
PUBLIC HEALTH TRANSITION

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of the report is to provide Members with an update on the transition of public health functions migrating to new organisations i.e. Public Health England, NHS Commissioning Board as well as the Local Authority.

Summary

2. Members requested an update from the Director of Public Health regarding process of the transition arrangements and the report is in the format of a presentation, attached as **Appendix 1**.

Recommendation

3. It is recommended that Members note the progress made on transferring public health functions to Darlington Borough Council and agree to receive further reports to provide assurance of a smooth transition.

**Miriam Davidson
Director of Public Health, Darlington**

Background Papers

There were no background papers used in the preparation of this report.

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BAH

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.

MAIN REPORT

Information and Analysis

4. The Department of Health published "Healthy Lives, Healthy People: Our Strategy for Public Health in England" (November 2010) and "Healthy Lives, Healthy People: Update and Way Forward" in July 2011. They described the role that Local Authorities would have across the domains of public health (health protection, health improvement and health care services) and their new responsibilities.
5. The Government's strategy states that by the end of March 2013, Primary Care Trusts must have completed the formal handover of public health responsibilities to Local Authorities, including Directors of Public Health, their functions and staff. The public health reforms are wide ranging and political leadership is central to the success of the reforms.
6. The Health and Social Care Act 2012 will strengthen arrangements for emergency procedures, resilience and response (EPRR). Local Authorities and Directors of Public Health will be expected to collaborate with the NHS Commissioning Board and Public Health England to plan for and contribute to emergency response.
7. Duncan Selbie was appointed as Chief Executive Designate for Public Health England in April 2012. He is designing the organisational structure and will take up the post on 1 July 2012.
8. In March 2012, Darlington Borough Council's Director of Place and the Director of Public Health met with the Regional Director of Public Health to discuss transitional planning arrangements for Darlington. Following the meeting, Darlington Borough Council and NHS County Durham Public Health Transition Plan 2012/13 was submitted to the Department of Health.
9. A letter was received on 22 May 2012 by Darlington Borough Council's Chief Executive and Director of Public Health from the Regional Director of Public Health confirming the excellent progress made and describing the following key milestones for the next ten months:
 - (a) Move the Public Health Team to the Local Authority.
 - (b) Develop Health and Wellbeing Strategy (by the autumn) to inform commissioning decisions by 2013/14.
 - (c) By end of March 2013 formal handover of public health responsibilities to Local Authority to be completed.
10. A corporate risk assessment has been completed for the transfer of public health to Darlington Borough Council. Due diligence is being carried out to ensure the necessary controls and assurances are in place.
11. The ring-fenced grant for public health in Darlington for 2013/14 is expected to be published in December 2012.