

## Briefing: Public Health in East Sussex Update

### 1. Public Health Development

The second meeting of the East Sussex Health & Well Being Board (H&WBB) took place on the 13<sup>th</sup> December, where development of the strategy was discussed. An update paper on the H&WBB was taken to the NHS Sussex Board on the 1<sup>st</sup> December and set out local implementation, remit of the Board, governance and membership.

A Public Health shadow policy steer for 2012/13 'To improve the health and well-being of our communities, reduce health inequalities and improve life expectancy in East Sussex' has been submitted for East Sussex County Council's Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources process.

The Public Health HR Concordat was published on the 18<sup>th</sup> November and provides a best practice framework for organisational changes affecting staff as part of the transition between the NHS and local government. The Concordat sets out a range of agreed principles which have been jointly agreed by the Department of Health, NHS employers and the Local Government Association.

Public health reform updates were published on the 20<sup>th</sup> December. This included more details of the design of the new public health system, specifically the role and responsibilities of local government in public health, the operating model for the new executive agency Public Health England and an overview of how the whole system will work. These documents can be accessed at the following link <http://healthandcare.dh.gov.uk/public-health-system/>

Further policy documents will be published in the New Year covering the public health outcomes framework; public health funding; and public health workforce strategy consultation.

### 2. Director of Public Health Report

The report will focus on Health and Wellbeing and is due to be published in March. It will include local trend information on health and wellbeing and also evidence based recommendations for partners to ensure effective primary prevention interventions.

### 3. Joint Strategic Needs assessment:

All existing JSNA products are now on the ESCC website

<http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/community/local/factsandfigures/jsna/default.htm>

A new JSNA website for East Sussex is currently in development, due to be completed in January 2012. The new website will be more user-friendly and will incorporate search facilities and an A-Z to ensure users have access to the full range of products.

### 4. Children's Health & Lifestyle Survey

The survey is planned to take place in the Spring term 2012. A briefing is being prepared for the Virtual School Bag and all Head teachers, to be distributed in the New Year. It is hoped that all secondary schools will take part. Pupils in Year 10 (14/15 year olds) will be offered the survey, which will be completed at school as part of timetabled lessons. It is expected that results will be available for the summer half term, with events to disseminate the results from mid June.

### 5. Commissioning of effective public health screening programmes

Key Performance Indicators are submitted quarterly for antenatal and newborn screening and for infectious diseases in pregnancy. These have been produced by the Strategic Health Authority and comprise a quality assurance process.

The breast cancer screening unit is back on track to meet the round length target. In November 98% of women were invited for their screening within 3 years. Age extension continues to be rolled out, so that women have their first invite at 47 and the last one at 73.

Uptake for cervical screening continues to improve in younger women, but uptake has reduced slightly in older women. We have reached the 80% target across East Sussex. The screening programme will change from April 2012 to include HPV testing for triage and for test of cure. Training will be offered to all practices in the New Year provided by the Quality Assurance Reference Centre.

Bowel cancer screening: ESHT have an action plan to reduce endoscopy waits by the end of December. It is possible that age extension to 75 years may be delayed until after the spring. There will be a national campaign including TV adverts from the end of January 2012 which is likely to increase the numbers of people coming forward for screening.

Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening commissioning: This is a new screening programme for men aged 65 years which is due to start from April 2012 as a Sussex-wide service. Currently we are recruiting a LiNK member to support identification of suitable community venues across East Sussex for the screening to take place. The screening consists of an Ultrasound test.

## **6. Childhood vaccinations:**

The target for the uptake for all childhood vaccinations is 95%. The pre-school and school leaver booster combined have the lowest uptake and promotional material has been sent to schools, Children's Centres and Health Visiting Teams to promote these vaccinations.

Latest data for quarter 2 (Jul– Sep 2011) shows increases in uptake for primary vaccinations. For the first time H&R achieved the target of 95%, achieving 96.7%, while for ESDW the figure is 94.7%. There were also improvements in children having 2 doses of MMR in Hastings and Rother – 86.5% compared to 83.1% in quarter 1.

We have commissioned some Health Protection Nurses to support achievement of the 95% uptake target for all childhood vaccinations, and it is likely that their work in co-ordinating the efforts of GP Practices and Children's Nursing teams has improved the vaccine rates. The nurses are providing training sessions for Health Visitors and Practice Nurses and are visiting practices to support them to increase vaccine uptake. This Service will also be evaluated.

## **7. Emergency Planning and Business Continuity:**

The draft NHS Sussex emergency plan is currently out for consultation, with presentation to the NHS Sussex Board planned for January 2012. Until approved, current individual PCT approved emergency plans would be used in an emergency. An NHS Sussex overarching business continuity policy and plan is also in place.

Each PCTs within the Sussex cluster have pandemic influenza plans in place. A NHS Sussex wide plan is being developed and should be out for consultation by end of December 2011. Support has also been offered to CCGs with planning and preparations. Prior to Clustering each PCT supported GP practices in preparing individual Business Continuity Plans. CCGs will need to consider preparation of business continuity plans with support from the Emergency Response Management Team of NHS Sussex

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**6<sup>th</sup> December 2011**