

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 22 FEBRUARY 2013

Statement from: Cllr Mrs S Woolley, Executive Councillor for Health, Housing and Community

Implementation of NHS Reforms

1 April 2013 is a significant date as many of the NHS reforms will come into place then.

- The PCT and Strategic Health Authority will cease to operate.
- Our four Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) will all come into operation.
- The County Council will assume its full range of Public Health responsibilities.
- The Director of Public Health and his staff will fully join LCC.

Visit by Duncan Selbie, Chief Executive Designate of Public Health England

On 11 January, Duncan Selbie, the Chief Executive Designate of Public Health England, visited the County Council. He was particularly interested in our pilot on Payment by Results for Substance Misuse. We provided him with additional written information which he will use in discussion with Ministers.

Another area which he felt was a national leader was the joint work between the Central Lincolnshire Planning Unit and Public Health staff. This had previously been reported as a good practice approach in a national report from the Town and Country Planning Association. Representatives from Public Health in Lincolnshire and the Central Lincolnshire Planning Unit have been asked to meet with several senior Public Health England Directors to explore further how this work can be supported by Public Health England and how it could be disseminated nationally.

Councillor Big Society Fund

Since starting in September 2011, councillors have been making awards that have benefited a wide range of community projects right across Lincolnshire. A total of 501 awards have been made (as of 25 January 2013), which equals almost £228,000 going directly to support community projects.

All councillors will have an update on their funds in their pigeon holes today along with any outstanding certificates. The awarding of certificates is a great way to let local people know about the group and its work.

As we are approaching the end of Big Society Fund for this financial year, Members are reminded that final awards must be made by the end of February to ensure they are paid before the end of the financial year and to comply with publicity restrictions in purdah.

Lincolnshire Armed Forces Community Covenant

Since the last update another Lincolnshire application has been approved by the MOD - £20,000 to provide a second response vehicle for Lincolnshire Emergency

Medical Response, based at RAF Cranwell. To promote further uptake, an event to encourage projects to come forward in supporting the measures in the Covenant, is to be held on 27 March at RAF College Cranwell. The event will involve councillors, members of the Armed Forces, Forces Charities and practitioners from the public, private and voluntary sectors.

Community Cooking and Growing

Our community cooking and growing programmes continue to be successful. In the last 3 months of 2012 the countywide programmes provided 300 cooking sessions enabling 4,206 people to learn a range of practical cooking skills. This period also saw the setting up of 3 new community growing sites and recruiting 83 new volunteers to lead on community gardening.

We are working with all districts to continue the community cooking and growing work beyond April 2013, including the roll out of the Master Gardener volunteer programme on a county-wide basis.

Health & Wellbeing Fund – Lives Expansion

The Health & Wellbeing Fund Board approved funding to set up 70 new LIVES groups in communities that did not have the First Responders local volunteer service. The project purchased defibrillators, first aid kits and other equipment and trained local volunteers to act as qualified First Responders. The Health & Wellbeing Grant expression of LIVES is due to complete at the end of March; it currently has 69 active groups in the County with the 70th group due to be active imminently. Once the Grant funding has ended, the groups will continue to provide the First Responder service where needed.

Making Every Contact Count (MECC) Programme

Thousands of interactions happen every day between our services and local people. In order to make sure everyone addresses people's health needs we are developing a project called 'Making Every Contact Count'.

This year the Public Health element of MECC is focussed on training and support for health care staff, to ensure every opportunity is used during day to day contact with patients, to have meaningful conversations about healthy living and to refer patients to lifestyle services such as Health Walks or Smoking Cessation.

Each NHS Trust has engaged enthusiastically with MECC, identifying senior leads to drive the initiative forward, attending MECC training provided by Public Health and organising cascade training for teams of staff to embed the concept and ensure the public are given appropriate support to improve their lifestyle.

We have co-ordinated quarterly development workshops for the three NHS Trusts in order to share good practice, overcome barriers to implementation and to work with the 'lifestyle' provider partners likely to receive a MECC referral.

Lincolnshire County Council, West Lindsey District Council, East Lindsey District Council, City of Lincoln Council, Boston Borough Council, Community pharmacies and the emerging CCG organisations are now engaging with MECC in preparation for expansion plans in 2013/14.

Responders to Warmth 2012/13

As I reported in December, Lincolnshire County Council's Directorate of Public Health secured Department of Health Warm Homes Healthy People funding for a second winter. With this much needed resource we can now support the winter warmth scheme, Responders to Warmth (R2W), for the next two years.

This scheme provides:

- New heating systems
- Heating repairs
- Adaptations and insulation
- Small interventions (including sand, salt and slipper replacements to prevent slips, trips and falls)
- Blankets, portable heaters and in some cases food parcels to low income and vulnerable households can also be provided.

Responders to Warmth also signpost to other agencies who can offer support when appropriate.

This is all to support the reduction of cold related illness and death in fuel poor households in England. This is of great relevance to local people as there were an estimated 24,000 excess winter deaths in England and Wales in 2011/12, of which 2,000 were in the East Midlands area. The role that Local Authorities have in highlighting Responders to Warmth services to vulnerable communities is vital in supporting the prevention of excess winter mortality.

Last winter over 2,700 R2W interventions took place over a three month period. This year we will be able to support many more people and keep many more families and vulnerable people warm and healthy.

Youth Offending Service

The introduction of the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 brings significant change and challenge for the Youth Offending Service in respect of custodial remands and Out of Court Disposals. The new Single Remand Order was introduced on 3 December 2012 and now places a strong onus on collaboration between YOS and Children's Services in terms of developing a joint strategy in the management of young people on remand. This co-working will also enable the early identification of young people who may be progressing towards custody and provide effective support to reduce the risk of inappropriate custodial remands. As a consequence this will also minimise the associated financial burden upon the local authority. Lincolnshire YOS has also engaged in the training of local Magistrates to consider the implications of the LASPO Act 2012. In terms of additional resources to address these new responsibilities, Lincolnshire Children's Services are currently recruiting and training Remand Foster Carers which will provide credible alternatives to the court where risk can be effectively managed in the community.

A number of Lincolnshire YOS staff are now seconded within the Troubled Families team and will also co-locate at offices around the county. This will ensure increased collaboration and effective information sharing between practitioners which can only contribute to the positive outcomes sought by all respective agencies. A proportion

of the Home Office grant linked to substance misuse and prevention activities which was previously provided to the YOS has now been directed to the new Police and Crime Commissioner. It is essential for the service to continue to demonstrate high levels of performance to ensure that the Police and Crime Commissioner has confidence that Lincolnshire YOS continues to be the most suitable provider of these services.

In terms of funding, no decision has currently been made in respect of the Youth Justice Grant from the Ministry of Justice. Although a funding reduction is anticipated, no indicative figures have been provided which does generate on-going uncertainty. The multi-agency structure of Youth Offending Teams may also be affected in the future by the recent announcement around the restructure of Probation Services as they currently provide three qualified Probation Officers. However, it is positive that the three Early Intervention and Prevention workers are now in post and will manage the transition between the outgoing Final Warnings process and the move towards Youth Cautions and Youth Conditional Cautions in April 2013. In addition, these staff will have a key role in working with referrals from agencies such as Police and Probation to identify young people at risk of entering the criminal justice system and offer preventative strategies to address this.

Lincolnshire Sports Partnership

In January 2013 Lincolnshire Sports Partnership launched its new 4 year strategy 'Inspiration to Participation'. There are 4 key elements to the strategy;

- *WORKFORCE* – To develop people in and through sport and physical activity
- *EVENTS/PROGRAMMES* – To increase opportunities for people to take part in sport and physical activity
- *FACILITIES* – To increase the number of facilities available to the public for sport and physical activity
- *COMMUNICATIONS* – To improve awareness of sport and physical activity

The new Strategy for Lincolnshire builds on the success of the Games and continues to deliver the legacy programmes. It will help to build on previous success and show that neither the size of community or geographical location will be a barrier to participation or achieving potential.