

## **AGENDA ITEM**

### **REPORT TO HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD**

**5 JUNE 2013**

### **REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

## **HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD DEVELOPMENT**

### **SUMMARY**

This report presents options for the development of the Board and its members.

### **RECOMMENDED**

That the options presented be considered.

### **DETAIL**

1. Health and Wellbeing Boards are highly visible new structures with central responsibility for setting strategic direction for the protection and improvement of health and wellbeing for the populations that they serve. The Health and Wellbeing Board is unique in that as a formal committee of a Local Authority Council it includes external partners and senior council officers as voting members alongside elected local politicians.
2. Following the adoption of the terms of reference of the Stockton Health and Wellbeing Board by full Council the Stockton Board has a number of new members and organisations. Hence the current board has a membership consisting of people who were members of the shadow board and new members who have not had previous involvement with the board. The board will also want to establish its own ways of working, approach to setting strategic direction and understanding of appropriate matters for its attention as compared to other bodies and the wider Health and Wellbeing Partnership.
3. Bearing in mind the newness of the board and also its new membership this is a good time to consider the development needs of the Board, both in regards to its ways of working and to the members and organisations around the table. Furthermore, requests or guidance on what boards may wish to consider and how they should work are being circulated on an almost weekly basis; recent examples including:
  - Representations from the Osteoporosis Society
  - The Stroke Association
  - The Department of Health Operating Framework for Immunisation and Screening
4. The key purpose of a development programme for the board and its members is to maximise the opportunity that the creation of the Stockton Health and Wellbeing Board brings to our area.

## **Options for Board Development**

- A. To build in a short topic based learning session at the beginning of each board meeting, for example hot topics such as the measles outbreak, educational attainment and why it matters for health and wellbeing, understanding funding streams of member organisations or very specific issues such as hospital acquired infections, heart disease or suicide prevention. This would be in the form of a presentation by someone with knowledge in the area followed by a discussion session; probably for a maximum of half hour in total at the beginning of each meeting.
  - B. To do the same as A above only in more detail and to do separate sessions such that members could pick and choose areas they were most interested in attending.
  - C. To put in the diary a specified number of half days throughout the year to focus development sessions on key issues, for example a session in the Autumn at the beginning of the commissioning round for health services for the next financial year; or a half day discussing the implications of the DPH annual report.
  - D. To develop a specific Health and Wellbeing Board induction package for each board member including sessions with the Chair and DPH on an individual request and needs basis.
5. Of course it is entirely possible to do various combinations of these options and there may be other options that board members wish to propose.

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