

Health and Wellbeing Board

28 January 2015

Health and Wellbeing Local Government Association Peer Challenge



Report of Andrea Petty, Strategic Manager, Policy, Planning & Partnerships, Children and Adults Services, Durham County Council

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on preparations for the Local Government Association (LGA) supported Health and Wellbeing Peer Challenge.

Background

2. To support the implementation of Health and Wellbeing Boards, the Department of Health funded the Local Government Association (LGA) to develop a Health and Wellbeing System Improvement Programme. The Peer Challenge is part of the wider offer of the Health and Wellbeing System Improvement Programme.
3. Peers work as 'critical friends' or 'trusted advisors', not professional consultants or experts. Peer Challenge is not inspection focused, it is designed to support the Local Authority and Health and Wellbeing Board in reflecting on and improving practice.
4. A review of the LGA's first four 'pilot' Peer Challenges highlighted that health and wellbeing boards have made a solid and enthusiastic start, but are at a key stage in their development. The overall message was a consistent one: health and wellbeing boards need to focus more, drive delivery more effectively and address a series of challenging issues in relation to the future of health and social care and the integration of the two.
5. Feedback from local authorities who have undertaken the Peer Challenge is positive. The LGA has produced a document entitled 'In good shape' in which local authorities state that the Peer Challenge team "made practical suggestions on how to ensure our work progresses at pace and makes a stronger impact on improving health outcomes for local people". Local authorities also stated that it was useful to have "external expertise and ideas which were relevant and practical" and this led to "thought provoking discussion".
6. Peer challenge involves bespoke teams of peers from a range of organisations working on site with the Local Authority and its partners for four days to explore how the council and its partners are working together to deliver successful health outcomes through the Health and Wellbeing Board. Through a comprehensive programme of discussions, observations, workshops, focus

groups and visits, the peer team feeds back its findings and recommendations on day 4 of the challenge.

County Durham's Health and Wellbeing Peer Challenge

7. County Durham's Health and Wellbeing Peer Challenge will take place between Tuesday 24th and Friday 27th February. A project plan approach is in place, including Checkpoint Meetings with relevant senior officers from both the council and CCGs.
8. The Peer Challenge team for County Durham has been confirmed as:
 - **Caroline Bosdet**
 - Senior Adviser at Local Government Association
 - **Andrew Kerr**
 - Chief Executive, Cornwall County Council
 - **Terry Rich**
 - Consultant in Social Care Improvement and Change
 - **Dr Anita Parkin**
 - Director of Public Health, City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council
 - **Councillor Alex Norris**
 - Portfolio Holder for Adults, Commissioning and Health, Nottingham City Council
 - **Katie Summers**
 - Director of Operations (Wokingham CCG) & Chief Information Officer (Berkshire West CCGs)
9. Following a scoping meeting and discussions with the LGA, the County Durham Health and Wellbeing Peer Challenge will focus on:
 - Is there a clear, appropriate and achievable approach to improving the health and wellbeing of local residents?
 - Is the HWB at the heart of an effective governance system? Does leadership work well across the local system?
 - Are local resources, commitment and skills across the system maximised to achieve local health and wellbeing priorities?
 - Are there effective arrangements for evaluating impacts of the health and wellbeing strategy?
 - Are there effective arrangements for ensuring accountability to the public?
10. Initial work which has taken place to prepare the following documents:
 - Draft Timetable – Members of the board have all received dairy dates for the peer challenge
 - Pre-site reading list of key documents to provide to the Peer Team e.g. JHWS, JSNA, Council Plan and CCG Operational Plans

- Position statement - outlining how the HWB is performing against the main themes of the Peer Challenge.
11. A pre-site online survey has also been undertaken with members of the Health and Wellbeing Board to ascertain their views and establish baseline data on the effectiveness of the health and wellbeing system.
 12. It has also been agreed that Cllr Norris from the Peer Team will observe this Health and Wellbeing Board meeting.

Next steps

13. Dialogue is ongoing with the LGA to finalise the preparatory documents. The following next steps have been identified:
 - Final timetable to Local Government Association - 30th January 2015
 - Position Statement to Local Government Association - 30th January 2015
 - Peer Challenge Interviews take place - 24th - 26th February 2015
 - Local Government Association feedback on the Peer Challenge - 27th February 2015

Recommendations

14. The Health and Wellbeing Board are recommended to:
 - Note the progress and next steps outlined in this report

Contact: Julie Bradbrook, Partnership Manager, Durham County Council
Tel – 03000 267325

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance

No implications

Staffing

No implications

Risk

No implications

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

No implications

Accommodation

No implications

Crime and Disorder

No implications

Human Rights

No implications

Consultation

No implications

Procurement

No implications

Disability Issues

No implications

Legal Implication

No implications