

The Highland Community Planning Partnership

Community Planning Board – 4 March 2015

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| Agenda Item | 8. |
| Report No | CPB 05/15 |

National Public Health Review Consultation / Engagement – Highland Community Planning Partnership response

Report by Pip Farman, Public Health, NHS Highland, Cathy Steer, Public Health, NHS Highland and Hugo Van Woerden, Director of Public Health, NHS Highland

The Community Planning Partnership Board are asked to:

- note the action in relation to the consultation/engagement on the national Public Health review
- provide any comments on the draft response from the CPP by 10 March

Situation

Scottish Ministers announced a review of Public Health in November 2014. An expert group has been convened to take the work forward and have invited stakeholders to offer responses to 5 questions by the 12th March. Regionally held multiagency consultation meetings will be held after the initial evidence gathering period (likely May). The group aim to report by the summer 2015.

Background

The review terms of reference focus on public health systems and the delivery of all public health functions (endeavours) in Scotland in particular how public health contributes to improving health and reducing inequalities. The review will examine: public health leadership and influence; workforce planning and development; and opportunities for greater joined up working in context of community planning / SOA's and H&SCI. Recommendations will be made to strengthen the contribution of public health; maximise the effectiveness and efficiency of public health resource in Scotland, achieve consistency and ensure responsiveness and resilience of the public health function.

The list of stakeholders that are being consulted by the Scottish Government are extensive and include Health Boards, Local Authorities, Community Planning Partners, Academic, Community, Third Sector and private sector organisations and specialist groups.

Consultation questions

1. How can public health in Scotland best contribute to the challenges discussed (in consultation paper attached)? Specifically, views and evidence of the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats to the contribution of the public health function in improving Scotland's health and reducing inequalities?
2. How can public health leadership in Scotland be developed to deliver maximum impact?
3. How do we strengthen and support partnerships to tackle the challenges and add greater value. How do we support the wider public health workforce within those partnerships to continue to develop and sustain their public health roles?
4. What would help to maintain a core/specialist public health resource that works effectively is well co-ordinated and resilient?

5. How can we provide opportunities for professional development and workforce succession planning for the core public health workforce?

Actions

A paper was presented to the CPP Chief Officers group on Monday 23rd February proposing that the Public Health Directorate of NHS Highland coordinate the Community Planning Partnership response to the consultation on the national review of Public Health (Hugo van Woerden and Cathy Steer to generate draft response) as per the timetable below.

Proposed timelines:

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| 23 rd February | Distribution of consultation paper to CPP COG/Board asking for comments / evidence, comments to be submitted to (cathy.steer@nhs.net) |
| 2 nd March | Deadline for initial comments |
| 5 th March | First draft to CPP COG/Board electronically for comment |
| 10 th March | Deadline for comments on draft response |
| 12 th March | Final response to be signed off by Chair of the CPP Board and submitted. |

The Chief Officers Group agreed to a draft response being developed by the Public Health Directorate. Given the very tight timescales it was agreed to circulate the draft response that NHS Highland had prepared and use this as the basis for generating further comment from the CPP.

NHS Highland's draft response to the consultation was emailed to COG and Board members on 24th February asking for comments to Cathy Steer (cathy.steer@nhs.net) by the 2nd March 2015.

The final response from the CPP will be generated according to the timetable above.