurance report or equivalent)	
Given the growing threat from avian influenza to commercial flocks, wild birds and the potential for transmission to mammalian species, and following the preparation of single Scottish guidance on zoonotic influenza, we will further progress and finalise joint zoonotic influenza response plans in 2025.	N/A	Iain Kennedy	Amber	
Impact (Planned impact) reported against required content for Joint Health Protection Plans AND NHS GGC's Corporate Aims For indicators/ measurement see RAG status	Current Position		Risks to delivery (Type and description)	Mitigating action required (Detail)
- Health protection: national and local priorities - Health protection: resources and operational management - Better Health - Better Care	Development of local zoonotic influenza plans are currently on hold pending further national work in this area. A national Guidance Development group has been formed and is working on once-for-Scotland Guidance for Influenza of Avian origin. Following publication of this guidance, local work will recommence on developing joint zoonotic influenza response plans.		Delays to development and publication of national guidance	We remain in regular contact with national colleagues working on the development of the once-for-Scotland Guidance for Influenza of Avian Origin, and MedVet members will respond to the consultation on the draft guidance when available. This will support timely preparatory work on local plans when feasible. In the meantime, we will continue to respond to identified threats in line

BOARD OFFICIAL

			with available UK and Scottish guidance.
--	--	--	--

4. Review, update and exercising of the Greenock Port Health Plan

Full description of work plan item	Resource & Finance position (on budget/deviation?)	Lead	RAG Status (Based on operational targets reported in latest quarterly assurance report or equivalent)	
The Greenock Port Health Plan will be reviewed, updated and subject to exercise.	N/A	Martin McNab, Inverclyde Local Authority	Red	
Impact (Planned impact) reported against required content for Joint Health Protection Plans AND NHS GGC's Corporate Aims For indicators/ measurement see RAG status	Current Position		Risks to delivery (Type and description)	Mitigating action required (Detail)
- Health protection: planning infrastructure - Health protection: national and local priorities - Health protection: resources and operational management - Health protection services: capacity and resilience	Work on updating and exercising the plan is yet to be progressed.		Capacity of Inverclyde Environmental Health team	The Public Protection Manager from Inverclyde Council intends to review the existing plan and meet with Clydeport to discuss any required changes over the remainder of 2026.

5. Develop and trial methods for gathering feedback from patients and stakeholders

Full description of work plan item	Resource & Finance position (on budget/deviation?)	Lead	RAG Status (Based on operational targets reported in latest quarterly assurance report or equivalent)	
Following a pilot exercise to gather structured patient feedback in 2024, we will continue to work with the NHSGGC Patient Experience and Public Involvement Team (PPIT) to develop and trial methods for gathering feedback from patients and stakeholders.	N/A	Helen Benson	Amber	
Impact (Planned impact) reported against required	Current Position		Risks to delivery (Type and	Mitigating

BOARD OFFICIAL

content for Joint Health Protection Plans AND NHS GGC's Corporate Aims For indicators/ measurement see RAG status		description)	action required (Detail)
- Health protection: national and local priorities - Health protection: public involvement and feedback. - Better Health - Better Care - Equality & Diversity	Following the 2024 pilot to capture feedback from patients and stakeholders we have not actively run a feedback-gathering initiative within the Clinical Public Health team but continue to explore methods for gathering feedback that are suitable for our stakeholders.	No specific risks identified	Colleagues from within the Health protection team are participating in the NHS GGC Digital Health and Care Leadership Programme to support development of digital methods of providing information to patients and contacts. This work may also explore options for gathering feedback. We continue to respond to feedback on an ad hoc basis. but still require to gather feedback on a more systematic and formal basis.

6. Explore and promote opportunities for joint CPD

Full description of work plan item	Resource & Finance position (on budget/deviation?)	Lead	RAG Status (Based on operational targets reported in latest quarterly assurance report or equivalent)
After resuming joint training sessions between partners over the course of the last Plan, we will continue to explore and promote opportunities for joint training and CPD.	On budget	Helen Benson	Green
Impact (Planned impact) reported against required content for Joint Health Protection Plans AND NHS GGC's Corporate Aims For indicators/ measurement see RAG status	Current Position	Risks to delivery (Type and description)	Mitigating action required (Detail)
- Health protection: resources and operational management - Better Health - Better Care	Over the course of the last year a variety of joint training activities have been initiated. These include reciprocal visits between the NHS GGC Health Protection team and local authority Environmental Public Health teams, and a programme of CPD sessions within the 'Med Vet' meetings. The regular programme of in-house GGC Health Protection CPD sessions is under review with plans to widen access to colleagues	N/A – planning is on target	N/A

BOARD OFFICIAL

	outside of the Public Health Directorate where relevant. A recent example was a CPD session in the form of a briefing on the Commonwealth Games, attended by colleagues from outside of the Directorate. NHS GGC Health Protection Team (HPT) has also recently hosted a visit from colleagues within the Public Health Scotland (PHS) Guidance and Field Epidemiology teams, with plans to organise further reciprocal visits over the coming months. In summer 2025, a teaching session was delivered to paediatrics colleagues on the public health management of STEC infections in children. NHS GGC Health Protection Learning and Development leads are currently scoping further opportunities including a hosting a mini-conference series of CPD talks. Finally, there are plans to organise visits to Water Treatment Plants for members of the NHS GGC HPT over the remainder of 2026.		
--	---	--	--

7. Support the implementation of the Good Food Nation Plan

Full description of work plan item	Resource & Finance position (on budget/deviation?)	Lead	RAG Status (Based on operational targets reported in latest quarterly assurance report or equivalent)	
We will work with partners and colleagues in our respective organisations to support the implementation of the Good Food Nation Plan, promoting food security and healthy food environments for our local population.	N/A	Anna Baxendale	Green	
Impact (Planned impact) reported against required content for Joint Health Protection Plans AND NHS		Current Position		Mitigating action required
		Risks to delivery (Type and description)		

BOARD OFFICIAL

GGC's Corporate Aims For indicators/ measurement see RAG status			(Detail)
- Health protection: national and local priorities - Better Health - Environment	Since endorsement of the JHPP, a Public Health Directorate Health Improvement Lead for the Good Food Nation Plan has been appointed to develop the NHSGGC plan. The Health Improvement Lead is currently coordinating action across NHS GGC colleagues to drive progress and organising joint discussions with local authority colleagues to identify shared priorities and opportunities for collaborative working.	N/A – planning is on target	N/A

8. Produce and share communications aimed at supporting our population to understand health benefits and minimise risks from animal contact and outdoor activities

Full description of work plan item	Resource & Finance position (on budget/deviation?)	Lead	RAG Status (Based on operational targets reported in latest quarterly assurance report or equivalent)
We will work with partner organisations to produce and share communications aimed at supporting our population to understand health benefits and minimise risks from animal contact and outdoor activities. These may include but not be limited to animal visitor attractions, countryside visits, wild swimming and other recreational water use.	N/A	Helen Benson	Green

Impact (Planned impact) reported against required content for Joint Health Protection Plans AND NHS GGC's Corporate Aims For indicators/ measurement see RAG status	Current Position	Risks to delivery (Type and description)	Mitigating action required (Detail)
- Health protection: national and local priorities - Better Health - Environment	At time of writing, colleagues from Clinical Public Health are in active discussion with colleagues from Public Health Scotland's Zoonoses and Environmental Public Health teams regarding development of One Health and weather-related communications with the view to creating a series of social media content meeting the	N/A – planning is on target	N/A

BOARD OFFICIAL

	needs of our local population. We continue to cascade professional communications including public health alerts to relevant stakeholders.		
--	---	--	--