

Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board

18 May 2012

Health and Social Care Systems Diagnostic – NHS Institute

Report of the Executive Director of Health Housing and Adult Services

Background

The NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement (the NHS Institute) have been tasked nationally with offering support to health and social care systems through a support programme. In the North East, the Strategic Health Authority have provided funding for the Institute to work with all of the Local Authorities and PCT clusters in the region to assist in the change that is required to meet the emerging Health agenda. The particular focus is on ensuring that Health and Wellbeing Boards can grow into their role of leading the strategic development of health and wellbeing policy and commissioning.

Sunderland Health and Wellbeing Board commissioned the NHS Institute to start the diagnostic tool in Sunderland in late 2011 with the subsequent report to be used to inform the development of the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board.

Current Situation

The NHS Institute carried out the diagnostic tool during January to March which involved

- A review of key organisational and system documents
- A chief executives listening exercise
- A stratified staff survey

A draft report has been produced and is being circulated to the organisations who took part.

The report relates to the operational environment and relationships that are central to the successful development of the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Health and Social Care system in Sunderland. In this context, in the report Sunderland is described as a coherent area where there is a maturity in relationships that is not common elsewhere. The HWB is described as having the opportunity to really drive improvement and tackle major health inequality issues in the city.

The report contains a series of recommendations to support debate and discussion across the partner organisations aimed at developing further our partnership work. This includes enhancing system leadership to drive improvements through integration and transformation across the Health and Social Care system in the City. The report also considers the links to

neighbouring areas particularly Gateshead and South Tyneside but also across the region more widely.

The report suggests that the next step should be a workshop that brings together all those organisations who contributed to the research to consider the findings, share learning and develop a way forward.

Recommendations

The Board is therefore recommended to:

- Use and extend the next programmed Board development session to be focussed on the Health and Social Care System Support findings and agree next steps.
- Invite partners involved in the research to attend the event.