

**SUNDERLAND SHADOW  
HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD**

31 July 2012

**NATIONAL LEARNING SETS FOR HEALTH & WELL BEING BOARDS**

**Report of the Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To update the Board on the publication of the findings of the National Learning Sets for Health and Wellbeing Boards.

**Background**

2. As previously reported, Sunderland have been participating throughout its Early Implementer stage into a national learning set focussing on how Health and Wellbeing Boards can make best use of collective resources. The representative from Sunderland was the Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services.
3. This is part of a series of seven national learning sets which have focussed on themes that early implementers have said are of most interest and importance to Health and Wellbeing Board members, namely:
  - § Improving the health of the population
  - § Bringing collaborative leadership to major service reconfiguration
  - § Creating effective governance arrangements
  - § How do we “hard wire” public engagement into the work of the board?
  - § Raising the bar on Joint Strategic Needs Assessments and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategies
  - § Making the best use of collective resources.
  - § Improving services through more effective joint working
4. The intention of the sets was to gather and share learning from the Early Implementer phase to support Boards as they make their transition to Shadow status and subsequently take up the full statutory role. More than 90 out of 152 emerging Health and Wellbeing Boards from across England have been represented in the learning sets.
5. Each learning set comprised members from local government and NHS organisations, with a nominated policy lead from the Department of Health. The peer-to-peer learning approach encouraged senior people to share solutions that are already working, shape new solutions and influence national policy makers in the areas that matter to emerging boards and their constituent members.

## National Learning Set Findings

6. The findings of the learning sets have been condensed into a series of products designed to support health and wellbeing boards. These were launched at the NHS Confederation conference in June. The products summarise each learning set's key points of learning and are designed to provide useful points of reference for shadow health and wellbeing boards as they move towards statutory form in April 2013.
7. The eight products include:
  1. A guide to governance for health and wellbeing boards
  2. Public and patient engagement: resources for health and wellbeing boards
  3. Health Impact Assessment: a useful tool for health and wellbeing boards
  4. Case studies relating to the health and wellbeing of children and young people
  5. Poster relating to the health and wellbeing of children and young people
  6. Making the best use of collective resources: An introduction for health and wellbeing boards
  7. Making the best use of collective resources: Examples in practice
  8. A review of policy documents on children and young people's health and wellbeing

Copies of these resources can be downloaded from the NHS Confederation website - <http://www.nhsconfed.org/Publications/Pages/lresources-health-wellbeing-boards.aspx> .

## Making Best Use of Collective Resources Learning Set

8. Membership of the set was drawn from across the country and includes a mix of Board level members from Local Government, PCTs and CCGs. It met four times virtually and at one London based learning event.
9. The final report of the learning set is attached as Appendix 1 and includes
  - a set of questions for Boards to prompt consideration of key issues,
  - a series of 'tips' for Boards as they consider the use of collective resources,
  - a list of the range of resources that may be available, and
  - an explanation of terms regularly used by the various partner organisations.
10. The Five 'top tips' from the collective resources learning set were:
  - Top tip 1: Benchmark use of resources
  - Top tip 2: Use evidence to support the board's decision-making
  - Top tip 3: Plan for areas of tension
  - Top tip 4: Establish the scope of each member's responsibilities
  - Top tip 5: Clarify how financial decisions are taken in member organisations

11. It is proposed that the report be considered alongside those of the other learning sets and recommendations for action be integrated in to the recommendations from the NHS Institute diagnostic tool. It is then proposed that an action plan be developed with responsibilities shared between the Health and Wellbeing Board and the advisory groups of the Adults Partnership Board and Children's Trust.

### **Recommendations**

12. The Health & Wellbeing Board is recommended to

- (a) Note the content of the report.
- (b) Agree to the development of an action plan bringing together actions from the learning sets and the NHS Institute report.

