



FOR PUBLICATION

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

8 July 2021

Report of Healthwatch Derbyshire

Vaccine hesitancy report: Attitudes towards the Covid-19 vaccine

1. Purpose

1.1 To provide the Health and Wellbeing Board with an update on a topical report recently completed by Healthwatch Derbyshire.

2. Information and Analysis

2.1 Whilst the majority of people have embraced the vaccine, others have been hesitant to get vaccinated. Healthwatch Derbyshire has carried out a piece of work to gain an understanding of why some people were not taking up the offer of the Covid-19 vaccine or were saying that they would not do so. The report summarises the findings from an online survey which ran from 18 March 2021 to 25 April 2021. A total of 517 responses were received. Please note, the report is not currently a public-facing document so please do not share on any public-facing platforms but can be shared internally. The main themes for the following two questions were:

Q1: For what reason would you be unlikely to have a vaccine if it was offered to you?

- Worries around effects on own health
- Worries about vaccine safety
- Needle phobia

- Allergies & reactions to previous medications
- Mental health
- Pregnancy.

Q2: Is there anything that would make you change your mind about having the vaccine?

- More research published with testing and results evidenced over a longer period of time
- Clearer information for people to make their decisions that address their concerns
- Choice of vaccine and venue
- Learning disabilities and mental health conditions taken into account and patients offered alternative venues or time slots to suit.

The report also presents a number of frequently asked questions which were developed from the concerns and solutions raised by those who took part in the survey and were hesitant about having the vaccine.

3. Recommendation(s)

That the Health and Wellbeing Board:

- 3.1 Note the report themes, and where appropriate to share the report within their own organisations either for wider learning, or to support their own work around vaccine hesitancy.

4. Reasons for Recommendation(s)

- 9.1 The report presented is for information purposes.

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