Purpose of report

“80% of the determinants of health are not down to the NHS, it is employment, housing, social isolation and the place people live in”. This is recognised in the current NHS reforms which will see public health responsibilities transferred to local authorities. This paper highlights how those changes affect East Northamptonshire and seeks Members views on whether the arrangements appropriately reflect the contribution to the wider determinants of health of this council’s activities.

Attachment(s):

Appendix 1: Locality Forum Terms of Reference

1.0 Background

1.1 The Department of Health in its continuing reforms to the National Health Service (NHS) are making changes that include the introduction of a new public health service in England.

1.2 From April 2013 this means that local authorities will have the lead for public health instead of the NHS (Primary Care Trust – PCT). In Northamptonshire this this responsibility will sit primarily with the County Council and be led by the Director of Public Health.

1.3 There will be duties to co-operate and integrate services and the basis for the new service will be the need to address the wider determinants of health. Local authorities including District and Borough Councils will be required to work together with the new Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG) to achieve this.

1.4 Local joint health and wellbeing strategies will be produced by local authorities and CCG’s working together through new Health & Wellbeing Boards in collaboration with patient groups and other partners. There will be a legal duty to involve local communities in producing the strategies and the joint strategic needs assessment which will underpin it. Central to the new approach to public health will be the move away from targets and focus instead on outcomes.

1.5 This is welcomed as this is what we in District Councils do as part of the day job:
   - Provide frontline public interacting services
   - We operate out of and utilise public assets
   - We operate within a broad range of partnerships
   - We are constantly assessing the needs of our communities

1.6 Historically public health is not new to local government and in recent years it has been a key element in the ‘wellbeing’ agenda. This has been a cornerstone of the work and activities of the Council’s Community Development, Environmental Health and Housing teams. Activities that not only actively promote improved health but they also control conditions to protect and maintain health. The Council has the knowledge and skills to help in addressing many of the wider determinants of health and its actions have effect beyond current populations to include future generations. Public
health is more than physical health and also includes mental health and social health; that it is about the needs of local communities as well as the concerns of individuals.

1.7 At a strategic level the strategy and priorities set by the Health & Wellbeing Board will influence if not determine how public health services are provided and commissioned across the County. If East Northamptonshire wishes to ensure that the needs of its communities are recognised in this process then it needs to be engaged. It needs to ensure that the needs of a population with an increasingly older age people are met, that issues such as rurality and accessing services are addressed. Without engagement there is the likelihood that the focus and the resources and investment that will follow will be on the larger centres of population in the County.

2.0 What is in place now?

2.1 Reference has been made to the Health & Wellbeing Board, an overarching body currently chaired by Councillor Robin Brown (NCC) and until recently with representatives for the District and Borough Councils in the form of Councillor Barry Graves (BCW) at Member Level and Housing and Environmental Health at officer level. Unfortunately the new make-up of the Board will be dominated by NCC and the CCG. District and Borough Council representation has been diluted with no direct input from Environmental Health and Housing practitioners. This leaves the Board with less of a perspective on tackling the wider determinants of health as delivered locally. Beneath this sits locality forums, one for each district.

2.2 The situation for East Northamptonshire is complicated by the fact that it has two Clinical Commissioning Groups operating within the District. The countywide Nene Commissioning which covers much of the District whilst Borderline Commissioning covers the area of Oundle and the villages to the north of Oundle. Borderline CCG is part of the Peterborough and Cambridgeshire arrangements.

2.3 Nene CCG have appointed a locality manager for East Northamptonshire, Tom Dodds and one of his priorities is the setting up of a locality forum which will feed into the County Health and Wellbeing Board. He is currently working on this with officers from this Council and the draft terms of reference are attached at Appendix 1. Members will note that ENC will have representation on the Forum from both officers and members, Councillors Holloman and Taylor.

2.4 The situation in respect of one of the key posts in taking forward the new arrangements, The Director of Public Health, has also changed significantly. NCC are currently recruiting to a new post of Director of Public Health and Wellbeing and once filled District and Borough Councils will need to take this opportunity to make a case for better engagement and representation.

3.0 Equality and Diversity Implications

3.1 There are no known equalities issues arising from this report.

4.0 Legal Implications

4.1 There are no known legal issues arising from this report.

5.0 Risk Management

5.1 There are no immediate risk issues arising from this report.

6.0 Financial Implications

6.1 There are no financial issues associated with or arising from this report.
7.0 Corporate Outcomes

7.1 Good public health is a priority outcome contributing to a good quality of life where the District will be healthy.

8.0 Recommendation

8.1 Members are requested to note the contents of this report and indicate whether they wish to make representation to the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board on the issue of engagement with and representation for this Council within the new public health arrangements.

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<th>Legal</th>
<th>Power: Health and Social Care Act 2012</th>
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<td>Other considerations:</td>
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Background Papers:
Person Originating Report: Mike Deacon, Head of Environmental Services
Date: 23 April 2013

(CMmittee Report Normal Rev. 22)
Introduction

The East Northants Health & Wellbeing Forum is the local constituent to the countywide Health and Wellbeing Board. It is the mechanism for delivering and driving forward the health and wellbeing elements of future East Northamptonshire strategies and the Northamptonshire Health & Wellbeing Strategy. It will also feed in the local perspective to inform and influence the delivery of integrated, efficient and cost effective services for the local population of East Northamptonshire.

For the purpose of this forum, the geographical boundaries of the East Northamptonshire locality will be as defined by East Northants Council, and as such receives health care from a number of NHS and private providers, and health services are commissioned by two Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs).

Purpose

The East Northants Health & Wellbeing Forum is established to enable local partners from the public, private and voluntary sectors to work together to improve the health and wellbeing of the people in the local area.

Through the development and implementation of an agreed, local, multi-partner action plan, the local health and wellbeing forum will respond to existing and future community health and wellbeing issues.

The purpose of the Forum then is to help identify priorities for East Northants, and influence commissioning plans in order to create preventative, integrated services that improve and safeguard the Health & Wellbeing of the local population whilst recognising the rurality and changing age profile of the district.

Priorities

The Forum will support the development and delivery of an East Northamptonshire action plan and the countywide Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The forum provides an opportunity to influence a collaborative clinical commissioning agenda across CCGs.

Any action plan will be developed in the context of an East Northants vision where:
People live in communities that are safer and healthier and where key services are accessible to all.
People feel able to influence decisions affecting their lives.
The standard of living of the most disadvantaged communities and households has been raised.
People aspire to and achieve higher levels of educational attainment and have access to high skilled jobs in the district.
The towns and rural villages have quality homes that meet the needs of local people.
People have a clean street environment, a high quality and accessible countryside and are determined to minimise their impact on the global environment.

The eight priorities from the Draft Northamptonshire Health & Wellbeing Strategy are that:

- Every child is safe and has the best start in life
- People choose healthier lifestyles and exert greater control over their health and wellbeing.
- Vulnerable adults and elderly people are safe and able to use services and support that helps them to live as independently as possible.
- Improve the health and wellbeing of those communities and individuals with the worst health in our county. These communities may be groups of people or certain geographic areas in the county.
- Health, social care and public health services work together in all areas and services are joined-up where people have both health and social care needs.
- The numbers of people experiencing emergency, unscheduled care is reduced.
- Businesses focused on improving health and wellbeing operate successfully in communities across Northamptonshire.
- Led by NHS and Local Authorities, employers throughout the county promote the health and wellbeing of their employees.

Objectives

The Health and Wellbeing Forum will:

- Provide local leadership on health and wellbeing issues
- Review evidence on local health needs and determine issues that need addressing
- Monitor and support the implementation of a local health and wellbeing action plan
- Influence the commissioning process for the local area
- Support the development and delivery of the countywide Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- Act as a forum for partners to raise issues, to maximise opportunities for information sharing, joint working and integration of services
Membership

The Forum will include a core group of organisations that have a key role and responsibility to improve health and wellbeing in the local area. Membership will be reviewed continuously and individuals can be co-opted for specific issues.

Membership of the Forum will include representatives from the following *(To be agreed)*

**Health & Health Commissioning**
- NHS Nene Clinical Commissioning Group
- NHS Cambridgeshire and Peterborough CCG
- NHS Hospitals

**Local Authority**
- East Northamptonshire Council
- Northamptonshire County Council
- Public Health

**Voluntary and Community**
- Nene Valley Community Action
- Carers

**Public and Service Users/Carers**
- Healthwatch/Link
- Chair of Patient Locality Engagement Group

**Other**
- Housing
- Police
- Education

Ways of Working

- The Forum will be accountable to and agree reporting and scrutiny arrangements with the County Health and Wellbeing Board.
- Task & Finish groups will be set up to take forward priorities and these will meet as required.
- NHS Nene CCG and East Northamptonshire Council will provide administrative support to the Forum and will be responsible for arranging meetings and for disseminating information amongst members.
- An annual report will be produced.
- A review of the structure and operation of the Forum will be conducted on a two yearly basis.
The Chair of the Forum, or a nominated representative, will present progress reports when required to the County Health & Wellbeing Board.

The Forum will provide input into the County Health and Wellbeing Board, and will ensure it has a reliable and credible route to communicate with the Board.

The members will elect the Chair and the Vice-Chair annually. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair will chair the meeting.

There will be a minimum of four meetings a year and these will usually be held prior to the County Health and Wellbeing Board and relevant East Northants Council meetings.

Meetings will take place at East Northamptonshire Council offices unless otherwise agreed and be open to the public to attend (as observers).

Agenda items and associated documentation will be submitted in writing to the Chair not less than two weeks before the date of the meeting. Inclusion of items will be at the discretion of the Chair. Agendas will be circulated to members and invitees at least one week before the meeting.

The agenda and records of meetings will be made publicly available via the Council’s website, NHS Nene CCG website (East Northants section), and through NVCA networks.

Decisions will be arrived at by consensus and recorded in the minutes.

Where relevant, members of the Forum will ensure they declare any conflict of interest.

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