Working together for health & wellbeing

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

Wellbeing Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel – July 2013

1. PUBLIC ISSUES

Spending Review 2015/16 – Investment in integration

A £3.8 billion pooled health and social care fund has been announced as part of the spending round covering 2015/16. This investment is intended to strengthen incentives for local authorities and the NHS to work together and deliver integrated services more efficiently, including:

- ensuring health and social care services share information so people only need to explain their problems once;
- intervening early so that older and disabled people can stay healthy and independent at home;
- delivering care centred on individual needs, rather than what the system wants to provide – like NHS and social care staff working together, with families and carers, to ensure people can leave hospital as soon as they're ready; and
- provision of support to carers so that they can take a break from their caring responsibilities.

Access to the pooled funds will be conditional on the agreement of plans by local health and wellbeing boards and is intended to ensure that service levels in the care and support system can be protected and enable investment in prevention and early intervention.

2. PERFORMANCE

The Winterbourne View Joint Improvement Programme (JIP), which is being overseen by NHS England and the Local Government Association, has written to each local authority area asking it to complete a stock take of progress against the commitments made nationally following the publication of the Winterbourne View final report earlier in the year. The purpose of the stock take is to enable local areas to assess their progress and for that to be shared nationally. The stock take is also intended to enable local areas to identify what help and assistance they require from the Joint Improvement Programme and to help identify where resources can best be targeted. The deadline for completion of the stocktake is the 5th July. The stocktake has been completed for Bath and North East Somerset and shows a positive picture overall, with no requirement for support from the JIP to address any identified areas for improvement. The findings of this stocktake reflect previous briefings to the Wellbeing PDS Panel.

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Tobacco Control Network Peer Review Event.

On June 10th a peer review team led by Smoke-free South West visited BaNES to look at all our work on tobacco control, including both the services that help smokers to quit, and also those that try to prevent residents, particularly young people, from taking up smoking.

Informal feedback suggests that the review team were very impressed with the range of activities and the flexible and imaginative approaches taken here, but more formal feedback will follow shortly and will then inform future planning.

3. SERVICE DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

Health & Social Care Integration Pioneers – B&NES Expression of Interest

The Government is "...looking for pioneers that will work across the whole of their local health, public health and social care systems and alongside other local authority departments and voluntary organisations...." and has invited expressions of interest from local areas to become "integration pioneers" as a way of driving forward change at scale and pace, from which the rest of the country can benefit.

B&NES Council and BaNES Clinical Commissioning Group has, with the involvement and endorsement of a range of partner organisations, developed and submitted ambitious and ground-breaking proposals for whole system integration. The vision and plans set out in these proposals represent a 5-year programme of transformational change, with a specific focus on improving outcomes for older people, their carers and their families. The proposals encompass not only mental health, physical health, social care, public health and housing but also further alignment of the resources, services and partners that influence the wider determinants of health and wellbeing.

The first cohort of Integration Pioneers will be announced in September 2013.

MMR Catch-up campaign.

In response to recent outbreaks of measles in Wales and parts of England, Public Health England set in motion an MMR catch-up campaign. This is primarily aimed at the 10-16 year age group that was most affected by the MMR scare of the late 1990s, but children of all ages who have not been fully vaccinated are also being encouraged to take part. There have been no cases of measles yet in BaNES, but there have been a few cases in Bristol and other surrounding areas. Our vaccination levels are generally quite good, but still not as high as they should be for maximum population protection.

In BaNES every GP practice has begun to send out invitation letters and run clinics. This has been supported by the Council's public health team who have also sent promotional letters to schools and have raised the profile of the campaign in the media. There are just under 3000 young people age 10-16 who are either unvaccinated or require a second dose. Data will be collected to demonstrate the effectiveness of this campaign and inform any further action that might be needed.