

TELFORD & WREKIN HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD

13 JUNE 2012

PUBLIC HEALTH TRANSITION PROJECT UPDATE

REPORT OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR – SOCIAL CARE SPECIALIST

1. SUMMARY

1.1 The transfer of Public Health responsibilities to Councils under the NHS changes, offers a great opportunity to bring more resources to bear on improving the health of local people through aligning existing council funding and programmes with key health and wellbeing priorities. This report provides an update on the Public Health Transition Project, part of the health transformation agenda relating to the transfer of local Public Health responsibilities from NHS T&W to the Council.

1.2 The report explains what progress has been made and the transition arrangements that are being put in place to ensure a smooth transition through a shadow year to April 2013 when the Council assumes responsibility for local Public Health functions.

1.3 A project update report will be brought to each Health and Wellbeing Board meeting during 2012/13.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Health and Wellbeing Board Members note the progress with respect to the transition plan and approach being taken.

3. INFORMATION

Transition Arrangements and Project Progress

3.1 PCT Clusters had to submit a draft PH Transition Plan co produced with Local Authorities to the Strategic Health Authority Cluster by 18 January 2012. The Plan was rated “green” by the SHA. A further more detailed version (version 9) was submitted on 9 March 2012. Recent assessment feedback for this plan was favourable, with the majority of criteria RAG rated green – criteria met (41) and only 5 rated amber – criteria partially met. This will be reviewed by the Project Board at their next meeting.

3.2 The plan, circulated previously, sets out our local approach to PH transition, including operation of the PH system during the shadow year – 2012/13, preparation for April 2013 and clear local transition milestones. Appendix 1 shows the high level project plan key milestones. A Project

structure has been established overseen by a Project Board, meeting monthly, made up of Senior Officers from the Council and NHS T&W, supported by a Project Team.

3.3 The five key PH Project Workstreams have been tasked with scoping in detail their main tasks to achieve a successful transfer by April 2013, highlighting tasks, issues and concerns, interdependencies between workstreams and any risks to be mitigated against. The full workstreams met on 13th March and 27th April. Going forward, the leads for each work stream will meet with the project team on a monthly basis, in order to review their project status reports and progress in detail.

3.4 At the Project Board meeting in May, it was agreed that there is a need to establish Legal support for the transition. This has now been identified, with a single point of contact available within the council.

3.5 Response from the DoH, with reference to the PH shadow budget allocation for T&W: "Regarding the specific issues you raise, I should stress that this collection covers 2010/11 actual spend and further analysis is needed before confirming 13-14 allocations. Your update is helpful in giving us the best information possible in the mean time... ...We hope to make a further announcement on the funding formula shortly, but as we said in the February baseline publication, no local authority will see its grant for 13-14 fall in real terms compared the baseline we estimated there for 12-13, other than in exceptional circumstances, to give the greatest possible certainty and support planning."

3.6 At the recent Project Board meeting, it was recognised and agreed that further discussions were necessary as to the current and future arrangements for Public Health Commissioning and Emergency Planning in Telford and Wrekin. Progress against these key areas will be reported to future PH Transition Board and HWB meetings.

3.7 The Project Board has also tasked the Workforce, HR & Accommodation work stream to complete a response to the national consultation: Healthy Lives, Healthy People: Towards a workforce strategy for the public health system. This response will be reported to the next PH Transition Board meeting on 12th June.

3.8 The Project Board is also keen to review the current pan Shropshire arrangements in relation to local responsibilities for PH, with a view to making informed decisions about the future arrangements and linking this in with the development of the vision for PH in Telford and Wrekin.

3.9 There is a requirement for T&W Council to set out our vision for PH stating how the Council will use its new responsibilities and resources to put health and wellbeing at the heart of everything we do with the aim of helping people lead healthier lives, both mentally and physically. A task and finish group have been identified to lead this work and a discussion paper accompanies this paper.

4 PREVIOUS MINUTES

4.1 Cabinet Report – 22.12.2011 – NHS Transformation and Implications for the Council

4.2 SHWB Report – 22.2.2012 – Public Health Update

4.3 SHWB Report – 25.4.2012 – Public Health Transition Project Update

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