

**Cllr Simon Allen, Cabinet Member for WellBeing
Key Issues Briefing Note**

Wellbeing Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel – May 2013

1. PUBLIC ISSUES

Health and Wellbeing Strategy – Public Consultation

The Bath and North East Somerset Health and Wellbeing Board is welcoming feedback on its draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy from any interested group, organisation, service user or local resident. An online consultation can be found on the Council's webpages: www.bathnes.gov.uk/health-wellbeing-board. Comments on the draft strategy are welcome up until 7 June 2013.

The finished strategy will be the overarching plan for improving health and wellbeing and reducing inequalities across Bath and North East Somerset. It outlines the Health and Wellbeing Board's key areas of focus in the coming years around:

Helping people to stay healthy

- Reduced rates of childhood obesity
- Improved support for families with complex needs
- Reduced rates of alcohol misuse
- Create healthy and sustainable places

Improving the quality of people's lives

- Improved support for people with long term conditions
- Reduced rates of mental ill-health
- Enhanced quality of life for people with dementia
- Improved services for older people which support and encourage independent living and dying well

Fairer life chances

- Improve skills, education and employment
- Reduce the health and wellbeing consequences of domestic violence
- Increase the resilience of people and communities including action on loneliness.

Report of the Director of Public Health 2012

This report can be found on the Council's website by following the link:
www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/adult-social-care-and-health/public-health

The report highlights the impressive improvements in local public health over the last 10 years. Some of the successes include the reductions in infant mortality across our area, the significant decreases in the numbers of smokers and the continued reduction in crime. Areas for further improvements are also highlighted and include the rising hospital admissions for alcohol misuse, increases in childhood obesity and high levels of hospital admissions for self-harm.

This report has been deliberately built around the key principles of the Marmot review 'Fair Society Healthy Lives' which demonstrates how to improve health and wellbeing for all of us, by reducing unfair and unjust inequalities in health across our communities. These principles will guide the Public Health contribution to the delivery of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Bath and North East Somerset, building on the achievements of recent years and using new opportunities from across the Council to achieve even better health for all of our communities.

The aim of this report is to provide an overview of some of the key public health issues in Bath and North East Somerset. For more detailed information about the populations' health visit www.bathnes.gov.uk/jsna

2. PERFORMANCE

Adult Safeguarding

An internal audit undertaken by the Council's Audit & Risk team has found the overall framework of control for adult safeguarding to be "excellent" (an Audit Rating Level 5, which is the maximum available on a range 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent)).

The audit focused on the following six key objectives:

- An up to date Safeguarding Policy is in place with clear procedures documented and disseminated to the appropriate agencies/organisations.
- Assurance is obtained from organisations commissioned by the Council to support and protect vulnerable adults, which confirms appropriate safeguarding training is provided.
- The role and responsibilities of the Local Safeguarding Adults Board is clearly defined.
- Procedures are in place to ensure all alerts are correctly recorded and the 'Procedure for Safeguarding Adults' is effectively and accurately applied in all cases.
- Procedures are in place to identify reoccurring alerts/ themes by service user and agency/ organisation, and action taken where appropriate.
- Procedures are in place to monitor alerts in respect of clients who are receiving services commissioned outside the authority.

3. SERVICE DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

Extension of the Hospital Social Work Service

The Hospital Social Work service based at the Royal United Hospital and provided by Sirona Care & Health is to be extended to 7-days a week working. The extension of this service plays an important role in facilitating timely discharge from hospital and is, therefore, being funded from the 2013/14 Department of Health “reablement and winter pressures” funding allocation. This funding is allocated to the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) by the Department of Health and is transferred from the Clinical Commissioning Group to the Council under a “Section 256” Agreement and is commonly referred to as “Section 245” funding.

Department of Health guidance on the use of this funding is that it should be used to reduce pressures in the health and social care system by investing in services that prevent hospital admission; reduce the length of a stay in hospital; or facilitate discharge from hospital and, also, by investing in personal social care services that maintain independence and enable people to continue to live in the community rather than being admitted to nursing care.