

**SUNDERLAND EARLY IMPLEMENTER  
HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD**

**25 NOVEMBER 2011**

**BRIEFING ON ASSOCIATION OF NORTH EAST COUNCILS IMPROVING  
HEALTH TASK AND FINISH GROUP REPORT**

**1.0 Purpose of the ANEC Task and Finish Group**

- 1.1 The ANEC task and finish group was set up as a means to engage with elected members across the region and to harness the expertise in helping shape the role of local government going forward. The particular focus of the group was to look at the NHS reforms, other relevant evidence and make recommendations. Sunderland was represented on the group by Councillor Mel Spedding and Councillor Florence Anderson.
- 1.2 The task and finish group was asked to focus on outcomes in terms of clear recommendations for action. The outcomes can include the following;
- Partnership working across local government
  - Identifying, disseminating and building on best practice
  - Engaging with key stakeholders, bringing an external perspective when debating issues
  - Developing advocacy positions
  - Providing recommendations that are targeted at Government, local government and partner organisations
  - Making a difference and adding value whether in terms of efficiencies, cultural change or by reducing costs

**2.0 Key Recommendations of the Task and Finish Group**

- 2.1 The task and finish group set out an number of key recommendations in their report, these are as follows;
- Local authorities should recognise the ambitions set out in *Better Health, Fairer Health* as a valid current statement of themes and consider this when discharging their public health function
  - ANEC should ensure that there is early discussion at both the Chief Executive Group and the Leaders and Mayors group about how to work differently to address critical issues, achieve better values and work better collectively
  - Consider holding a Health and Wellbeing summit for members and ask ANEC to host a working group with the 12 chairs of the Health and Wellbeing Board
  - A declaration of intent be developed and agreed by the 12 authorities to ensure that the population if the North East will have the best fairest health and wellbeing
  - Further discussion is needed on the role of clinical senates and networks, Public Health England and the National Commissioning Board

- Seek the retention of funding by the PCT's in respect of FRESH and BALANCE so that a way forward can be determined
- Where issues such as alcohol represent cultural problems this should not be used as an excuse to do nothing
- ANEC should be asked to consider further how the 12 Health and Wellbeing Boards can work together and be effective