

<b>HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD</b>		AGENDA ITEM No. 8(b)
<b>21 JANUARY 2013</b>		<b>PUBLIC REPORT</b>
Contact Officer(s):	Wendi Ogle-Welbourn Assistant Director Strategy, Commissioning and Prevention Children's Services	Tel. 01733 863749

## HEALTH AMBASSADOR FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S	
<b>FROM:</b> Executive Director of Children's Services.	<b>Deadline date:</b> The deadline was the end of August, however extension negotiated.
<p>The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to agree to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The employment of a Peterborough young apprentice to be a trained and supported Health Watch Ambassador for Children at a cost of between £11,181 and £18,181 depending on experience. The apprentice would be managed on a day to day base by Children's Youth Services. Support and training will be provided by a regional project manager.</li> <li>2. A funding share of 1/3<sup>rd</sup> Public Health, 1/3<sup>rd</sup> Children's Services and 1/3<sup>rd</sup> Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).</li> </ol>	

### 1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report was presented to the previous Health and Well Being Board; it is being represented with the additional information requested. The original report was submitted to the Health and Wellbeing Board following a request from the Midlands and East Regional Strategic Health Authority to the Executive Director of Children's Services.

### 2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to agree on the employment of a Health Watch Ambassador for children, the Ambassador to receive day to day line management from Children's Youth Services and support and training from the regional project manager. Costs to be shared by Public Health, Children's Services and the CCG.
- 2.2 This report is for Health and Well Being Board to consider under its Terms of Reference. 3.4, to identify areas where joined up or integrated commissioning, including the establishment of pooled budget arrangements, would benefit improving health and wellbeing and reducing health inequalities.

### 3. HEALTH WATCH AMBASSADOR FOR CHILDREN

- 3.1 A proposal has been 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. In the Eastern Region the majority of Health and Well Being Boards have already agreed the proposal.
- 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 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.

## 4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Presentation at the Board is part of the regional cluster consultation process. Discussions with Health Watch will take place to ascertain how the Ambassador will work effectively with them if agreement to move forward is given by the Health and Well Being Board.

## 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

- 6.1 It is recommended that the Health and Well Being Board in Peterborough agrees to the employment of a Health Watch Ambassador for Children.

## 7. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 7.1 Consideration has been given to not agreeing the employment of a Health Watch Ambassador for Children, however it is believed that this is a unique opportunity to ensure the voices of children and young people are heard at the Health and Well Being Board and that services are designed and delivered in the knowledge that children and young people have been part of the decision making processes. It is also a fantastic opportunity for a Peterborough young apprentice.

**8. IMPLICATIONS**

If the Health and Wellbeing Board agree with the proposal arrangements on 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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