

SUNDERLAND LOCAL INVOLVEMENT NETWORK

REPORT OF SUNDERLAND LINK

Strategic Priority : Healthy City

1. Why has this report come to the Committee?

- 1.1 The presentation will provide Members with an overview of the work of the Sunderland Local Involvement Network (LINK) and provides the committee with the opportunity to look at how the Sunderland LINK compliments the work of the council and the scrutiny function.
- 1.2 The work of the Committee in delivering its work programme will support the Council in achieving its Strategic Priority of a Healthy City, support delivery of the Healthy City theme of the Local Area Agreement, and help the Council achieve Corporate Improvement Objectives CIO1 (delivering customer focussed services) and C104 (improving partnership working to deliver 'One City').

2. Background

- 2.1 The Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee has invited Sunderland Local Involvement Network to attend the April 2010 Scrutiny Committee meeting to provide a brief presentation as to the work undertaken by the LINK during the year.

3. Current position

- 3.1 LINKs were created by a law passed by Parliament - the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 - which sets out their legal duties and powers. In addition, Government has issued Regulations and Directions describing the detail of LINK activities which have the force of law and must be complied with. This provides LINKs with a considerable authority to work directly with the NHS and Local Authority on behalf of the local community. The legislation creating LINKs also abolished Patients Forums across England on 31st March 2008.
- 3.2 The presentation outlines the work that Sunderland LINK has been involved with during the previous year as well as identifying some of the more specific issues dealt with.

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 The presentation will provide members with an overview of the role and work of the Sunderland LINK.

5 Recommendation

- 5.1 That Members consider and comment on the presentation made by the Sunderland LINK.

Contact Officer: Nigel Cummings, Scrutiny Officer: 0191 561 1006:
nigel.cummings@sunderland.gov.uk