Voluntary Sector Update and News
January 2015

Welcome

Welcome to the monthly edition of the Department of Health’s Voluntary Sector Partnership Team’s newsletter for the voluntary sector.

The Voluntary Sector Partnership Team works to embed the value of the voluntary and community sector into mainstream policy development within DH and build stronger partnerships with the sector.

Mailing list

Please feel free to forward this newsletter on to your networks and memberships. If anyone would like to be put onto our mailing list and receive this newsletter, news alerts and invitations to our joint learning events for the sector, please email vcsmail@dh.gsi.gov.uk

In this month’s edition…..

1. Update from the Department of Health
2. NHS England Update
4. Consultations
5. Other News
6. Strategic Partner News and Events
1. Update from the Department of Health

Innovation, Excellence and Strategic Development (IESD) Fund
The Department of Health’s ‘Innovation, Excellence and Strategic Development (IESD) Fund’ is now open. The IESD Fund provides funding from one to three years to support proposals in the health and care field. The available funding is limited and to be successful, organisations will need to have a clear focus in their applications on how their proposals would support and drive forward new ideas, disseminate and replicate excellence or undertake strategic developments in voluntary sector capacity and/or capability in health and care. The Fund is open for applications for projects to start in September 2015 or later; we cannot accept applications after the closing date, which is at Noon on 27th March 2015. (Please note that an initial registration and eligibility process must be completed by Noon on 13th March 2015).

For more information please visit: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/iesd-voluntary-sector-funding-for-health-and-care-projects

New Mental Health Act code of practice
A revised code of practice for the Mental Health Act 1983 provides guidance for professionals.

The code shows professionals how to carry out their roles and responsibilities under the Mental Health Act 1983, to ensure that all patients receive high quality and safe care.

To read more, go to: https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-mental-health-act-code-of-practice

Deputy Prime Minister launches search for Mental Health Heroes
The Deputy Prime Minister is calling on people to nominate unsung mental health heroes in their local area as part of his campaign to raise awareness of mental health problems.

To read more, go to: https://www.gov.uk/government/news/deputy-prime-minister-launches-search-for-mental-health-heroes

Nick Clegg calls for new ambition for zero suicides across the NHS
On Monday 19th January the Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg hosted a Mental Health Conference, bringing together leading clinicians, policy makers and campaign groups to discuss the future of mental health services in England.

At the conference, co-hosted by the Minister of State for Care and Support Norman Lamb, the Deputy Prime Minister called on all NHS trusts to commit to a new ambition for ‘zero suicides’ in order to dramatically reduce suicides in our health service. This ambition has already been adopted in some areas with Mersey Care in Liverpool, South West England and East of England.
Government backs standardised packaging of tobacco
After carefully considering the evidence for standardised packaging, and other relevant information, Public Health Minister Jane Ellison confirmed on 21 January 2015 that the government backs the public health case for introducing the policy.

To read more, go to: https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-backs-standardised-packaging-of-tobacco

New Year's Honours for health and social care
The 2015 New Year Honours recognise achievements of wide range of people throughout health and social care community.

People from the health and care community make up 7% of all honours, including 8 nurses who received MBEs.

To read more, go to: https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-years-honours-for-health-and-social-care

2. NHS England Update

The Forward View into action: Planning for 2015/16
NHS leaders from NHS England, Monitor, NHS Trust Development Authority, Care Quality Commission, Public Health England and Health Education England have set out steps for delivering the NHS Five Year Forward View in The Forward View into action: planning for 2015/16. The plan is backed by NHS England’s allocation of £1.98 billion of additional funding, which will see £1.5 billion go to frontline health services including primary care, local clinical commissioning groups and specialised services.

To read more, go to: http://www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/forward-view/

NHS launches new bid to beat cancer
NHS England has announced a new independent taskforce to develop a five-year action plan for cancer services that will improve survival rates and save thousands of lives. The taskforce has been asked to deliver the vision set out in the NHS Five Year Forward View, which calls for action on better prevention, swifter diagnosis and better treatment, care and aftercare for all those diagnosed with cancer.

To read more, go to: http://www.england.nhs.uk/2015/01/11/beat-cancer/

Mental Health choice guidance published
NHS England has published updated guidance to help commissioners, GPs and providers support mental health patients in choosing who provides their
care and treatment. This follows extensive consultation on the interim
guidance published last year.

To read more, go to: http://www.england.nhs.uk/2014/12/19/mh-choice-guidance/

New resource launched to improve Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
NHS England has published a new resource with tools for commissioning
effective mental health services for children and young people. The Targeted
and Specialist (Tier 2/3) specification for Child and Adolescent Mental Health
Services builds on previous sample specifications and supports
commissioners of targeted and specialist services which treat patients with a
range of emotional and behavioural difficulties.

To read more, go to: http://www.england.nhs.uk/resources/resources-for-ccgs/#camhs

Simon Stevens pledges NHS funding to prevent diabetes
Commenting on the Health At A Glance Europe 2014 report which shows
Britain has a higher rate of adult obesity than the rest of Europe, NHS
England Chief Executive Simon Stevens has pledged NHS funding for a new
national programme to help people reduce their risk of diabetes by eating
better and exercising more.

To read more, go to: http://www.england.nhs.uk/2014/12/26/nhs-englands-action-on-obesity/

NHS England announces £1bn investment in primary care over the next
four years
NHS England has announced that patients across England are set to benefit
from a £250m investment in GP premises every year for the next four years.
The NHS England funding will deliver on the promise of a new deal for
primary care, as highlighted in the NHS Five Year Forward View. The £1billion
investment will give practices the space and capability to offer more
appointments and improved care.

To read more, go to: http://www.england.nhs.uk/2015/01/15/pc-investment/

New pilots to improve speed and medical accuracy of ambulance calls
Clinical experts from across the NHS, led by Professor Keith Willett, NHS
England’s Director of Acute Care have announced proposals for reducing
wasted ambulance journeys and improving quality of 999 care. The proposals,
which will be tested across two pilot sites, include giving 999 call handlers
longer to take information from those making non-life threatening calls.

Public Health England and NHS England launch joint strategy to wipe out TB
Public Health England and NHS England are to invest £11.5 million in a joint strategy to reduce and eliminate Tuberculosis (TB) in England. The action plan sets out a number of measures to improve screening, treatment, rates of early diagnosis, and tackling TB in under-served groups.

To read more, go to: http://www.england.nhs.uk/2015/01/19/tuberculosis/

Parent/carer stakeholder engagement session information - children & young people’s rehabilitation
The Improving Rehabilitation Services Programme has recently been established at NHS England. As part of this programme, a project has been set up to scope children and young people’s rehabilitation services and to establish if there is a case of need for work to improve rehabilitation services for children and young people.

To guide and inform this work NHS England is holding stakeholder engagement sessions for parents and carers of children and young people who have received (or are receiving) rehabilitation services.

To register for events please click the links below (places are limited):

For London event on the 23rd February 2015
http://www.events.england.nhs.uk/all/322

For Leeds event on 10th February 2015
http://www.events.england.nhs.uk/all/314

This is the second NHS England national rehabilitation conference. The day will include plenary sessions, breakout workshops and a panel discussion with opportunities to network

Workshops will include the following themes:

- Transition
- Integration
- Innovation
- Mental health and parity of esteem

For more information, go to: http://www.events.england.nhs.uk/all/338

Developing Patient Leaders programme
NHS England is delighted to be able to provide places on the Developing Patient Leaders programme.

Concepts will be introduced to patients by asking the following three questions:
- Do you want to get more involved in your local health community, working in partnership with health professionals to improve services?
- Do you want to learn how to build effective relationships with other patients or any of those involved in health care delivery?
- Do you want to develop your understanding of what patient leadership is and what it means to health services?

Further information is available at: [http://www.ahsn-nenc.org.uk/project/ cgi.php](http://www.ahsn-nenc.org.uk/project/ cgi.php)

**Last NHS Citizen Design workshop on the 29th and 30th of January, 2015**

The NHS Citizen Design workshop, is taking place in London on 29th and 30th January. It will be the last opportunity to talk with the NHS Citizen project team before March when the team will deliver their work to NHS England.

While a lot of the work for this is done, there are some important questions that need to be further explored:

- How people can work together to make sure NHS Citizen helps everyone?
- How do different groups of people who might be ignored in the past take part in NHS Citizen?
- How do we decide on which issues are discussed by the board of NHS England?
- What does it mean to be an active citizen in the context of a changing healthcare system?

For more details, go to: [www.nhscitizen.org.uk](http://www.nhscitizen.org.uk)

**Recruiting members for the C4CC co-production group**

The Coalition for Collaborative Care (C4CC) is a group of organisations who have agreed to work together to improve support for people with lived experience of long-term conditions. The aim is to ensure that people with long-term conditions can access healthcare which focuses on the whole person and where different organisations and communities work together with each individual, carer and/or family to achieve the best possible outcome.

The Coalition’s co-production group plays a central role in this work. The co-production group is a team of people with long-term conditions and carers. The group works with the C4CC central team and partners to influence and co-design the work of C4CC on an on-going basis.

NHS England is recruiting new members to the core C4CC co-production group and is particularly keen to receive applications from people who have experience of long-term conditions.

**The closing date for applications is Monday 2nd February.** Interviews will be held on Friday 6th, Monday 9th February and Friday 13th February 2015.
For more information and details on how to apply, go to:

Open and Transparent Healthcare
The Open and Transparent Healthcare event, taking place on 3 February 2015 at Resource London, is aimed at helping patients, patient participation groups and charities understand how opening up information about NHS services enables patient choice, and empowers patients. The event provides an opportunity to work together, using innovative ways to explore open data and transparency and what they really mean.

To read more, go to: http://www.events.england.nhs.uk/all/364


Duncan Selbie’s Bulletin
The weekly bulletin from Duncan Selbie, Chief Executive of Public Health England, is available here:

New Change4Life campaign encourages families to make sugar swaps
A new Change4Life campaign launched on January 5th 2015 by Public Health England encourages parents to cut down the amount of sugar their children consume by making one or more simple swaps.

See the full story at: https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-change4life-campaign-encourages-families-to-make-sugar-swaps

Newborn babies screened for more rare conditions
All newborn babies in England will be offered screening for 4 additional rare genetic disorders from January 5th 2015.

Public Health England’s NHS Newborn Blood Spot Screening Programme has been expanded to screen for the following rare, but potentially disabling conditions: homocystinuria (HCU), maple syrup urine disease (MSUD), glutaric aciduria type 1 (GA1) and isovaleric acidaemia (IVA).

Testing for these conditions, leading to early detection and treatment, will prevent those babies affected from dying or being severely disabled for the rest of their lives.
View the full press release here:

Recommendation against national dementia screening
The UK National Screening Committee (UK NSC) has upheld its recommendation against screening everyone aged 65 and over for dementia.
Following an extensive review of the evidence, the Committee concluded that the current test for dementia, which is a form of questionnaire, does not accurately identify those people who have dementia and those who do not.

To recommend screening, the Committee would need to be confident that by acting early, treatments would slow or even prevent this serious disease. At the moment these treatments do not exist.


**Chair and trustees needed for new charity: ‘The What Works Centre for Wellbeing’**
PHE has supported the establishment of the charity in partnership with 16 founding partners, who have collectively provided nearly £4m of initial funding. High calibre non-executives are needed to lead the centre.

For more information, go to: http://whatworkswellbeing.org/about/chair-and-trustee-vacancies/

**Londoners urged to vaccinate their children against flu as rates of the virus increase**
Public Health England is urging parents in London to ensure their children are vaccinated against flu, if they are eligible. All 2, 3 and 4 year old children are entitled to a free flu vaccine but current vaccination rates for this age group in London are currently less than 30%.

Rates of flu are increasing in London with the current rate of reported ‘influenza-like-illness’ at 23.2 per 100,000, slightly higher than the England rate of 21.3 per 100,000. However, some London boroughs are experiencing much higher rates, indicating that flu season is well-underway in the city.


**4. Consultations**

**Nicotine inhaling products: introducing a minimum age of sale**
Seeks views on proposals to introduce a minimum age of sale for the purchase of nicotine inhaling products, including e-cigarettes.

To read more and respond, go to: https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/nicotine-inhaling-products-introducing-a-minimum-age-of-sale

This consultation runs until **28 January 2015**.

**Data sharing for health and care professionals: guidance leaflet**
Seeking views on new guidance to help care professionals share information to improve care.

To read more and respond, go to: https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/data-sharing-for-health-care-professionals-guidance-leaflet

This consultation runs until 31 January 2015.

5. **Other news**

**NCVO Commercial Masterclasses – various dates**
If your organisation is looking at bidding for public service contracts, either alone or as part of a consortium, and you feel you need to ‘up your game’ in terms of business practices, this two-day masterclass is for you.

As well as this two-day masterclass, NCVO is offering a series of one-day events on:

- commissioning youth crime services
- health and social care commissioning

For more information, go to: http://www.ncvo.org.uk/training-and-events/events-listing/533-commercial-masterclasses

**ACEVO Spring Health and Social Care Conference 2015**
Date: 3rd March 2015
Time: 09.00 – 17.00
Location: 30 Euston Square, London, NW1
Speakers: Jeremy Hunt, Andy Burnham, Paul Burstow, and Simon Stevens

With less than two months before the General Election, the three main political parties come together at the ACEVO Health and Social Care Conference 2015 to discuss their plans for the sector and respective visions for health and social care in the UK.

For more information and to book your place, go to: https://www.acevo.org.uk/event/spring-health-social-care-conference-2015

6. **DH Voluntary Sector Strategic Partner News and Events**

**NCPC training workshops - The Mental Capacity Act & Advance Care Planning**
The National Council for Palliative Care is delighted to announce training workshops on The Mental Capacity Act and Advance Care Planning to be held at the NCPC offices in 2015. The half day workshops will take place over three dates on 24th February, 25th February and 24th March 2015. Join us for a half day and choose from The Mental Capacity Act (morning) or Advance Care Planning (afternoon), or attend both workshops over the course of a full day. Comments from attendees at previous similar workshops
have been very positive, and places are limited to 20 per workshop, so early booking is recommended.

For more information, go to: http://www.ncpc.org.uk/mca-acp?utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=MCA-ACP

National Voices Independent Trustee vacancy
National Voices are seeking an independent trustee (i.e. not one elected by the members) to help make National Voices more diverse.

For further information go to: http://www.nationalvoices.org.uk/current-vacancies

Disability Rights UK calls for participants for an online media project on return to work
Disability Rights UK would like to hear from members of the public who are planning to return to work following a serious illness. We have been asked to find participants for an online media project which will follow a group of individuals as they aim to make the return to either their previous roles or new careers. We are recruiting for a partner initiative that is hoping to chart the progress and challenges that people experience when trying to get back to work and also offer some insight to the financial implications and resources that could be available.

Places are extremely limited and interested parties will need to be prepared to be filmed and share their experiences for short films that will be available online. In return our partners are able to offer short term financial support, access to rehabilitation services and a host of other benefits. If you would like to find out more please email jason.jaspal@disabilityrightsuk.org

Making Personalisation and Integration a Reality - 24th February 2015 from 10.30 to 15.30 in Central London
Making health and social care support truly personal continues to be an aspiration and a challenge. A number of initiatives (NHS Health and Social Care Act, Better Care fund, personal budgets, integration pioneers and personal health budgets) as well as action on the part of agencies and professionals have attempted to give additional impetus to the user-led movement for change, however, the evidence suggests that at best the experience of service users is variable.

This seminar will seek to understand what has aided progress in developing personalisation and integration and examine ways that barriers have been addressed to deliver greater choice and control. The exploration of evidence and experiences will help identify practice that can be replicated to achieve change across geographical areas and across communities, at the same time as identifying lessons for national and local policy makers.

To book go to: http://tiny.cc/personalisation
Save the dates - National Children’s Bureau (NCB) FREE events

Promoting the health of looked after children, 26th March 2015, Central London - An opportunity to learn more about the updated statutory guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) and the Department of Health (DH), for local authorities, clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) and NHS England on promoting the health and welfare of looked after children.

A conversation on Youth Obesity, 24th March 2015, Central London - An opportunity to discuss the impacts of youth obesity and routes to healthier lifestyles for our nation’s young people.

Programme information and booking will follow.

Improving Male Health for the Next Generation
NCB has published a new report, *Improving Male Health for the Next Generation*, presenting findings from its survey of 138 men. The 2014 survey asked men about their approaches to getting help and advice on health issues, and what they think might help boys and young men growing up now to look after their health as they get older.


Review of You’re Welcome
The Department of Health *You’re Welcome* quality criteria lay out a set of non-mandatory standards for delivering young person friendly health services. They are designed to be used by health services themselves to assess how well their provision meets the needs and preferences of young people. Since the original publication in 2005, the DH has reviewed the quality criteria every 2-3 years to ensure resonance with current health policy. The latest version of You’re Welcome was published in 2011. All young people are entitled to receive appropriate health care wherever they access it; and services across England need to take young people’s views, preferences and needs into account.

The DH, NHS England and Public Health England have agreed a process with NCB to undertake a rapid review of You’re Welcome. During the next 2 months NCB will lead a review process by inviting structured feedback via surveys from health services, commissioners and young people. The surveys are now live at the following links:

Health services: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/YWHealthServices](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/YWHealthServices)  
Commissioners: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/YWCommissioners](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/YWCommissioners)  
Young People: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/YWYoungPeople](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/YWYoungPeople)

To read more about You’re welcome, go to: [https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/quality-criteria-for-young-people-friendly-health-services](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/quality-criteria-for-young-people-friendly-health-services)
Men's Health Forum training launch - free training event on 2nd March

The Men's Health Forum has developed new training for people in the voluntary and public sectors interested in tackling men's poor health in their area. You can try it free and help us make it even better.

Objectives for the session:

- to outline the activities to date that have contributed to the development of the MHF training offer
- to identify specific opportunities with the strategic partners for testing/delivering the training packages
- to test elements of the "How to " training packages and inform changes
- to provide a platform for partners to inform current and future developments of the MHF training

Venue: London, SE1
Start: 10.30, arrive from 10am

Register and more info: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mens-health-forum-training-launch-event-tickets-6672863715

Health Equity North: One year on – free event on 19th February, Chester

That health inequalities exist and persist across the north of England is not news but that does not mean they are inevitable. Health Equity North is a collaborative venture exploring the potential of collective approaches, across sectors to achieve a step change in the health and wellbeing of communities across the north of England. As part of this venture, Public Health England commissioned an independent inquiry to provide fresh insight and understanding of health inequalities in the North which resulted in the publication of the Due North report in September 2014. This conference is a continuation of the debate which PHE has been initiating and supporting with stakeholders on the recommendations of Due North, and on future work of the Health Equity North collaborative.

Link to booking page and more information: http://www.phe-events.org.uk/ken15

#StopLookListen15 - National Safeguarding Day, NCVYS's national day of action, returns on 27th February

We might be more than halfway through January but it's not too late to make a resolution around your organisation's safeguarding practice. In fact you've got until the end of February. And even better than that, NCVYS is here to help.

On Friday 27th February NCVYS is holding its second annual #StopLookListen15 day - the youth sector's chance to raise awareness of its vital role in safeguarding and child protection, and to reaffirm its commitment to the high standards set

For further information go to: http://www.ncvys.org.uk/stop-look-and-listen-national-safeguarding-day