

<b>LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN</b>	<b>WARDS</b> All
<b>REPORT TITLE</b> Health Protection Update	
<b>REPORT OF</b> Director of Public Health	
<b>FOR SUBMISSION TO</b> Health and Wellbeing Board	<b>DATE</b> 10 September 2025
<b>SUMMARY OF REPORT</b>  <p>This report provides an update on health protection issues and epidemiology in Camden.</p> <p><b>Local Government Act 1972 – Access to Information</b> No documents that require listing have been used in the preparation of this report.</p> <p><b>Contact Officer:</b> Wikum Jayatunga Consultant in Public Health Medicine London Borough of Camden 5 Pancras Square, N1C 4AG <a href="mailto:Wikum.Jayatunga@Camden.gov.uk">Wikum.Jayatunga@Camden.gov.uk</a></p>	
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the Health and Wellbeing Board note the contents of this report.</li> </ul>	

Signed:



Kirsten Watters  
Director of Health & Wellbeing and Statutory Director of Public Health  
Date: 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025

## **1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1. This report provides an update on health protection issues and epidemiology in Camden.

## **2. Areas of focus**

### **Measles**

- 2.1. Following a very large Measles outbreak across London in Summer 2024 and subsequent decline of cases, measles rates across London have begun to increase again this summer. This could increase further after the summer holidays with children returning to school. 15 confirmed cases of measles have been reported in Camden between 2<sup>nd</sup> June and 28<sup>th</sup> July 2025.
- 2.2. Several of these cases were connected to an outbreak in a Camden primary school. Vaccination UK worked closely with the school to identify children who had not received 2 doses of MMR and used this as an opportunity to contact parents with the offer of a discussion about MMR and to book an appointment at catch-up clinics. MMR vaccine promotion has continued via leaflets (including Arabic, Somali and Bangladeshi translations) and advertising of catch-up clinics.

### **Invasive Group A Streptococcus (iGAS) in people who inject drugs and people living with homelessness (Camden & Islington)**

- 2.3. Group A Streptococcus is a common cause of sore throat and skin infections but can cause more serious illness if it enters the blood stream (invasive Group A Streptococcus or iGAS). The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) informed us earlier in the year of a cluster of iGAS cases in Camden and Islington (7 cases over a 3-month period) between March and May 2025. This was followed by a period of no cases until the 20 July. Since then, a further 5 cases of iGAS have been reported.
- 2.4. All 12 cases reported are in our population of people who inject drugs and people living with homelessness who are at increased risk of infection. No links have been established between cases but because people who inject drugs are vulnerable to a wide range of infections, we have shared communications to raise awareness about Group A Streptococcus, the signs and symptoms of infection, and shared messages to remind people who inject drugs of the steps they can take to prevent infections when injecting.

## **3. Legal Comments of the Borough Solicitor**

- 3.1. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

## **4. Finance Comments of the Executive Director Corporate Services**

- 4.1. The Executive Director of Corporate Services has been consulted on the contents of the report and has no comments to add to the report.

## **5. Environmental Implications**

- 5.1. There are no identified environmental implications to the contents of the report.

**REPORT ENDS**