

Date of Meeting: 25 November 2019

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Laura Miller, Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Health, Dorset Council
Cllr Lesley Dedman, Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Health, BCP Council

Director: Sam Crowe, Director of Public Health

Executive Summary:

This report provides a high-level summary of performance for the NHS Health Checks programme – a nationally mandated public health service. Supporting Data is provided in appendix 1-5.

Equalities Impact Assessment:

EQIA Assessments form part of commissioning for all public health services and are published in accordance with Dorset Council guidance.

Budget:

Services considered within this paper are covered within the overall Public Health Dorset budget. The NHS Health Check service is commissioned through cost and volume type contractual arrangements under Any Qualified Provider Framework. The annual budget for the service is £0.6m, as agreed by the Joint Public Health Board.

None of these contracts currently includes any element of incentive or outcome related payment.

Risk Assessment:

Having considered the risks associated with this decision, the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: LOW

Residual Risk LOW

Climate implications:

No direct implications. However, acting on the advice given during an NHS Health Check to be more physically active, and eat a diet rich in fibre with less meat would be beneficial to reducing individual's carbon footprints, particularly if exercise was active travel.

Other Implications:

N/A

Recommendation:

That the Joint Public Health Board considers the information in this report and notes the improving performance on the NHS Health Check programme.

Reason for Recommendation:

Close monitoring of performance will ensure that this programme delivers an important element of cardiovascular disease prevention, in line with national recommendations.

Appendices:

Appendix A: Health Checks performance report

Background Papers:

None

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report provides an overview of the past two quarters performance for the NHS Health Checks programme, a nationally mandated programme that all local authorities must provide.
- 1.2 The board will also receive regular updates against performance via the 2019/20 Business Plan to monitor progress and improvement.
- 1.3 This report provides data for the new unitary areas and sub unitary geographies, based on the public health locality geography.

2 Background

- 2.1 Local Authorities are mandated to provide the NHS Health Check programme under the 2012 Health and Social Care Act. One of the consequences of local authority commissioning of the programme is that the way in which NHS Health Checks are procured is subject to Public Contract Regulations 2015.
- 2.2 As reported to the Board previously (September 2018) performance for delivery of NHS Health Checks remains variable across Dorset. Performance in terms of number of checks delivered for 2018/19 across the former Council areas for Bournemouth, Poole and Dorset was among the lowest of all local authorities (141, 148 and 133th respectively of 152 Local Authorities).
- 2.3 In 2016/7 the programme (pan-Dorset) delivered 7,898 checks overall, and in 2017/8 delivered 7,407 checks. To put the numbers into perspective, Public Health England (PHE) had an expectation for the financial year 2016/17 for 46,456 people to be invited, and for 23,228 people to receive a check (similar invitations and checks expected for 2017/8).
- 2.4 The worsening performance in terms of checks delivered was due in part to the pharmacy providers of NHS Health Checks being unable to access individual level data held by GPs that was previously used to invite people to the programme.
- 2.5 In September 2018, the Board agreed a new procurement approach, which rolled out from April 2019. The total value of the NHS health check budget for 2019/20 was agreed at £600,000. This will enable up to 15,000 checks to be delivered each year, allowing for additional costs of invitations. While not meeting the national expectation of 23,000 checks delivered annually, achieving this number would be a significant improvement on the current position.

- 2.6 The procurement model agreed was the 'Any Qualified Provider' (AQP) framework, which enables Providers to register themselves for delivery of NHS Health Checks by checking they meet the key criteria as an easy sign up process. The model places the user at the centre of choosing where they wish to access the services-in this case through a website portal that identifies in postcode list form or on a map where Providers are located. The model also provides flexibility in allowing the Provider to come on and off the Framework at any time. New Providers can apply through the life of the contract.
- 2.7 The Public Health Dorset programme sponsor, GP Champion and locality link officers spent time with appropriate stakeholders (Local Medical Council, Local Pharmacy Council, GPs and CCG localities) during this period to ensure that they were fully informed and consulted through the pre procurement process. Existing Providers under the previous commissioned service were encouraged to re- apply under the new model and potential Providers were encouraged to apply to deliver NHS Health Checks.
- 2.8 There are currently 75 GP practices and 8 pharmacies signed up to deliver as NHS Health Check Providers across Dorset and a map of coverage is outlined in the appendix 5.

3 Performance for Quarter One and Two 2019/2020

- 3.1 The results for delivery in the past two quarters are encouraging, after comparing 2018/19 Q1 and Q2 with 2019/20 Q1 and Q2. Overall there has been an increase in uptake by 654 NHS Health Checks with a total of 4,579 reported checks delivered in the first two quarters. However, this remains off track for the annual forecast of 15,000 checks.
- 3.2 There has been a rise in delivery of checks in the new Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council area compared to last year, with 722 additional NHS Health Checks delivered in this period compared with the previous period in 2018/19.
- 3.3 The main communication route where people hear about an NHS health check are via invitation letters from GPs with 4,031 people who received a check saying that they heard about it through that route (see Appendix 4).
- 3.4 There are some areas that are not delivering as many checks as expected, including Bournemouth Central, Bournemouth North, Poole Central and North Dorset. Appendix 3 shows the breakdown of checks delivered by locality.

- 3.5 Out of the 83 providers signed up to the framework, 49 providers across Dorset have submitted returns for NHS Health Checks delivered. At present, 32 providers (pharmacies) are registered but are not yet delivering any NHS Health Checks.
- 3.6 The main reasons given are that no people have presented for an NHS Health Check yet, issues with the terms and conditions raised by a large pharmacy chain, time constraints e.g. competing time required in flu season, equipment availability or expense or awaiting training.
- 3.7 18 of the 32 providers are actively being supported by the PHD Community Provider contract manager, who is working with them to resolve some of their underlying barriers to delivery of the checks.

4 Conclusion and Next Steps

- 4.1 The early signs are encouraging that under the new any qualified provider framework, we are starting to see consistent increases in the number of NHS Health Checks delivered. This will be supported by ongoing stakeholder engagement, especially in the areas where delivery is below expectations. A communications campaign will continue to raise public awareness of the programme and its benefits.
- 4.2 Public Health Dorset will keep an improvement focus on areas where delivery remains poor and challenges remain. This will be achieved through:
- More focused and targeted geographical communication and awareness campaigns.
 - Effective website management and provider support to ensure all providers advertised are delivering NHS Health Checks.
 - Proactively working with the CCG and Primary Care Networks to improve engagement at both strategic and operational levels.

- Further engaging the Dorset CCG Primary Care Commissioning Committee and the network Clinical Directors, encouraging the use of NHS Health Checks and subsequent referrals to LiveWell Dorset to improve positive behaviour change outcomes for users.

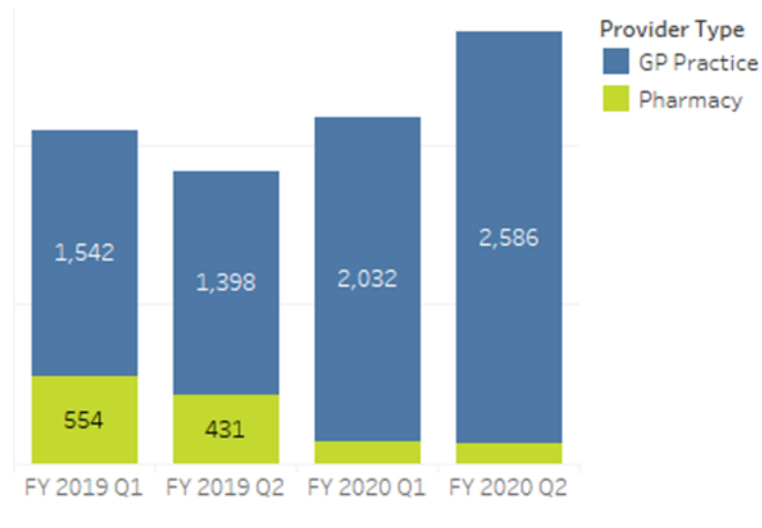
5 Conclusion and recommendation

- 5.1 The Board is asked to consider the information in this report and to note the improving performance on the NHS Health Check programme.

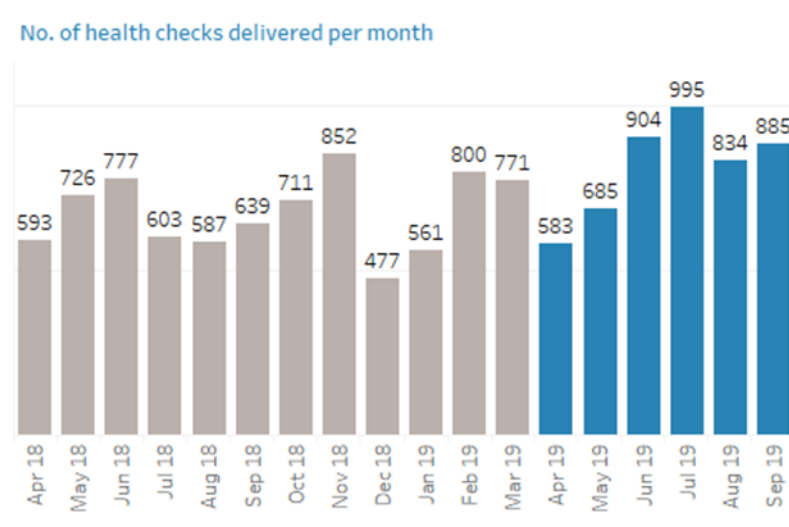
25th November 2019

Appendix One

1. NHS Health Checks Delivery Comparison to Last Year by Provider



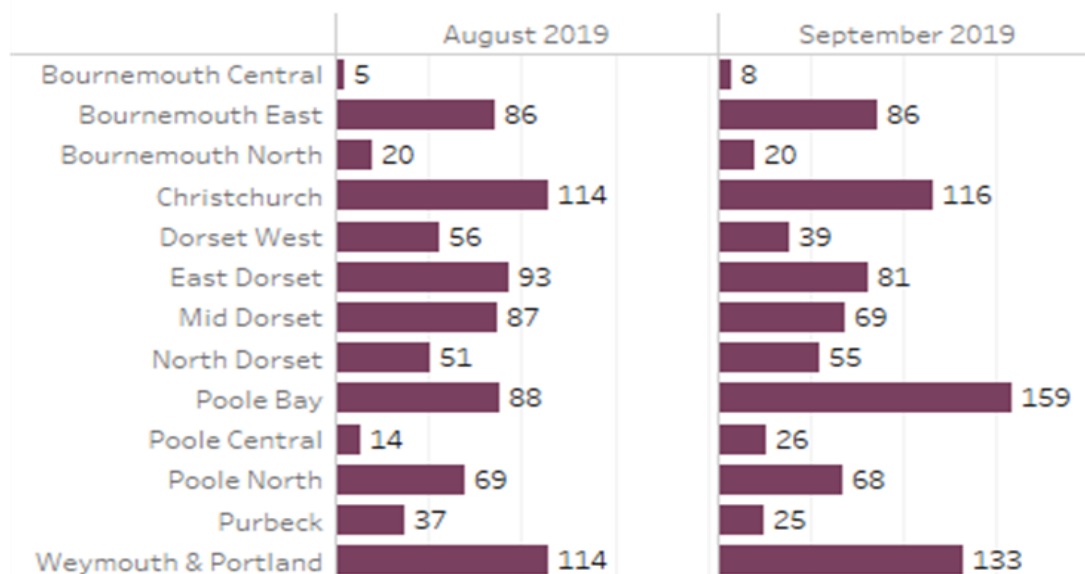
2. Total Number of NHS Health Checks Delivered Per Month



Appendix One

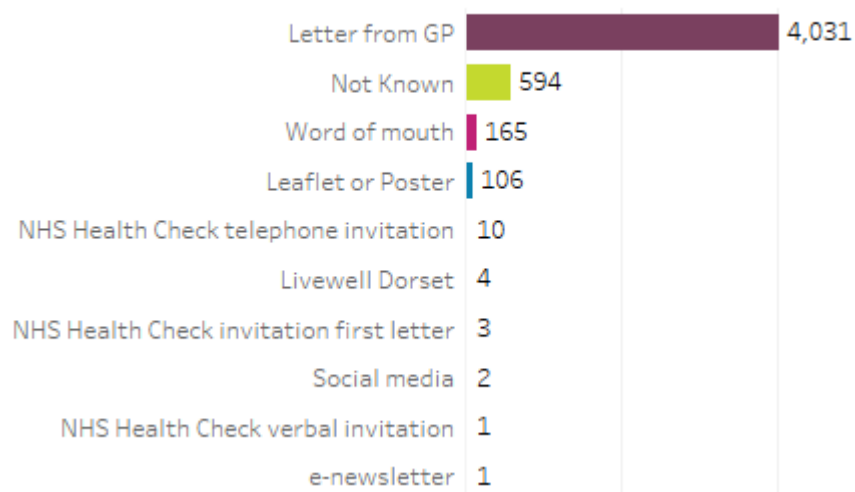
3. Total Number of NHS Health Checks Delivered by Locality

No. of health checks delivered by locality



4. Awareness of the availability of the NHS Health Checks across the population of Dorset, Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole

Where did they hear about it?



Appendix One

5. NHS Health Checks Coverage in Dorset, Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole

Improvement Services - Health Checks

