
OVERVIEW OF HEALTH AND PARTNERSHIPS PORTFOLIO

Purpose of the Report

1. Since the last meeting of Council, the main areas of work under my Health and Partnerships Portfolio were as follows.

National No Smoking Day

2. Public Health worked with Healthy Darlington and Human Resources to support National No Smoking Day on 11 March 2015. Public Health England re-launched its Smokefree Homes and Cars campaign, aimed at highlighting the poisons in smoke to encourage smokers to quit, on 9 February 2015. The Director of Public Health submitted a quote for the regional press release and FRESH, the UK's first dedicated regional programme set up in the North East to tackle the worst rates of smoking related illness and death in England, provided resources for the North East which were distributed at the Healthy Darlington Hub and outreach locations.

Personal, Social, Economic and Health Education

3. The Council's Relationships, Education and Sexual Health Co-ordinator continues to work with Public Health to enhance the use of the social norms survey data in schools. A Steering Group has been established, including Healthy Darlington, to review the questions for the 2015/16 survey. All secondary schools have completed the survey for 2014/15 and a full report is currently being produced which will be widely shared.

Public Health Contracts

4. The procurement of the Sexual Health and Contraception Services for Darlington continues. The tender for the Sexual Health (Genito Urinary Medicine) and Community Contraceptive and Sexual Health advice services is now complete.
5. Procurement processes for a number of Public Health programmes are well underway. New contracts will be awarded from 1 April 2015 for several services and Primary Care Services, including NHS Health Checks and Stop Smoking Services.

0 – 19 years Pathway Development

6. Work continues with NHS England in preparation for the transfer of responsibility for the commissioning of the 0 – 5 public health services (Health Visiting and Family Nurse Partnership) from the NHS to the local authority in October 2015. The authority has engaged with NHS England in the co-production of a Health Visiting specification for 2015 to ensure that it reflects local needs. Consultation has also commenced around the development of an integrated specification to commission integrated 0 – 19 public health services from April 2016 and further consultation and engagement events in relation to Teenage Pregnancy and Sexual Health are programmed for the coming months.

Healthy Darlington

7. Healthy Darlington's service and its interventions were designed around the current evidence base that highlights behaviour change support as critical for the success of any services that aim to affect any lasting changes in lifestyle or health choices and behaviours in groups and individuals.
8. The principles of 'Let's Get Moving' and 'Making Every Contact Count' (MECC), which are both recommended by national agencies, such as Public Health England and Active England, as examples of best practice are applied by Healthy Darlington Hub staff in all of their contacts with clients.
9. A pathway has been developed to deliver healthy lifestyle-related behaviour change to support individuals to modify their behaviours around their health and lifestyles effectively. Clients are provided with regular contact to a trained and experienced professional in Motivational Interviewing, to ensure that they can maintain their motivation and embed those agreed changes in their behaviours into their everyday lives.
10. In the first quarter, 40 per cent of clients were referred to the service by a medical professional or social care partner and of those who had self-referred, 30 per cent had heard about the service by word of mouth and 20 per cent had been signposted by a medical professional through MECC.
11. The main areas of assistance requested by clients at the first contact are healthy eating, weight management, physical activity and support to become more active.
12. All the clients that receive one-to-one support through the Healthy Darlington Hub have reported a positive change in their health behaviour as a result of the intervention and support from the Hub.
13. Key contacts made with other key services, that serve specific target and vulnerable client groups, since the Hub opened include Age UK Darlington, the Probation Service, Darlington Association on Disability, Darlington Clinical Commissioning Group, Local GPs and NHS Foundation Trusts.

Alcohol Behaviour and Perceptions Survey

14. As in previous years Balance commissioned a North East Alcohol Behaviour and Perceptions survey and the report for Darlington, based on the 2014 survey, provides an interesting insight into our local population. Balance has recently launched the findings from a study into children's recognition of alcohol brands and marketing.
15. Compared to the North East, Darlington has fewer people who categorise themselves as Non Drinkers, however, more individuals indicate that they drink alcohol infrequently (monthly or less).
16. People in Darlington tended to report that they typically would consume more alcohol on those occasions when they did drink when compared to the North East, consuming at least three standard drinks in a session.
17. Similar to the North East, more individuals reported that they had reduced their alcohol consumption compared to twelve months ago, mostly by socialising less frequently. However, within Darlington, drinking less often was the most popular method of reduction.
18. In comparison to the North East, less Darlington residents reported that they did not 'pre-load' with alcohol before going out to a bar, club or pub. Most Darlington respondents surveyed reported that they never or only sometimes drink alcohol at home or at a friend's house before going out to a bar, club or pub.

Darlington Partnership

19. The Good Friends initiative, established by the Partnership, which creates opportunities for people to support their elderly and vulnerable neighbours, has been shortlisted for a Local Government Chronicle Award. The scheme was launched in October 2013 and has attracted over 700 Good Friends who are supporting 465 elderly or vulnerable people in Darlington. An evaluation of the first year's operations was considered by a Partnership steering group and as a consequence of the achievements reported funding agencies have agreed to commit to funding for a further year.
20. Efficiency and Resources Scrutiny Committee considered a report on Darlington Partnership at its meeting on 8 January which highlighted that the Council has an award winning system in place which assesses the probity of the partnership arrangements it is involved with. Through this Darlington Partnership has consistently been confirmed to have good governance arrangements and is delivering well against its objectives. The Committee made suggestions regarding public access to Partnership papers and annual reporting which were considered at the Partnership Board meeting on 28 January. Darlington Partnership also reports to Health and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee which commended the work of the Partnership following the last update.
21. In response to concerns about the increase in poverty in Darlington, the Partnership has helped to establish a number of 'Help Hubs' which provide advice,

support and access to food in community venues. Agencies involved include the Council, Darlington Credit Union, Darlington Citizen's Advice Bureau and Darlington Food Store. Hummersknott Academy has agreed to provide funding so that a Help Hub can operate from the Coleridge Centre in Skerne Park.

Healthwatch

22. Healthwatch have been undertaking online and street surveys on Breast Clinic services. They also held two focus groups that were attended by the County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (CDDFT) and all of this information has been used to ensure patients and residents views are informing the commissioning of services.
23. Healthwatch Darlington is continuing to support the various Health Networks in Darlington. The Mental Health Network identified that there was a need to look at Crisis services and Healthwatch facilitated a crisis summit attended by Tees Esk and Wear Valley NHS Trust (TEWV), voluntary organisations and the public.
24. Work is underway by Healthwatch at the moment to understand the needs of the culturally diverse communities across Darlington. They are working with representatives of a number of various ethnic communities through formal and informal activities.

Welfare Rights

25. During January £37,253 was secured, in additional benefit, for clients. The total raised to date for 2014/15 is £191,068.

Health and Well Being Board

26. The Board received a presentation from Dr Terry Bearpark, School of Health and Social Care, Teesside University on the current situation in relation to the implementation of Telehealth, Telecare and Digital Care within the Tees Valley. It was stated that a project, which built on the previous work of the Digital Care Group and the Tees Valley Strategic Forum for Health and Social Care, had now commenced. The project aimed to develop a single sustainable collaborative forum across the Tees Valley, for the continued implementation of technology enabled care, to support local and national health, the social care agenda, promote service user/carer independence and self-reliance.
27. The Board considered a report in relation to the funding arrangements between NHS England and Darlington Borough Council via a Section 256 Agreement, subject to joint approval in expenditure with the Darlington Clinical Commissioning Group. NHS England has advised the Council that social care funding of £1,879,038 would be made to it during 2014/15 for adult social care services which would also have a health benefit.
28. The Board received an update on the Clinical Commissioning Group's planning requirements and granted delegated authority to the Chair and the Chief Officer of the Clinical Commissioning Group to sign off the final planning trajectories and

templates as necessary.

29. In relation to the draft Commissioning Plan, the Board considered the 2015/16 Commission Intentions Plan which set out how strategic plans and visions would be delivered and progressed in 2015/16. The Plan identified a number of key priority areas across the Darlington Health and Social Care system for future commissioning intentions.
30. The Board received an update on the progress of the review and re-write of Darlington's Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) and in doing so granted delegated authority to the Director of Public Health and the Chair of the Board to sign off the final draft of the Assessment prior to 1 April 2015. It is a statutory responsibility for every Health and Well Being Board in England to publish, and keep up-to-date, a statement of the needs for pharmaceutical services of the population in its area.
31. The Board considered a report outlining the progress made in respect of the implementation of the Dementia Strategy for County Durham and Darlington. The Council is working in partnership with Clinical Commissioning Groups across Durham and Darlington, Durham County Council, local Healthwatch organisations and providers of dementia services to implement the Strategy. The aims of the Strategy are to ensure that the future needs of people with dementia and their carers are formulated.

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