

Bath & North East Somerset Council		
MEETING:	Wellbeing Policy, Development and Scrutiny Panel	
MEETING DATE:	Friday 18th May 2012	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER
TITLE:	Public Health Transition Assurance Plan. An update on transition of public health responsibilities from NHS B&NES to B&NES Council by April 2013	
WARD:	ALL	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report:		
Public Health Transition Assurance Plan		

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 This paper provides an update on the change of public health responsibilities from NHS B&NES to B&NES Council from April 2013. The accompanying Public Health Transition Assurance Plan outlines the processes being undertaken to manage this transition including the key tasks, milestones and governance arrangements.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Wellbeing Policy, Development and Scrutiny Panel is asked to:

- 2.1 Note the information contained in the briefing and accompanying report.
- 2.2 Comment on any areas of concern or potential opportunity.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 Financial implications are being managed by the Public Health Transition Steering Group with input from finance colleagues of both the Council and the PCT Cluster.
- 3.2 Guidance has been published on the financial allocations for the transition year 2012/13, however public health and finance teams are still working to clarify the exact detail of available spend for the transition year by programme area. The future budget for public health work in the local authority has not yet been published. There is a risk, being monitored and managed by the Public Health Transition Group, that future resources available to B&NES Council may not match the requirements being asked of the council.

4 THE REPORT

- 4.1 Please see the attached report.

5 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 Key risks from the transition are being managed through the Public Health Transition Steering Group and are reported to the Change Programme Board monthly. In reference to section 3 above, the possibility that the new local authority allocation for public health is not equal to the demands of the new responsibilities is on the public health transition risk register. Ensuring sufficient project management capacity to support and implement the transition plan is another key issue currently being addressed by the transition group.

6 EQUALITIES

- 6.1 A key aim of public health is to reduce inequalities in health and social outcomes between different groups in the population. Securing a strong public health function will help identify the needs of vulnerable and high risk groups, help prioritise these in partnership strategies and support work to target interventions, improve outcomes and keep track of progress. There are no detailed proposals for changes to service delivery or staff at this stage so there is not yet an equality impact assessment. However, this is planned as part of the Change Programme Board reporting process as we move towards 2012/13.

7 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 Public engagement to discuss public health changes has happened through a Healthy Conversation event in February 2011 and a Local Involvement Network (LiNK) meeting in April 2011. Similar communication with key partners and the public will be repeated later this year, as we begin to implement key parts of the transition plan. This is being dealt with by a specific communications and engagement strategy for the public health transition supported by communications officers from the council and the PCT. This is included in the attached report and appendices.

8 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION

- 8.1 There is no specific decision being sought at this point in time.

9 ADVICE SOUGHT

- 9.1 The Strategic Director for People and Communities has reviewed this report. The Monitoring Officer and Section 151 Officer have been copied into the report and will be asked to make formal comments as further detailed work is undertaken prior to any formal transfer of function.

Contact person	Paul Scott, Assistant Director of Public Health
Background papers	<p>The Plan takes account of the following publications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Healthy lives, healthy people: our strategy for Public Health in England (November 2010)• Healthy lives, healthy people: update and way forward (July 2011)• The new public health system: summary (December 2011)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Health in Local Government Factsheets (December 2011) • Public Health England's Operating Model (December 2011) • Public health transition planning support for primary care trusts and local authorities (January 2012) • Healthy lives, healthy people: Improving outcomes and supporting transparency (January 2012)
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