

## **Health & Wellbeing Select Committee 25/01/17 Public Health Report**

### **1) Sugar Smart Collaborative**

One in five reception aged children and one in three 10-11 year olds in B&NES weighs more than is healthy. Over half of adults in B&NES are likely to be overweight or obese too.

We have set up a Sugar Smart collaborative to tackle this. We will be working in partnership with the Jamie Oliver Food Foundation and Sustain (an alliance for better food and farming) to run a year-long campaign to help people spot hidden sugars in food and drink. The campaign will support 4 key settings to take up sugar smart pledges:

- (1) Preschool and Educational Settings
- (2) Retailers - shops, restaurants, cafes and takeaways
- (3) Neighbourhoods
- (4) Workplaces

The Council could helpfully adopt the Sugar Smart Charter and thereby inspire other organisations too. The Health and Wellbeing Board will also be asked to adopt the Charter. More information is available from [https://www.sugarsmartuk.org/get\\_involved/#act](https://www.sugarsmartuk.org/get_involved/#act)

### **2) Domestic Abuse**

It is estimated that 5,936 women aged between 16-59 in B&NES have been a victim of domestic abuse in the past year. There were 1,110 domestic abuse crimes recorded by the police in 2015/16, an increase of 25% compared to 2014/15.

The B&NES Domestic Abuse Partnership is preparing a bid to the Home Office transformation fund for a range of domestic abuse support including an independent domestic violence advisor for people with complex needs including substance misuse and/or mental ill health.

The Partnership is also waiting to hear the success of an earlier bid to the Home Office for funding a support worker for victims who need to move from supported accommodation into neighbouring areas.

### **3) A focus on Taxi Drivers**

There are over 650 taxi drivers in B&NEs and we've begun working with them in 2 ways.

Taxi driving is a predominantly male profession which can be stressful and sedentary. We are working with the Licensing team to give NHS Health Checks to taxi drivers. The first drivers were seen on 12<sup>th</sup> January and several more clinics are planned. It's an opportunity for drivers to take time out to think about how they can look after themselves and reduce their risk of Cardiovascular Disease in the future.

We're also working with the Samaritans and taxi drivers to reach people in distress. Taxi drivers regularly encounter people in distress. The Samaritans' details are now provided on the back of taxi receipts. Taxi drivers are encouraged to pass receipts to a passenger if they seem upset. This need not entail any conversation with the customer. Further work, including an evaluation is planned.

#### **4) Smoking**

12 Sports Clubs were successful in applying for the first round of our Smoke Free Sports Club grant. Football, rugby and cricket clubs across the area have received £500 to implement a smoke-free touchline policy for their youth sports with signage and training for staff. We intend to allocate a further 8 grants by the end of the financial year.

Our Healthy Lifestyles service is launching an E-cigarette campaign to encourage smokers to switch to e-cigarettes or to help those who are smoking and vaping to get support with quitting tobacco completely. The 'Time to Switch' campaign is a new approach to reaching out to vapers (who are predominantly smokers trying to quit) and has been shown to increase uptake of support services in other areas of the country.

#### **5) Dementia Alliance**

After discussion at the Health and Wellbeing Board, B&NES Council, CCG and Healthwatch all agreed to become members of the B&NES dementia action alliance, giving their commitment as organisations to help make B&NES an easier place for people with dementia and their carers to live well in their communities.

#### **6) HIV Advice and Support**

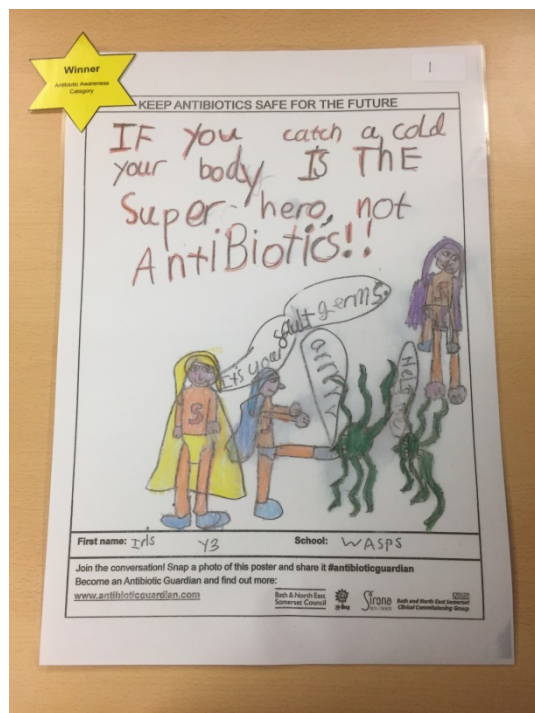
The Public Health team are pleased to have supported the Eddystone Trust to secure funding from St John's Hospital Trust for a service supporting people living with HIV in B&NES. The Eddystone Trust is a voluntary sector organisation that supports people in the South West affected by HIV and AIDS. The Eddystone Trust was commissioned by public health and adult social care to deliver a support service for people in B&NES living with HIV/AIDS, but as part of the budget prioritisation this service is ending in March 2017. It was a difficult decision to make and public health worked with the Trust to find alternative funding. The Trust has now been awarded a grant to deliver a two year service to reduce isolation and increase support for communities living with HIV.

#### **7) Antibiotic awareness in school children**

Primary school children in B&NES have been busy taking part in a poster competition to highlight the importance of antibiotic awareness, hand washing and how to prevent the spread of infection - 'Catch it, bin it, kill it'.

26% of 0-10 year olds in B&NES were prescribed antibiotics by their GP at least once in the last 12 months. Over half of all prescriptions for antibiotics were for respiratory infections such as ear ache, sore throat and cough, which usually get better without them.

The posters are now displayed in a wide range of venues around B&NES to raise public awareness. The public will be encouraged to 'join the poster hunt' and take a photo of one of the posters and upload it to Twitter, Facebook or Instagram with the hashtag #AntibioticGuardian.



#### 8) "Prevention Matters" LGA day, 12<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Feedback from the day has been positive from members and the facilitators, who were very enthusiastic about the engagement of those who attended.