

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting8th March 2012

1. Title of Item/Report

Public Health Transition

2. Record of the Decision

Members considered a report relating to Government proposals for a new public health systems described in the white paper 'Health Lives, Health People'.

In December 2011, a series of fact sheets describing public health in local government and the operating model for Public Health England were published. The fact sheets covered a range of issues but confirmed the NHS functions that would move to the Local Authority. Members were provided with details.

Further guidance on the public health outcomes framework (Improving outcomes and supporting transparency) was published late January 2012. Its focus had been on two outcomes around:

- Increased healthy life expectancy
- Reduced differences in life expectancy and healthy life expectancy between communities.

The indicators will be grouped into four domains:

- Improving the wider determinants of health
- Health improvement
- Health protection
- Healthcare public health and preventing premature mortality.

In February the Department of Health (DH) published "Baseline spending estimates for the new NHS and Public Health Commissioning Architecture", which provided estimates of 2010-11 spend on services that would be allocated to different commissioners in the new commissioning arrangements post 2013. The estimates support some initial planning but these figures do not necessarily represent the final budgets for 2013-14. The detail stated that there would be a review by Advisory Committee for Resource Allocation (ACRA) and they were informing the DH on allocations. It was anticipated that final allocations for 2013-14 would be set later this year.

The current allocation identified for Stockton is £11,914,000

(2012-13), which had been broadly based on a financial return that was submitted to the DH in September 2011. Detailed analysis was being undertaken to review the projected spend and assess the risks within this budget.

Further guidance was also awaited around the human resource toolkits and workforce strategy.

In order to address the various changes across the NHS System a number of transition plans have been developed which outline the key actions and timescales to enable the revised infrastructure to be in place by April 2013.

Within Stockton, the Health and Wellbeing Management Team was taking responsibility for the various work streams supporting the public health transition arrangements. This had input from a range of Heads of Service and PCT managers.

The NHS had requested that the local Public Health Transition Plans were developed with input from the Clinical Commissioning Groups and Local Authority. Locally, the plans had been considered by a range of partners, including the Health and Wellbeing Board and Partnership. The draft plans were considered and reviewed by the Regional Director of Public Health in January and final plans were expected in March 2012. The detailed plan was provided for members' attention

As part of the transition planning arrangements a number of areas had been identified where the detailed guidance was outstanding and/or DH policy was awaited. As part of the Regional Director of Public Health arrangements these issues had been highlighted and concerns raised with the DH where necessary. Some examples of concerns raised had been around the operational implications within screening services if a recall was required and the responsibility of the different parts of the LA and NHS system in addressing this.

In order to enable the smooth transfer of services it was necessary to plan for the current commissioning and finance arrangements now in order to work through the various implications for the Local Authority in 2013. Work was ongoing to assess the various transition arrangements and relative risks.

In parallel to the transition plans, the development of the Health and Wellbeing Board arrangements and the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) required significant focus to support the future oversight of health and wellbeing issues for Stockton. The Health and Wellbeing Board and Partnership continued to meet in shadow form and

were developing their work plan over the coming year. A key planning document would be the JSNA which would inform the development of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. At this stage work was in progress around the completion of the various sections of the JSNA which would be considered by Cabinet in April 2012. The Strategy would be developed by Autumn 2012 which would influence future commissioning plans across health and the local authority.

It was noted that the current allocation identified for Stockton was £11,914,000 (2012-13), which had been broadly based on a financial return that was submitted to the Department of Health in September 2011. Detailed analysis was being undertaken to review the projected spend and assess the risks within this budget.

RESOLVED that

1. the update on the national public health policy and its specific impact on the Local Authority with particular reference to the Public Health Transition Plan be noted.

2. delegated responsibility be approved to the Director of Children, Education and Social Care and/ or the Local Authority Director of Public Health, in consultation with the Lead Cabinet Member for Adult Services and Health, to oversee the public health commissioning arrangements and associated financial implications for the Local Authority during this transitional period.

3. further updates be received as the transition and implementation arrangements take shape.

3. Reasons for the Decision

The Local Authority would, by 2013, be responsible for Public Health and this transition plan was part of the process to ensure a smooth transfer of the roles and responsibilities.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None

6. Details of any Dispensations

Not applicable

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Midnight on Friday 16 March 2012

Proper Officer
12 March 2012