

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD	AGENDA ITEM No. 7
24 SEPTEMBER 2012	PUBLIC REPORT

Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Sheila Scott, Cabinet Member for Children's Services	
Contact Officer(s):	Wendi Ogle-Welbourn Assistant Director Strategy, Commissioning and Prevention Children's Services	Tel. 01733 863749

HEALTH WATCH AMBASSADOR FOR CHILDREN

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S	
FROM : Midlands and East Regional Strategic Health Authority	Deadline date: The deadline was the end of August, however extension negotiated.
The Health and Wellbeing Board is requested to:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Determine whether to employ a trained and supported Health Watch Ambassador for Children at a cost of between £11,181 and £18,181 depending on experience: This would be an apprenticeship and need to be hosted by a local authority, local Health Watch organisation or CCG, with support for the role provided by a regional project manager. Ambassadors would be in place by April 2013; and 2. Agree the host agency and funding share if proposal agreed. A suggestion would be 1/3rd Public Health, 1/3rd Children's Services and 1/3rd CCG. 	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report is submitted to the Health and Well Being Board following a request from the Midlands and East Regional Strategic Health Authority to the Director of Children's Services.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to obtain the views of the Health and Well Being Board Members on the employment of a Health Watch Ambassador for children.
- 2.2 This report is for Health and Wellbeing Board to consider under its Terms of Reference 3.4, to consider options and opportunities for the joint commissioning of health and social care services for children, families and adults in Peterborough to meet identified needs (based on the findings of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment) and to consider any relevant plans and strategies regarding joint commissioning of health and social care services for children and adults.

3. HEALTH WATCH AMBASSADOR FOR CHILDREN

- 3.1 A proposal is being made by the Midlands and East Strategic Health Authority cluster for each Local Authority to employ a Health Watch Ambassador for children. The proposal has been cited as good practice in the Children and Young People Outcomes Report and is also being considered by London areas.

3.2 The proposal utilises the experience of young people who have completed the SHA funded Prince's Trust 'Get into Health' programme, a five week programme including:-

- 3 weeks training, including: Royal Society of Public Health Level 1 and 2 award, workshops on Sexual Health, Physical Activity, Drug and Alcohol Awareness, Diet and Nutrition. C.V. writing, interview techniques, job/apprenticeship application.
- 2 weeks relevant work experience e.g. in a hospital, support services, facilities management, PCT's or equivalent, GP Practices, Social Care.
- 6 months of on-going support and mentoring.
- Young Ambassador Programme where Young Ambassadors receive tailored support and high quality training to develop their leadership and communication skills.

3.3 Get Into and Young Ambassador training is taking place in each Local Authority area in the East of England over the next 6 months.

3.4 Key tasks of Young Ambassadors:

- The development of a local Children and Young People's Organisation Directory to promote inclusion of all groups, provide local signposting and promote sustainability.
- Meeting with existing local groups of children and young people to hear their views on local priorities and development of themes for reporting back to local Health Watch and therefore health and wellbeing boards.
- Developing a relationship with local support systems to signpost to those who may be of potential assistance.
- Collating views from local Health Watch to feed into the EOE Strategic Network for Child Health and Wellbeing.

3.5 Please see the attached full proposal.

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 Presentation at the Board is part of the regional cluster consultation process.

5. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES

- **A Solution to a long standing challenge:** the effective involvement of children and young people in decisions about the health and social care system.
- **Giving Young People a development opportunity:** This proposal offers localities the opportunity to offer an apprenticeship to invest in their local youth population.
- **Well informed decision making:** through access to children and young people of all ages across the diverse local population, giving more disadvantaged groups the chance to be heard, this role will be able to give a thematic overview of views and feedback to promote well informed decision making by the Health and Wellbeing Boards as well as adding depth to the core of local Health Watch.
- **Evidence based:** the research to date demonstrates that the views of children and young people are more effectively heard by other young people. The proposed model offers a local lead within the local structure to be able to build the dialogue from young people through young people.
- **Proven structure of support:** the model builds on the Princes Trust track record of delivering benefits for both young people and for the local health and social care system to offer a robust framework to fit local structures. This framework secures the effective recruitment of young people from diverse and deprived backgrounds with existing training and experience and supports them to work as a team for Health Watch and to work within their individual locality.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Health and Well Being Board in Peterborough provides a view on this proposal to provide the Strategic Health Authority the information it requires to make a decision about progressing the proposal.

7. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

8. IMPLICATIONS

If the Health and Wellbeing Board agree with the proposal a discussion and decision around hosting and funding the post will need to be made.

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Proposal from the Midlands and East Strategic Health Authority Cluster.

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