



## Health and Wellbeing Board e-bulletin (No. 2)

**Publication date: 25th January 2012**

This bulletin provides information for Health and Wellbeing Board members with the aim of updating them on news, policy, guidance and events that impact on the Board or relate to its role and remit. There are links to further, more detailed, information set out in the text. Please feel free to forward this e-mail to anyone else you think might be interested. The bulletin will be posted on the [Calderdale Forward website](#).

This bulletin covers the period between December 2011 and January 2012. Key documents published earlier are available in the [resource library](#).

In this issue:

### National:

- Local HealthWatch – additional funding and new start date
- Public Health Transition
- Public health outcomes framework
- Training and education framework
- The role of local government as partners in commissioning for health and wellbeing
- JSNAs and joint health and wellbeing strategies – draft guidance
- Integrated care for patients and populations
- NHS Future Forum's second report

### Local:

- Calderdale Health & Wellbeing Board - 31<sup>st</sup> January 2012

### National:

- ***Local HealthWatch – additional funding new start date*** - Following feedback from local authorities and Local Involvement Networks (LINKs), a new deadline and additional funding are being put in place for the development of Local HealthWatch. Local authorities will receive an additional £3.2m to establish Local HealthWatch, on top of the £27m that they have already received for Local Involvement Networks (LINKs) in 2011/12. In addition, funding of over £370,000 will also be made available during the 2011/12 financial year for 75 HealthWatch Pathfinders. The learning from these pathfinders will be used by HealthWatch England, when it is established in October 2012, to support the development of Local HealthWatch ahead of a new April 2013 deadline. This new date also supports closer alignment with the establishment of other new bodies such as health and wellbeing boards.
- ***Public health transition***

[Summary fact sheets](#) – The Department of Health has published further details of the design of the new public health system, specifically the role and responsibilities of local government in public health, the operating model for the new executive agency Public Health England and an overview of how the whole system will work. The fact sheets aim to further inform stakeholders and staff involved in the new public health system so that the reforms can be implemented effectively.

[‘Public health transition planning support for primary care trusts and local authorities’](#) - aims to support PCTs and local authorities as they develop transition plans for the transformation of the local public health system, including how transfer of accountability from the NHS to local government will be enacted during the transition year. PCT clusters will retain statutory responsibilities for their existing functions until 31 March 2013, but the guide makes clear that local areas are encouraged to make early progress with “transformation” and mitigating risk during transition. PCT clusters are expected to produce their local transition plans, which should reflect JSNA outcomes and be supported by local authorities, by March 2012. The date for agreeing arrangements for local authorities to take on public health functions is to be determined locally.

Local authorities will be expected to be fully involved by the PCT cluster in the development of the local public health transition plan, which will need to be signed off by the local authority chief executive. They will be expected “to take the lead at the earliest opportunity” in the development of the plan and agree delegated responsibility for delivery of public health services negotiated locally.

Directors of Public Health will be expected to ensure robust transition arrangements and also to work with other Public Health Directors and local authorities to identify public health services or functions that could be delivered more effectively on a broader geographical basis.

[‘Local Government Public Health Workforce Transition Guidance’](#) - builds on the earlier [Public Health Human Resources Concordat](#), which set out general principles for dealing with staffing issues. This guidance, produced by the Local Government Association, is intended primarily for the use of Human Resources specialists in councils receiving staff. It sets out the main principles for the transfer, subject to the passage of the Health and Social Care Bill, indicating that local authorities and PCTs are strongly encouraged to work with trade unions to prepare for the transfer and to implement best employment practice. It makes clear that no staff should transfer employment in advance of 1 April 2013. A number of issues are still to be resolved, including that of dealing with staff pensions.

- **Public health outcomes framework** - The new framework [Healthy lives, healthy people: Improving outcomes and supporting transparency](#), published on 22<sup>nd</sup> January, concentrates on two high-level outcomes to be achieved across the public health system: increased healthy life expectancy; and, reduced differences in life expectancy and healthy life expectancy between communities. The outcomes reflect a focus on how long people live and also on how well they live at all stages of life.

- ***Training and education framework*** - From [Design to Delivery](#) sets out the policy framework for a new approach to workforce planning and the education and training of the health and public health workforce. It builds on the responses to an earlier public consultation and the advice of the NHS Future Forum, and aims to 'put employers and professionals in the driving seat and give them the national support they need to identify and anticipate the key workforce challenges, and to be flexible and responsive in planning and developing their workforce'.
- ***The role of local government as partners in commissioning for health and wellbeing*** – This [paper](#) by the Department of Health attempts to clarify the role and scope of the contribution of local authorities to commissioning, both as statutory partners, and as potential suppliers of commissioning support. The paper points out the potential leverage held by Health and Wellbeing Boards over integrated commissioning, 'particularly if there is a strong Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) presence on the Board and if there are mechanisms in place locally to convert the joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy into joint commissioning locally'. The increasing emphasis on integration of health and social care means that CCGs and local authorities will need to jointly scope and design commissioning support arrangements. The paper goes on to say that, as more integrated services and pathways are designed and as commissioning support arrangements take shape, it is important that effective joint commissioning arrangements between local authorities and the NHS are maintained, both during the transitional period to 2013 and afterwards when CCGs can procure their commissioning support from wherever they choose. Such commissioning support will need to be 'more efficient than it has been previously under PCTs', and 'some activities may have to be carried out across more than one local authority'.
- ***'JSNAs and joint health and wellbeing strategies – draft guidance'*** – The Department of health has now published this [draft statutory guidance](#) and is [seeking comments](#) on its content from chief executives and local leaders by 17<sup>th</sup> February, ahead of a short public consultation. The draft guidance describes the statutory duties that will underpin the production of JSNAs and joint health and wellbeing strategies, along with a framework for using best practice in the preparation of JSNAs and joint health and wellbeing strategies.
- ***Integrated care*** - This [report](#) by the King's Fund, for the Department of Health, examines the case for integrated care to meet the needs of the ageing population, transform the way that care is provided for people with long-term conditions and enable people with complex needs to live healthy, fulfilling, independent lives.
- ***NHS Future Forum's second report*** - The Government has accepted the recommendations in a [second report by the NHS Future Forum](#). As a result of the recommendations the Government will: give employers and professionals a greater say in developing the health workforce in the future, such as through local plans; aim to orientate the whole health system around patients, measuring patient experience of integrated care for the first time as part of the Outcomes Framework; consult on a new responsibility for healthcare professionals to promote healthy living through their daily contact with patients; consider the Forum's recommendation for discharge summaries

being made available to GPs and patients at the point of discharge, as part of the Information Strategy published later this year.

**Local:**

- ***Calderdale Health & Wellbeing Board***- The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January at 14.00hrs at 'Shibden Room', 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, F Mill, Dean Clough. Papers for the meeting are available [here](#).

This e-bulletin has been produced by the Partnership Support Team, 2nd Floor Westgate House, Westgate, Halifax.

If you have any queries or would like to suggest items for inclusion in the next Health and Wellbeing Board e-bulletin please contact members of the Partnership Support Team: Alan Duncan (01422 392207), [Alan.duncan@calderdale.gov.uk](mailto:Alan.duncan@calderdale.gov.uk), Sheron Hobson (01422 393199), [Sheron.hobson@calderdale.gov.uk](mailto:Sheron.hobson@calderdale.gov.uk), or Rachel Stewart (01422 393032), [Rachel.stewart@calderdale.gov.uk](mailto:Rachel.stewart@calderdale.gov.uk).