

INVESTING FOR HEALTH TEAM NEWSLETTER

26th Edition

21st July 2008

BRENDAN BONNER

- *Chief Officers Forum- WIFH hosted the 5th meeting of the Chief Officers Forum in June, 16 organisations were represented and there was a broad range of discussions on RPA, IFH Activity, health indicators etc. There were two key actions coming out of the event, the first was the signing of the Contract of Commitment to Partnership working and the second was consensus on agreed working theme for the next two years. The agreed theme was the promotion of Physical Activity - we are now in the process of creating a press statement and support information for all organisations to help them take forward the theme.*
- *Alcohol Misuse - TRIAX N.R. Partnership are leading on a major bid to the big lottery on a project that is about developing a community response to addressing alcohol misuse in NR areas. As part of the bid I participated in a joint study visit to Nottingham to examine how they have a range of issues on the ground to tackle the problems that are associated. The study team included representatives from community organisations, private sector and myself. The information collected will inform the final structure of the bid.*

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

1st September 2008

*First meeting of Western Area
Obesity Prevention Taskforce
Executive Group*

4th September 2008

26th IFH Partnership Meeting



SEAMUS MULLEN

- Thank you to those who responded to our recent request to evaluate the IFH Update Report. As of responses received by 16th July: 93% of respondents said the IFH update report was useful; 82% have communicated the information contained in the report to their wider organisation/membership; 75% of people use e-mail to communicate the message further and 50% through word of mouth. Further results will be available in due course.
- Thank you to those who have contributed to the development of our Role Modelling Programme. Following consultation with our colleagues in District Councils, we will now proceed with the programme which will be entitled "Active Families" Programme. This will use physical activity as a means to achieve inter-generational relationship building between parents/guardians and teenagers. We are keen to integrate this with other physical activity initiatives and strategies, so please contact me if you see a 'fit' with your programmes if we haven't already been in touch.

JONI MILLAR

- SBAs are ready to go out for Roadwise (delivery of Roadwise across WHSSB area), Young Fathers Project (provision of pre-programme intensive training for Young Fathers numeracy & literacy programme) & LIFE+ programme development (planned workshop to host development of programme for young people to follow on from initial LIFE programme)
- Monitoring & Evaluation – the original impact assessment for projects funded has been reviewed and will be completed for each SBA and the information stored in SPSS for analysis

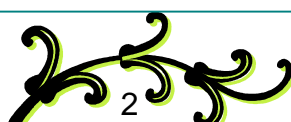
MARTIN DUFFY

- Population Health – INTERREG 1V application (VIA CAWT)
Special EU Programmes Body met on the 18th June 2008 to consider the CAWT Interreg IV application. Although approval was secured for the initial 12 projects, the additional funding required to support the 4 reserve projects was not available. The reserve projects are as follows -

- Cross Border patient profiling/service user profiling information
- Seamless exchange of electronic information
- Youth without Borders
- Protecting the public from Avian Influenza and Water Borne Diseases

CAWT representatives have advised that these projects will be held on file should further funding become available.

- Sion Mills GP Premises
Board and HAZ staff over the last number of months, have been working with the Sion Mills Community Forum and the Trust, with regard to identifying possible uses for the GP Branch Surgery, which closed in the village in 2006. Agreement has now been reached and the Trust will initially be providing a Podiatry Service for two days a week. Trust staff will also assess the premises to see if they are suitable to provide other services such as Speech and Language Therapy.



SIOBHAN SWEENEY

- *Review of Public Administration*

In the Ministerial Statement on the 1st July it was announced that Health Action Zone Staff will transfer from Trusts to the new Regional Agency for Public Health. It is envisaged that the new organisation will be up and running asap therefore our stay in the WHSCT looks like it will be short-lived. All of the HAZ team would like to thank the Staff in the Trust who have provided us with support since our move over and look forward to your continued support as we move to the new agency and beyond!

- *Welcome Michelle*

The staff at the HAZ office are delighted (and relieved) to finally introduce you to our new administrator Michelle Kelly who started with us on the 1st of July. Michelle although new to the Health Service is quickly getting to know the territory and looking forward to getting to know the wider Investing for Health Team

COLETTE BROLLY

- *Co-ordinated Physical Activity Programmes for Older Men*

The Later Years Sub-group has recently secured 60K from WIFH for this initiative and is currently inviting tenders from a partnership of organisations in the community, voluntary and statutory sectors to manage, deliver, monitor and evaluate co-ordinated physical activity programmes for older men modelled on a Framework developed by the Later Years Sub-group of WIFH (advert to be in Belfast Telegraph, 18th July).

The successful tendering organisation(s) will be expected to proactively target older men and deliver programmes across either the District Councils of Omagh and Fermanagh or Strabane, Derry and Limavady or alternatively across the whole Western Board area.

This initiative will run from September 2008 to March 2010. Tender forms and further particulars may be obtained from Michelle or Colette at the Western Health Action Zone on 028 71880221. Closing date for tenders is Friday 5th September at 3.00 pm.

Please share this information with your relevant contacts.

- *Fuel Poverty*

The Western Health Action Zone hosted a very successful Fuel Poverty Seminar - "Towards an Action Plan for the West" on the 11th June in the Alley Arts and Conference Centre, Strabane with over 70 delegates attending. An Action Plan is now being finalised and a Western Area Steering Group on Fuel Poverty will meet for the first time in September, membership of this Group is currently being considered.

For further details contact Colette.



JULIE MCGINTY

- *Integrated Play*

The Early Years sub-group have been successful in sourcing further funding from IFH for the next 2 years for the Development of the Integrated Play Project. Through this the group aims to add value to the existing project, ensuring that the new areas in Claudy and Donemana are fully utilised. The project will ensure that disabled children and their families will be able to access integrated play in a range of settings across Limavady, Strabane and Derry. It is expected that this work will be tendered out around the end of May and in place by end of June.

- *Young Fathers*

The Young Father's Project, which covers the Derry, Strabane and Limavady areas, has reached the **FINAL** of the **2008 National Lottery Awards**, where it will be competing in the **Woman Magazine Award for Best Voluntary/Charity Project category**. We need your vote to help us win! This is our chance to celebrate and recognise the difference that the project has made to young parents from the North West and their children. We are also in with the chance of winning £2000. Please support our project by taking a minute to VOTE FOR US. Voting takes place from 21st July to 8th August. TO CAST YOUR VOTE, just visit

www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk/awards.

From there, click on the Woman Magazine Award for Best Charity/Voluntary Project category and then vote for us. Alternatively you can call **0845 386 1248** to register your phone vote. Every vote counts so please help us to get as many as we can! The winners will be announced on a special BBC 1 programme to be shown later this summer.

Community Food and Nutrition Team (CFNT)

- Since the launch of the Community Food and Nutrition Team there has been good demand for its services with requests for input to community vegetable garden schemes, workshops on varying aspects of nutrition and advice on healthy eating activities for children keeping the team busy. In addition, the CFNT – with help from some of its partners - delivered sessions to shoppers during the Healthy Omagh Consortium's recent Health and Wellbeing festival (June 30th – July 5th). The team held sessions on 'Finding out about Food Labelling' and 'Finding out about Fruit and Veg' at each of the five large supermarkets in Omagh during the festival. An Environmental Health Officer from the Western Group assisted with the 'Food Labelling' sessions while local Cook it! tutors and 2 Student Dietitians took part in the 'Fruit and Veg' sessions, which were aimed especially at children and their parents. Information on healthy eating for all ages, food labelling and other aspects of nutrition was available from the Healthy Eating stall at Omagh Show. These sessions proved very popular, with many people asking for further information or requesting advice on specific aspects of their diet.
- In response to an invitation, Claire Holmes and Siobhan Sweeney attended a workshop to deliver a presentation on the development, establishment and remit of the Western HAZ Community Food and Nutrition Team to representatives from the Northern Trust. This took place as part of an initiative to re-build in the Northern Trust a Cook it! Team which can then be developed into a CFNT.
- The HPA plans to develop a Cook it! pack adapted for adults with learning difficulties. Consultations between interested parties have been held at the MENCAP offices in Belfast and a working group– including the CFNT Dietitian – will shortly commence compilation of the information required for the pack.

HEALTH PROMOTION DEPARTMENT

- *The Health Promoting School Award*

The Health Promoting School Award (HPSA) is currently celebrating its 15th year. Over 96 schools were involved in the recent award ceremony held in Fermanagh. The Health Promoting School Award Ceremony took place on 22 May in the Manor House Hotel, Killadeas to give recognition to the 58 Nursery, Primary, Special and Post Primary Schools in the WHSCT area which received a bronze, silver or gold level award in 2007/8. An additional 38 schools retained a gold award from 2006/7. Health promoting schools have removed vending machines, developed health policies such as healthy breaks and staff emotional health and well-being, introduced extracurricular healthy cookery classes and smoothie tasting afternoons, expanded physical activity programmes and introduced water on tables for every pupil. To register your school or for further information, contact Lesley Finlay, Health Promotion Department.

- *Sweet Smiles For The West Bank*

The Western Health and Social Care Trust in partnership with the community groups in the west bank of the Foyle have celebrated the first anniversary of the Bank Your Smile Oral Health Project. Statistics show the Western Trust is an area with high levels of dental disease, particularly in children. The Bank Your Smile initiative brings together partners from the Health Promotion Department WHSCT, Western Health and Social Services Board, the Community Dental Service and community based health projects in Creggan, Bogside and Brandywell, the Fountain, the Glen, Ballymagroarty and Shantallow areas. This partnership continues to work together to deliver a comprehensive programme spanning five years to improve the oral health of children living in the worst affected areas of the city. To highlight the exemplary work of the local communities running this programme, "Sweet Smile?", an advertising campaign was launched by Gerard Diver, Mayor of Derry City Council in June in the Brandywell Stadium. This event was supported by Derry City Football Club and the campaign aims to draw to the public's attention the importance of looking after our children's teeth and the relationship between a healthy mouth and a healthy body. For further information on the Bank Your Smile Project and the "Sweet Smile?" campaign, please contact Sonia Montgomery at the Health Promotion Department on 028 7186 5127.

- *'Getting It Together': A Peer Led Mental Health Promotion Resource*

'Getting It Together' is a peer led educational resource developed by young people for young people. It offers an opportunity to explore emotional well-being and introduces positive coping strategies in a fun and interactive way. The WHSCT Health Promotion Department in partnership with Opportunity Youth have enabled 10 young people to undergo peer led skills training in order to equip them with confidence and skills to deliver the 'Getting It Together' to their peer groups. A total of 85 young people throughout the western area have attended the training. These young people are now working towards delivering a training for trainers for people who work with young people in the autumn. For further information, please contact Marie Dunne, WHSCT Health Promotion Department on 028 7186 5127 or Darren Boyle Opportunity Youth 028 7137 1162



CATHY MULLAN

Engaging With Young People

The Youth Participation Project organised by CAWT is coming to an end. Martin Duffy and I attended an event in Donegal last week which explored the possibility of participating in an initiative called Investing in Children, which is run by Durham Council. This initiative is about ensuring that children and young people are consulted and involved in dialogue about services and programmes that affect them. The organisation are willing to share their processes, procedures and protocol, and their learning with us if we would like to take it on.

There is an assessment for participants who wish to apply for membership based on the views of the young people who have been involved. Originally muted as a cross-border initiative we thought there may be some mileage in looking for projects in the WHSSB area to try it out and have an information exchange/learning circle with colleagues in the south who also want to try it rather than a joint project.

There are a few projects that we think we could use to test the waters, like the St Cecelia's sexual health initiative and the work that is coming together around the needs of looked after children but if anyone would like further details, please contact me.

Plans for 08-09

The action plans and first round of spending proposals for the health promotion strategies are complete and available from Caroline. They will also be on the WHSSB website shortly. IFH staff are asked to look at the ones that are relevant to their work and let me know of any that are not yet included. This should help ensure that our work in response to the DHSSPS is 'adequately reflected in any reports for the WHSSB area.

WDACT

▪ *Small Grants Awarded*

The WDACT has awarded over £20,000 in Small Grants to 10 different groups based across the WHSSB area. Initiatives supported include increasing alcohol awareness in rural areas in the Omagh District Council area where they will target the foreign national population. Several summer schemes are being supported as well as a programme to support the needs of families of carers of substance misusers. A full list of the successful projects will be available on the WDACT website shortly.

▪ *Competitive Tendering*

The WDACT along with the other 3 DACT's are embarking on another round of competitive tendering for service provision. The current service providers are funded until the end of March 2009. In this round of funding, monies will be allocated for a 2-year period, with a possible extension of a further 3 one-year periods. (Total of 5 years).

The process is again being facilitated regionally by RSS. The current timeline is that the process should be advertised at the end of August, with the tenders being submitted by the end of September. A rigorous assessment of the tenders will follow and the awarding of contracts should be completed during December 2008. There will be an information session in early September for those wishing to obtain more information. The team will have approximately £1.8 million available for the initial 2-year contracts.



TOBACCO CONTROL GROUP

Consultation on the Future of Tobacco Control – Responses welcomed.

A public consultation on the future of tobacco control, launched by the Department of Health, has been extended to Northern Ireland. Smoking remains the main cause of avoidable illness and premature death. The implementation of the smoke-free legislation was welcomed when it came into effect last year. However, to continue making progress towards achieving the long-term aim of a tobacco-free society, more work is required.

The consultation covers four main areas:

- **Reducing smoking rates and health inequalities caused by smoking.**

This considers what can be done to reduce inequalities caused by tobacco use and also the issue of smuggled tobacco products.

- **Protecting children and young people from smoking.**

Comments are being sought on issues around reducing the availability of tobacco products to young people, including further controls on the sale of tobacco from vending machines, plain packaging of tobacco products, point of sale displays of tobacco, and sales of packets of 10 cigarettes.

- **Supporting smokers to quit.**

This section recognises the importance of smoking cessation services and looks at how the services could be developed further to target hard to reach smokers.

- **Helping those who cannot quit.**

There is an opportunity to comment on whether there is support for a harm reduction approach for smokers who find it very hard to quit completely.

The Health Minister, Michael McGimpsey, is encouraging people to respond to the consultation. The responses from Northern Ireland will be used in the development of the Five Year Tobacco Action Plan (DHSSPS, 2003–2008). He has specifically asked people to comment on restrictions on advertising and promotion of tobacco accessories (question 7), controls on the display of tobacco products in retail environments (question 8), and controls on the sale of tobacco from vending machines to restrict access by young people (question 9). All other comments are still welcomed.

The Western Tobacco Control Group is collating a response to the consultation and with a website www.smokefreeaction.org.uk has been set up to help people send a quick email response to the Department of Health indicating support for the proposals in the consultation document. However, people are encouraged to respond in full where possible. The consultation is available on the Department of Health website at http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_085114

Responses to the consultation can be submitted online to tobaccoconsultation@dh.gsi.gov.uk or by post to:

Tobacco Consultation, Department of Health
Room 712, Wellington House, 133-155 Waterloo Road
London, SE1 8UG

All responses need to be received by the DoH by **8 September 2008**. However to compile a response all comments are required to be sent to Mark before **Friday 8th August 2008**

For further information contact Mark.

