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# Daily Mail

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# UK GRIPPED BY MEASLES CRISIS

**'National incident' declared over disease we wiped out in 2016**

By **Shaun Wooller** Health Editor

**AN URGENT vaccination drive is needed to ward off a growing wave of measles outbreaks, health chiefs said last night.**

Declaring an official 'national incident', the UK Health Security Agency warned that too few youngsters were protected against the potentially deadly virus.

Jenny Harries, the agency's chief executive, urged parents to check whether their children had had the measles, mumps and rubella jab and said the UK was on a 'trajectory for everything getting much worse'. It is a far cry from 2016, when Britain was declared measles-free by the World Health Organisation.

The disease, which causes flu-like symptoms and a nasty rash, proves fatal in roughly one in every 5,000 cases. Vaccination rates have fallen across the country with London and the West Midlands among the worst regions.

The latter has had more than 300 confirmed and probable cases since October 1. Most victims were

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