

**SUNDERLAND EARLY IMPLEMENTER  
HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD**

**25 NOVEMBER 2011**

**BRIEFING NOTE ON THE NHS INSTITUTE FOR INNOVATION AND  
IMPROVEMENT – HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SYSTEM SUPPORT  
DIAGNOSTIC**

**Background**

The NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement (the 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 regions PCT clusters to assist in the change that is required to meet the emerging Health agenda with a particular focus on ensuring that Health and Wellbeing Boards can grow into their role of leading the strategic development of health and wellbeing policy and commissioning.

**Current Situation**

The Institute have met with the Sunderland Health and Wellbeing Executive group to provide information on the nature of support that is available, the timescales for delivery and the commitment that will be required of the Board and partners.

A summary of the support tool is included an Appendix1.

The support involves a number of key stages including

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

The Institute have indicated that there is capacity to start the support in Sunderland in early January, with reports being produced in February/March. The host for the project will be Sunderland City Council, with the secretariat role completed by the Chief Executives strategy, policy and performance management service.

The Institute have requested that a week be highlighted when they will be in Sunderland and undertake interviews with key players. In principle it is proposed that this be the week commencing 16<sup>th</sup> or 23<sup>rd</sup> January depending on availability.

Although the involvement of individuals is key to the success of the programme, the Institute have provided assurances that no single person will be required to provide any more than 1 hour of individual time for the process.

The focus of the review in Sunderland will be on the development and maintenance of relationships to ensure the effective functioning of the Health and Wellbeing Board. This will cover both existing Board members and those currently involved as part of the advisory groups of the Adults Partnership Board and the Children's Trust.

This will help to satisfy the requirement of the Board's Early Implementer status to review the membership and functioning of the Board to ensure appropriate structures are taken forward into the shadow and full Board status.

## **Recommendations**

The Board is recommended to

- Note the summary of the Institute's support service
- Agree for the Institute to start work in Sunderland in January 2012
- Agree to be available for interviews either w/c 16<sup>th</sup> or 23<sup>rd</sup> January
- Receive reports on the recommendations of the Institute on completion