

Annual Report 2012/13



**Northamptonshire
Health & Wellbeing Board**



Background

The Northamptonshire Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) became a statutory body in April 2013, having existed in shadow form since 2011. The Board meets quarterly and meetings have been open to the public and webcast since June 2012. The Chair is Councillor Robin Brown, Northamptonshire County Council Portfolio Holder for Public Health and Wellbeing, and the Vice Chairs are Dr. Darin Seiger (Nene Clinical Commissioning Group), Professor Nick Petford, (University of Northampton), and Adam Simmonds (Police and Crime Commissioner).

The membership of the Shadow Board has ensured wide representation from stakeholder organisations and strengthened links between localities and the county since its inception. The membership has been revised throughout the year to ensure that the Board operates at a strategic level.

Northamptonshire's Borough and District Councils are fully involved in the Health and Wellbeing Board. Seven locally based Health and Wellbeing Fora are also supported by the local GP leaders of the Clinical Commissioning Groups in Northamptonshire. The locality arrangements are coterminous with the boroughs and districts. These local Health and Wellbeing Fora will be the engines of local activity to improve health and wellbeing in the county. The continued growth of the Fora is essential to the integration of locality based commissioning and overseeing a clear local strategy across NHS organisations, public health and social care.

National changes in the delivery of health services

This year has seen major changes in the delivery of health services nationally. The PCT ceased to exist, and the local Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) have been authorised to commence local commissioning from April 2013. During the year Public Health England and the NHS National Commissioning Board have been established. Each body has responsibility for the delivery of different health functions. In Northamptonshire there are three CCGs: Nene CCG covers most of the county; Corby CCG covers Corby; and Borderline (part of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough CCG) covers the GP practices in the eastern part of the county.

On the 1st April local public health responsibilities and staff were transferred to the Council as required by the Health and Social Care Act 2012, and the Director of Public Health and Wellbeing is now part of the County Council's Corporate Management Team.

In addition to these changes, the government has created a new consumer champion for both health and social care called Healthwatch. Healthwatch Northamptonshire was launched as a social enterprise in April 2013 and it will contribute to current and future delivery of health and social care services through the collection of data, information and analysis, and by providing feedback about and to health and social care services in the public, private and voluntary sectors. With this support, commissioners in the public sector will be able to offer high quality, more targeted services.

The mission and vision of the Health and Wellbeing Board

Throughout 2012/13 NHS Northamptonshire, Board members worked together with other partners to develop a vision for public health and for health and wellbeing in Northamptonshire. The mission and vision developed by the shadow board have now been ratified by the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Our mission is simple, but ambitious. It is:

‘Delivering meaningful, healthier, longer lives for the people of Northamptonshire’.

It is the Health and Wellbeing Board’s vision that:

‘By 2015, Northamptonshire will be recognised as a national centre of excellence in the quality of its health and social care and commitment to wellbeing for the benefit of all. The county’s innovative, evidence based approach to delivering positive outcomes in health, quality of life and well-being measures will enable scarce resources to be committed with confidence to those who will benefit most.’

This will be achieved by:

- promoting holistic approaches to health and well being
- engagement of stakeholders
- recognition that health and wellbeing are not the same although inter-related
- developing tailored solutions, based on robust evidence

- acknowledging the wider social determinants of health
- recognising the best services are those informed by best evidence and developed in strategic partnership with individuals, communities and organisations
- ensuring services for residents are delivered from modern, efficient appropriate infrastructure

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)

The Health and Wellbeing Board has a duty to prepare a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) for Northamptonshire. In the last year, a new online hub has been established – Northamptonshire Analysis. Users can now see a much wider range of information online. Many datasets have been updated and users are now able to select a greater variety of geographies at which to present data: for example, moving between clinical commissioning group localities, district, wards or lower layer super output areas, dependent on the dataset. Navigation on the site has also been improved. Stakeholders were also invited to participate in a process for securing consensus on priority areas for development in the JSNA.

The Health and Wellbeing Strategy

Northamptonshire’s Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2012 -15 was widely consulted on during the year and will be presented for agreement in June 2013. Public consultation on a draft Strategy entitled “‘In Everyone’s Interest”– took place from 20th September to 22nd November 2012.

383 respondents either attend a locality or community event or completed a survey.

The strategy reflects the overarching priorities for the Board, including consideration of the totality of resources in the County for health and wellbeing and how prioritising health improvement and prevention, managing long-term conditions and provision of rehabilitation, recovery and re-ablement services can best reduce need and deliver improvement in health and wellbeing.

People asked for the strategy to emphasise the benefits of positive health and wellbeing, not just the risks of poor health. They wanted simpler participation structures. Community groups and disabled people - including those with mental health challenges – want their voices to be heard by the Health and Wellbeing Board, with genuine possibilities for influence.

People want systems that can identify vulnerable people in the community, signpost them to appropriate services, provide timely access, and prevent crises. They want to see integrated working across the public sector, community organisations and social enterprises to achieve this.

Asked 'What does health and wellbeing mean to you?', responses were:

- Meeting basic needs for warmth, food, accommodation, safety and comfort
- Freedom from stress, including financial worries and (for younger people especially) worries about future security
- Having positive social relationships, connections with other people
- Having somewhere to go, getting around, participating in positive physical and creative activities
- Personal growth and learning for people of all ages
- A community that includes everyone, where there is kindness and compassion

Reports to the Shadow Board

During 2012/13, the work of the Shadow Board has covered a number of areas, including those in the following reports:

- The Healthier Together Programme (formerly the Acute Services Review) - reviewing acute service provision across Northamptonshire, Milton Keynes, Bedfordshire and Luton
- The Northamptonshire Inter Agency Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Board, and Local Safeguarding Children Board Northamptonshire, to support partnership working in safeguarding
- Nene Commissioning and Corby Clinical Commissioning Groups' commissioning plans for 2012/13
- Joint Declaration on Partnership Working during the transition arrangements between Northamptonshire County Council and NHS Northamptonshire
- NHS Cold Weather Plan for England – Protecting Health and Reducing Harm from Severe Cold
- An overview of ongoing public patient engagement from the Public and Patient Advisory Group
- Public Health Financial Allocations 2012/13 and Public Health Services to be commissioned for the National Commissioning Board (NCB)
- Future Public Health Commissioning responsibilities and financial baseline estimates
- Health and Wellbeing Performance Dashboard
- Making Every Contact Count