

MINUTE of MEETING of HEALTH AND CARE POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANEL of WEST LoTHIAN COUNCIL held within COUNCIL CHAMBERS, LIVINGSTON, on THURSDAY 17 APRIL 2014

Present – Councillors Anne McMillan (Chair), Diane Calder, John McGinty, Cathy Muldoon (substituting for Frank Toner) and George Paul

In Attendance – Ian Buchanan (West Lothian Association of Community Councils Representative).

Apologies – Councillors Janet Campbell and Frank Toner and John Cochrane (Senior People's Forum Representative)

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

2. MINUTE

The Panel confirmed the Minute of its meeting held on 23 January 2014 subject to the following correction :-

Minute Item 4 (Page 81) to reflect that the Lifesmile programme was being extended to care in the home.

3. NOTE MINUTE OF MEETING OF NHS LoTHIAN BOARD HELD ON 27 NOVEMBER 2013

A report had been circulated by the Depute Chief Executive, Community Health and Care Partnership to which was attached the Minute of the NHS Lothian Health Board meeting held on 27 November 2013.

Decision

Noted the contents of the report.

4. NATIONAL DENTAL INSPECTION PROGRAMME REPORT: DETAILED PRIMARY SEVEN AND BASIC PRIMARY ONE AND SEVEN

Prior to consideration of the following item of business the Chair ruled that an amended Page 3 of the report be circulated to the meeting with the complete revised report being circulated later to Panel Members.

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive, Community Health and Care Partnership advising of the recently published national report into the dental health of Primary 1 and Primary 7 children in Scotland.

The report advised that a detailed inspection of a random selection of P7 children in Scotland was carried out and this showed that the proportion of P7 children in Lothian with no obvious tooth decay had increased from

72% in 2011 to 77% in 2013. The national target for this age group was that 60% of P7 children should have no obvious dental decay by 2010.

Detailed dental inspections were carried out in state schools across Scotland annually, alternating between children in P1 and P7 classes. Information gathered at these inspections was used to :-

- Monitor dental health of school children over time;
- Inform parents of their child's dental health status and promote regular attendance at the dentist; and
- Inform local Health and Education authorities of the dental health of children in their area.

A steady improvement could be seen from 2005, reflecting the benefits of both the nursery and school tooth brushing programmes. However inequalities in dental health for age groups P1 to P7 still existed across Lothian.

The report then provided a summary of the arrangements that were in place for advising parents following dental inspections including details of the three letters that were issued to parents. It was also noted that Childsmile Dental Health Support Workers were also available to assist parents or carers of children of those children that needed immediate dental care. It was the data collected from these dental inspections that provided information on the dental health of the children in West Lothian compared to Lothian as a whole.

The report concluded that the recently published national report into the dental health of P1 and P7 children in Scotland showed that children's oral health in Lothian continued to improve and was the best it had been since surveys began. However for the small proportion of children who did have dental disease there had been little improvement and the need for the Childsmile dental preventative programme remained imperative.

The Panel were asked to note the content of the report including the data contained within the revised page of the report and continue to support the Childsmile Programme in Nurseries and Schools in West Lothian.

Decision

1. Noted the content of the report;
2. Agreed that a revised report including the amended statistical data would be provided to members in electronic format; and
3. Agreed that the Panel Members would be provided with details of the number of pupils who chose not to participate in the dental inspections.

5. HEALTHY WORKING LIVES

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive, Community Health and Care Partnership to advise of current actions to influence and protect the health of staff within the CHCP and in particular the actions of West Lothian Healthy Working Lives Groups and the Tobacco Free Generation Strategy Group activities.

The Depute Chief Executive explained that there were three Healthy Working Lives Groups (HWL) working to promote West Lothian's Council and NHS staff's health and well-being; these were West Lothian Council, CHCP and St John's who all had representation from staff from all levels of their organisations including occupational health and safety, human resources and partnership/trade unions.

The Healthy Working Lives Groups contributed to assessing health and safety needs in the workplace and would undertake regular staff surveys. All three groups also regularly disseminated health information as well as provide and promote services to their respective staff groups through existing communication cascades. Topics and activities included stopping smoking initiatives, promotion of healthy eating, alcohol awareness, promotion of physical activity, promoting attendance at work, raising awareness around mental health and provision of lifestyle checks.

It was noted that the CHCP and St John's HWL Groups intended to combine in the near future to avoid duplication of effort and maximise resources.

In addition to the work of the HWL Groups there was also progress being made in protecting staff from the harms of second hand smoke in that the Scottish Government's current National Tobacco Strategy required NHS Boards and Local Authorities to have completely smoke free grounds by 2015. Actions to achieve this and other actions in the strategy in West Lothian were being co-ordinated by the Tobacco Free Generation Strategy Group.

The report continued to provide further details of the work being undertaken by the West Lothian Council HWL Group to promote active health initiatives and encourage effective management and support of employees who were experiencing ill health. The council was also engaging with the wider health agenda by working with the Health Improvement Team, NHS and other interested organisations through appropriate support and promotion of good health to its workforce and included participation in a range of forthcoming activities.

It was recommended that the Panel support :-

- Staff with specific roles and responsibilities for Healthy Working Lives;
- The work of West Lothian Healthy Working Lives Group; and

- The work of the Tobacco Free Generation Strategy Group

Decision

Noted the contents of the report and supported the work being done to promote healthy working lives amongst West Lothian Council staff.

6. MATERNAL AND INFANT NUTRITION

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive, Community Health and Care Partnership advising of the local implementation of *“Improving Maternal and Infant Nutrition: A Framework for Action”*.

The Depute Chief Executive explained that good nutrition was essential for good parental health and that there was an increased requirement for a number of micronutrients during pregnancy and breastfeeding.

Therefore “Improving Maternal and Infant Nutrition: A Framework for Action” set out numerous actions for health boards, local authorities and others with the aim to improve the diet and nutritional status of women before, during and after pregnancy and support and promote the benefits of breastfeeding and the importance of a healthy diet throughout early childhood.

NHS Lothian had developed an overarching Maternal and Infant Nutrition implementation plan that would be delivered in West Lothian via two working groups with separate and complementary action plans covering Baby Friendly and Maternal Nutrition respectively. As part of the framework it was required that all Community Health Partnerships achieve and maintain Baby Friendly accreditation as a minimum standard by 2015-16, details of which were summarised in the report. To support the Baby Friendly accreditation two additional members of staff had been employed through NHS Lothian and these would work alongside the Infant Feeding Team.

The report continued to provide details of the practical support for parents and carers that was available across West Lothian and included peer support groups, breastfeeding groups, advice on weaning, cooking on a budget, maternal obesity and Healthy Start.

In conclusion there were a wide range of activities to help prevent poor nutrition during critical developmental stages and resources for maternal and infant nutrition had been increased to drive forward further activity. Implementation of these frameworks would go some way to addressing health inequalities in West Lothian.

The Panel were asked to support the on-going work required to implement the “Improving Maternal and Infant Nutrition: A Framework for Action” strategy.

Decision

1. Noted the contents of the report;
2. Agreed that Panel Members would be provided with further information in relation to the number of companies within West Lothian who had breast feeding policies and provided suitable facilities;
3. Agreed that in order to assist the Panel there would be a presentation to a future meeting on the “Early Years Collaborative”; and
4. Agreed that the Panel would welcome an update to a future meeting on the work being done to increase the uptake of vouchers for essentials and vitamins as part of the Healthy Start Programme.

7. CONSULTATION ON DRAFT PROPOSALS FOR A MENTAL HEALTH (SCOTLAND) BILL - WEST LoTHIAN COUNCIL RESPONSE

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Social Policy advising of a consultation on draft proposals for a Mental Health (Scotland) Bill.

The Head of Social Policy advised that the consultation paper, a copy of which was attached to the report, was seeking the views on proposals for a draft Mental Health Bill. The draft Bill would bring forward changes to improve the operation of the 2003 Act – notably in relation to named persons, advance statements, medical matters and suspension of detention. In addition the draft Bill would make provision for a Victim Notification Scheme for victims of Mentally Disordered Offenders.

West Lothian welcomed the opportunity to respond to the consultation on draft proposals for a Mental Health (Scotland) Bill following the earlier limited review of the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003. Also the Bill proposed a number of amendments to the current 2003 Act which were generally positive and reflected good practice. It was however noted that the measure would place additional demands and duties upon Mental Health Officers and therefore it was being suggested that in conjunction with the Bill a more comprehensive review of Mental Health Officer services was required as a matter of urgency to ensure that local authorities were sufficiently resourced to enable them to fulfil their statutory functions in these areas.

It was recommended that the Panel, note the consultation, consider the draft response and recommend that the draft response be forwarded to the Council Executive for approval.

Decision

1. Noted the contents of the report and welcomed the draft consultation response; and
2. Agreed that the report be forwarded to the next appropriate

meeting of the Council Executive with the recommendation that it be approved.

8. HEALTH AND CARE PDSP WORKPLAN

The Panel considered the contents of the Work Plan that had been prepared by the Depute Chief Executive, Community Health and Care Partnership and which would form the basis of the Panel's work over the coming months.

Decision

Noted the contents of the Work Plan.