

Leicester Prevention and Health Inequalities Annual Review

Public Health and Health Integration Scrutiny
Commission

Tuesday 27th January 2026



Leicester Prevention and Health Inequalities Steering Group: Introduction

- Established in June 2024 by the Director of Public Health
- Comprises senior officers from Public Health and Social Care, NHS Integrated Care Board, large NHS provider organisations
- Created to take an action-oriented approach to focused prevention activities to reduce health inequalities in Leicester
- Reports to Leicester's Health and Wellbeing Board
- Evaluation to identify future areas best suited to this incident management type approach
- LGA case study highlighted our work [Leicester City Council: Treating health inequalities as a public health emergency | Local Government Association](#)

Leicester City Council: Treating health inequalities as a public health emergency

Leicester City Council enjoyed great success in curbing an outbreak of measles by developing a rapid response involving a mobile vaccination service

Public health | 28 May 2025

Overview

[Background](#)

[Next steps](#)

[How the legacy of Covid is crucial](#)

[Contact](#)

Overview

Leicester City Council enjoyed great success in curbing an outbreak of measles by developing a rapid response involving a mobile vaccination service. The success prompted the council's public health team to ponder what would happen if they deployed public health emergency techniques to tackling health inequalities. The result has been a new approach with five priority areas targeted for action with the aim on getting some quick, high-impact wins.

“There is a tendency when it does not involve an infectious disease to try to spread ourselves too thinly and try to do a bit of everything. So we thought we would look at what in terms of prevention and health inequalities we could treat as a public health emergency and see what impact it could have” – Rob Howard, Director of Public Health

Leicester City – Prevention and Health Inequalities Steering Group

Purpose

The Leicester City Prevention and Health Inequalities Steering Group is a strategic group that provides direction and alignment on prevention priorities to address health inequalities in the City. It reports to both the Leicester Integrated Health and Care Group and Leicester Health and Wellbeing Board

Priorities Highlights

Priority	Achievements
Hypertension (High Blood Pressure)	Targeted high-risk communities and delivered 300+ blood pressure checks through expanded community, pharmacy and event-based outreach.
Healthy weight (neighbourhood focus)	System-wide NHS organisations adopted the Healthy Weight Declaration, supported by neighbourhood programmes and a new two-year contract to continue delivery.
HPV (Human Papillomavirus) vaccine uptake	Strengthened HPV uptake through improved data, school and community engagement, GP follow-up, and more accessible catch-up clinics.
Social isolation in people with severe mental illness	Built stronger support by identifying loneliness in the LPT client journey, mapping local activities, improving signposting, and developing a VCSE toolkit.
Bowel cancer screening uptake	Introduced new pathways for vulnerable groups, expanded reminders and awareness campaigns, and increased targeted support to boost screening uptake.

Leicester City – Prevention and Health Inequalities Steering Group

Next steps

- Steering group continues to meet quarterly.
- Review of priorities in early 2026
 - Evaluation and review of data due for completion in March 2026.
- Agree priorities for next 18 months.