

**HEALTH AND PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
25 OCTOBER 2011**

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**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH FOR DARLINGTON  
2010/11**

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**SUMMARY REPORT**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. The report is the joint annual report of the Director of Public Health, Darlington and the Director of Public Health, County Durham reflecting the shared arrangements across Darlington and County Durham. The report provides a brief update on major programmes of work in 2010/11.

**Summary**

2. The annual report for 2010/11 is presented in the context of major change in the wider NHS and to the current public health system. This annual report highlights some of the key public health programmes across Darlington and County Durham and references a range of additional reports available on public health priorities.
3. The report sets the context for the above changes, defines the role of the public health team and signposts readers to additional resources e.g., the Darlington Single Needs Assessment which provides detail on the population and demographics. The report is structured into four chapters; Evolving Public Health, Protecting you from illnesses, Helping you stay healthy and Working with you in the future.
4. Key messages in the chapter: “Protecting you from illness” include:
  - Immunisation and vaccination remains one of the most important public health measures for protecting individuals and the community from serious diseases
  - Emergency planning and resilience will continue to be a high priority across the NHS
  - North East Directors of Public Health are working with the Health Protection Agency (HPA) and partner agencies to provide a Science and Technical Advice Cell (STAC) in the event of a major incident requiring health and technical advice.
5. Key messages in the chapter “Helping you stay healthy” cover
  - Cardiovascular diseases, reporting on the first two years of a five year programme
  - Cancer, the second most common cause of death and the range of initiatives in place to promote early diagnosis and treatment
  - Tobacco control and the performance of NHS Stop Smoking Services
  - Alcohol, a major public health issue where there are high levels of harmful and hazardous drinking in Darlington
  - Sexual health, including teenage pregnancy
  - Breastfeeding and childhood obesity
  - Suicide, with a focus on community mental health programmes
  - Veteran’s health
  - Dental health, a message that oral health promotion must be increased in the future.

## Recommendations

6. It is recommended that:-

- (a) Members receive the annual report of the Director of Public Health.

**M E Davidson**  
**Director of Public Health**

## Background Papers

Joint Annual report of the Director of Public Health, Darlington and the Director of Public Health, County Durham

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|----------------------------------|---|
| S17 Crime and Disorder           | This report has no implications for Crime & Disorder.   |
| Health and Well Being            | This report has implications to the address Health and Well Being of residents of Darlington, through scrutinising the services provided by the NHS Trusts.   |
| Carbon Emissions                 | This report has no implications for Carbon Emissions.   |
| Diversity                        | There are no issues relating to Diversity which this report needs to address.   |
| Wards Affected                   | The impact of the report on any individual Ward is considered to be minimal.  |
| Groups Affected                  | The impact of the report on any Group is considered to be minimal.  |
| Budget and Policy Framework      | This report does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework.   |
| Key Decision                     | This is not a key decision.   |
| Urgent Decision                  | This is not an urgent decision.   |
| One Darlington: Perfectly Placed | The report contributes to the delivery of the objectives of the Community Strategy in a number of ways through the involvement of local elected Members contributing to the Healthy Darlington Theme Group. |
| Efficiency                       | There are no issues relating to Efficiency which this report needs to address.  |