

Neighbourhood Health Programme Updates – North Cumbria

Welcome to the first Neighbourhood Health Programme team briefing note. These notes are designed as a simple, regular way to stay connected – giving a snapshot of what is happening across the programme, highlighting progress and sharing learning from across the region.

At the heart of the Neighbourhood Health Programme is collaboration: between services, communities, partners and people. Through these briefing notes, our workshops, forums and other activities we hope to keep the conversation flowing, celebrate what is working well and be open about the challenges we are navigating together.

Reflections on North Cumbria Neighbourhood Health Workshop

Over 50 colleagues from across the system came together on the 11th February for the inaugural meeting of the North Cumbria Neighbourhood Health Programme. The session provided a valuable platform to reiterate details of the Ten-Year Plan, National Neighbourhood Health Implementation Programme and share the challenges we have across the system for improving Health, Care and Wellbeing in our region.

Workshop attendees worked collaboratively to identify and agree on key priority areas, enabling a collective focus on a defined and manageable population. This approach maintains flexibility to target specific sub-groups and to pilot different approaches [or interventions] across different neighbourhoods. Our next step will be to provide data for the top 5 priority areas, supporting informed decision-making and enabling focussed effort on the final agreed priority area or areas.

Top 5 priority areas from workshop:

1. End of Life / Palliative Care (recognised as different but aligned)
2. Frailty
3. Urgent Community Response
4. Mental Health and Wider Determinants of Health
5. Starting Well and Family Services

The final priority area or areas will be shaped through partner engagement in workshops so we can begin to identify and plan how the programme will address the needs of the people within those cohorts. We are keen to understand what best practice and existing and planned schemes we have in area. The Neighbourhood Health Team will be working with ICC Teams to understand and document the differing approaches to delivering within communities, particularly with ‘risk groups’ and high intensity users.

Our next workshop is 1.30pm to 4.30pm on the 25th March at the Harraby Community Centre, Carlisle. This is an in-person event. If you are interested in being part of it, please contact alison.cocker@cumberland.gov.uk

Governance refresh

As part of the Neighbourhood Health Planning workshop, attendees were invited to identify the next steps and building blocks needed to support collaborative Neighbourhood Health planning and delivery. A key theme was the importance of refreshing governance arrangements and considering wider membership. In response, the North Cumbria Health and Wellbeing Board will be holding a development session in March to review its membership and governance, with the aim of strengthening collaboration and partnership working.

National Guidance

Although we still await the full National Guidance for the implementation of Neighbourhood Health, we do have access to the Community of Practice webinars which have been held online. The sessions include a brief overview of the national strategic outlook and examples of how places have carried out various elements of Neighbourhood Health to development their place offer.

All four recordings and presentations from the session will be available here:

<https://neighbourhood-health.co.uk/resources>

Next Community Engagement Forum

The date of our next Community Engagement Forum is Thursday 19th March at 10am on Teams. If you would like to join, or have a colleague who would like to join, please email alison.cocker@cumberland.gov.uk

We hope you have found this first edition of *Briefing Notes* useful. We plan to share future updates as the programme develops, but if you would prefer not to receive these briefings, or if your contact details have changed, please do get in touch with us and we will update our records. Thank you for taking the time to read, and for your continued interest in the Neighbourhood Health Programme.