
DARLINGTON DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT 2014
PUBLIC HEALTH: A SHARED AGENDA

Purpose of Report

1. To present to the Health and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee the Director of Public Health Annual Report 2014. This is the second annual report following the transfer of public health responsibilities from the NHS to local government, as part of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

Summary

2. The first report in 2013, *'Building Blocks for Good Health in Darlington'*, described some of the key health issues people face in Darlington and proposed key actions to improve the health of our population and to reduce health inequalities.
3. In 2013, the report outlined recommendations to make progress on the above, including providing the best start in life for children, supporting families, addressing the causes of early deaths, promoting mental health and supporting adults in an independent and active old age.
4. The recommendations included redesign of public health programmes so that they improve integration and finally, to understand community 'assets' with a focus on reducing social isolation.
5. This year's report provides an update on 2013-2014 and indicates work which will be on-going in 2015-2016.
6. The theme for 2014 is *'Public Health: A Shared Agenda'*, which describes the partnership working that is necessary to tackle the causes of health inequalities. Local action by all sectors, not just NHS or the Council, can help prevent men and women experiencing disadvantage over the course of their lives.
7. Communities have assets such as skills, knowledge and social networks that form the building blocks of good health and should be developed and where partnership working is not possible, different organisations can still try to align their strategies, communicate their priorities and share information so that there is a comprehensive approach across Darlington.
8. The report describes the link between health inequalities and social inequalities and how action is needed across all the social determinants of health e.g. housing, education, employment, poverty, over a person's lifetime. The social determinants

are the conditions in which people in Darlington are ‘born, grow, live, work and age’.

9. Public Health in local government is mandated to shape local services, tackle health differences in communities and influence the wider or social determinants of health. This is a ‘shared agenda’, where the Council public health team is working alongside Council departments, NHS and other public sector partners, community and voluntary partners and the private sector.

Recommendation

10. It is recommended that the Health and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee receive the Director of Public Health Annual Report 2014.

Reasons

11. The Director of Public Health being responsible for producing an annual report on the health of the local population which contains recommendations for improving health, in accordance with the Health and Social Care Act (2012).

Miriam Davidson
Director of Public Health

Background Papers

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

Miriam Davidson – Extension 6203

S17 Crime and Disorder	There are no implications arising from this report.
Health and Well Being	The annual report has recommendations to improve the health and wellbeing of the whole population.
Carbon Impact	There are no implications arising from this report.
Diversity	There are no implications arising from this report.
Wards Affected	All
Groups Affected	All
Budget and Policy Framework	There are no implications arising from this report.
Key Decision	No
Urgent Decision	No
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	Falls under ‘More people healthy and independent’, ‘Support for people when needed’ and ‘Children have the best start in life’.
Efficiency	There are no implications arising from this report.