How Childhood Immunisation Statistics are used

**Health Protection Scotland (HPS)** uses the statistics to monitor the performance of the national childhood immunisation programme including targets. It is of public health concern should immunisation rates decrease, as this makes the possibility of disease transmission more likely. HPS therefore use the statistics to inform decision making and planning in the co-ordination and strengthening of health protection in Scotland, and in the study of vaccine preventable diseases, for example see report on **Measles, mumps, rubella and whooping cough illness and routine childhood vaccine uptake** (Jan 2016)

**Public Health England** uses the statistics to report **UK vaccine uptake rates** and to supply UK data to the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The **Scottish Government** uses the statistics to: monitor the performance of the national childhood immunisation programme including targets; inform policy decision making on the programme; respond to parliamentary and public business. For example, assessment of the measles risk in Scotland in spring 2013 and the required response included consideration of these statistics. See the letter issued by Scotland’s Chief Medical Officer (CMO) regarding the **short catch-up campaign for measles immunisation in Scotland** (May 2013).

**NHS Boards and local authorities** use the statistics to:
- Monitor the local performance of their immunisation programmes and report these in **board reports**
- Plan services
- **In local information newsletters**
- **In public awareness initiatives**

The statistics are also used to inform **local** and **national** public marketing campaigns.

Statistics on uptake of the ‘five-in-one’ vaccination by 24 months of age and one dose of MMR vaccine by five years of age is published on the [statistics.gov.scot](http://statistics.gov.scot) website which has a range of users. These are also available on the Health and Wellbeing profile on the [ScotPHO profiles](http://scotpho.com) website.

Other users include:
- The **voluntary sector/charities and campaign groups**: for example [Meningitis Research Foundation](http://meningitisresearch.org.uk) make reference to UK uptake statistics on their website
- The **public**, for example parents and carers interested in immunisation when their children are due to receive vaccinations.