

December News Bulletin

Welcome to our Partnership Bulletin. We aim to keep the wider partnership of agencies, organisations informed of developments. You are receiving the bulletin as a colleague who is involved with helping to deliver partnership aims and outcomes. The objective is to keep you informed of key decisions, raise awareness of initiatives and improve communications.

Northamptonshire Partnership Annual Public Service Board Conference

Alcohol harm in Northamptonshire was the focus at the Northamptonshire Partnership Annual Conference on 25th November. Issues relating to alcohol such as crime levels, long-term health implications and the major effect of alcohol on the future of children and young people were debated and discussed.

The conference focused on what we can do as a partnership in Northamptonshire to lessen the amount and effects of alcohol. Speakers representing different services in the public sector showed the impact that alcohol can have on the social and economic aspects of our county.

Workshops were held where delegates at the conference examined the facts and looked at seeking solutions that could be implemented. It was clear from discussions that a partnership response was required to address the issues relating to alcohol abuse. The Public Service Board will take a leading role in enabling changes in the way we work.

East Midlands Improvement and Efficiency (EMIEP) Board

Cllr Brain Hoare, Leader of Northampton Borough Council, is the new chair of the Northamptonshire Improvement and Efficiency Partnership (NIEP) Board.

Northamptonshire's refocused programme comprising 19 projects were reviewed by EMIEP Board where all but one was approved. A reformulated project will be resubmitted by middle of December for further consideration. The NIEP Programme Board would like to thank all project managers for their excellent work to date in preparing projects to the required standard.

New capital funding has also provided the opportunity for several further projects to be developed independently or as enhancements to developments already underway.

First Year anniversary for Centre for Health and Wellbeing Research

The University of Northampton's Centre for Health and Wellbeing Research, which is led by the School of Health and NHS Northamptonshire, recently celebrated its first year anniversary with an inaugural conference that reviewed its successful work to date.

Guest speakers represented each of the identified research strands of Mental Health and Wellbeing, Innovation and Evaluation, Staying Healthy and Public and Patient engagement, speaking of progress to date, research strategy and plans for the future.

The conference provided an opportunity for 60+ healthcare professionals, academics and research-interested members of the public to network and further explore research possibilities.

Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA)

The final draft Comprehensive Area Assessment has arrived informing us of any 'red' or 'green' flags. Green indicates exceptional performance or outstanding improvement in delivering a service or addressing a local issue, while red signals significant concerns about outcomes and future prospects. The results will be under embargo until 10th December. On 10th December all area assessment and organisational assessment results will be published on the new 'Oneplace' website. **More details will be published in a special CAA bulletin next week.**

Knowledge Management

Partner agencies have signed up to an Information Sharing agreement to maximise the use of data stored within organisations to underpin the delivery of better and more efficient public services that are co-ordinated around the needs of individuals and their communities.

The agreement outlines the positive intent of partners to adopt a proactive approach to sharing information and to ensure that measures are in place within their organisation to support effective delivery of the information sharing principles set out in this statement. The Information Sharing Agreement can be viewed at www.northamptonshireobservatory.org.uk

NHS Northants 'Delivering the Future' Feedback Sessions

Residents from all over the county gathered at Kettering Conference Centre on 17 November to hear feedback from the seven district and two staff 'Delivering the Future' events held by NHS Northamptonshire. Representatives from voluntary and public sector organisations were also in attendance to understand how their views and opinions have already started to shape NHS Northamptonshire's strategy refresh.

The feedback revealed that while 87% of people agreed with NHS Northamptonshire's current priorities, there were six other priorities that the public felt needed addressing in the strategy refresh. They are:

- Excessive alcohol consumption
- End of life care
- Better provision and support for carers
- Communication
- Improved access to GPs and other services locally
- Improved care for those with dementia

NHS Northamptonshire also shared some of the suggestions made by the public to improve efficiency, including greater use of community health services and better use of technology. There was also general agreement that prevention was better, and more cost effective, than cure and that NHS Northamptonshire should continue to promote healthy lifestyles across the county.

You may contact the Partnership Support Unit on 01604 237358. Visit the Partnership website: www.northamptonshireobservatory.org.uk

