

Health and Wellbeing in Telford and Wrekin

Issue 1 Autumn 2012

Who we are

Welcome to the first Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) newsletter for Telford and Wrekin.

The Health and Care Act 2012 brought in changes to the way the NHS is organised. The central change gives GP's via the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), the major responsibility for overseeing how and what NHS services are provided for patients.

By April 2013 the Primary Care Trust (PCT) will go and new structures will be in place.

The HWB, a responsibility of the Council, is part of this change. Its aim is to improve the health and wellbeing of our communities and address health inequalities.

The current Board has been in development since March 2011.

The Board is made up of councillors, representatives from the CCG, local authority officers, Director of Public Health (currently NHS but will transfer to local authority by April 2013), Healthwatch (currently Telford and Wrekin LINK) and NHS Commissioning Board. For the full membership look on the council website www.telford.gov/hwb



What we did

Throughout the summer consultation took place to explain what the Health and Wellbeing Board is, to ask what its priorities should be and to shape Healthwatch.

In July an event was held at Oakengates Theatre @ The Place attended by representatives from health, local authority, voluntary organisations and patient groups to discuss their views and ideas about the Board, its role and its priorities.

Articles appeared in local newspapers, on Facebook and Twitter and in Your Voice encouraging people to have their say. It was not just members of the public and stakeholders who were asked, both council and PCT staff were also encouraged to complete the survey.

Views from almost 850 people were received. Using this information and information collated from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), the Board were able to agree their priorities at their meeting on 12 September 2012.

Overall there were strong views that the priorities proposed by the board at the start of the consultation, should be included in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy. In addition, following the consultation drug and alcohol misuse and excess weight in adults were also included. A full summary of the feedback is available at www.telford.gov.uk/hwb

Health & Wellbeing Priorities

Your Views Matter – the agreed Priorities of the Health and Wellbeing Board

- Reduce excess weight in children and adults.
- Reduce teenage pregnancy.
- Improve emotional health and wellbeing.
- Support people with autism.
- Reduce the number of people who smoke and misuse alcohol and drugs.
- Support people to live independently.
- Improve life expectancy and reduce health inequalities.
- Support people with dementia.
- Ensure people have a positive experience of health and care services.
- Improve carer's health and wellbeing.

The Health and Wellbeing priorities are underpinned by the following cross-cutting principles:

- **Equity** - To tackle inequalities i.e. proportional to need and targeted towards areas and groups within the community who need it most.
- **Accessibility** - Services should be accessible to all.
- **Integration** - Services should be joined up, with all relevant partners working to together. To provide the best possible service for patients, clients, service users and carers.
- **Quality** - Services should be safe and evidence based, providing value for money (e.g. based on NICE - National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence guidance or other national quality standards).
- **Financial Sustainability** - Public sector resources should be used responsibly to deliver and develop services with consideration of financial sustainability and value for money with respect to outcomes.
- **Early Intervention and Prevention** - A strong focus on prevention rather than treatment.
- **Engagement** - Putting the public at the heart of service design.
- **Safeguarding** - At the core is the protection of vulnerable adults and children

Our Next Steps

A stakeholder event is planned in the New Year to look at the relationships between the Health and Wellbeing Board, providers and stakeholders to discuss a mechanism for future working and to launch the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.


Dates for future HWB Meetings

Wednesday 14 November 2012, Wednesday 23 January 2013 and Wednesday 13 March 2013

Healthwatch

Local Healthwatch will give patients and communities a voice in decisions which affect them, reporting into Healthwatch England, a new national body to represent the views of the public at the highest level. Healthwatch will be the new consumer champion for both health and social care and will be represented on the HWB. We are now inviting tenders from organisations who want to operate the Healthwatch. Either individually or with other partners. For more information contact 01952 384990, email link@telford.gov.uk or visit www.telford.gov.uk/hwb

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