

## **EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL 29 MARCH 2017**

### **Adult Social Care**

#### **Occupational Therapy – Service Development Presentation**

1. The North East AHP (Allied Health Professions) Careers Conference took place on Wednesday the 8<sup>th</sup> of March 2017 in Newcastle. The event was held to showcase the North East as a great place to work and to provide students an opportunity to find out what is going on in the North East in terms of support and service developments. The organising committee were seeking submissions from individuals working in the Allied Health professions in the North East who could present and showcase their work.
2. Through the Integrated Occupational Therapy service across South Tees we were informed of the conference and asked to submit an abstract about the Single Handed Care Project which we had undertaken.
3. Mary Danks was then chosen to present the work which herself and Helena Toland had completed. She was required to do a 10-15 minute presentation within the workshop. “Innovations in Practise” and respond to questions following this. The presentation included information about the project, the approach taken, the outcomes for our customers and the substantial savings achieved. The project has changed practise moving forward and single handed care is embedded into practice with continued savings.
4. The information was well received and through the presentation and the discussions with attendees Middlesbrough Council and the Integrated OT service were promoted as positive places to work and where excellent and innovative practice is taking place benefitting our customers.

#### **Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards – Law Commissioning Review**

5. The Law Commission have published a draft bill on reviewing the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) which is now awaiting a response from the Government. The DoLS aim to protect people who lack mental capacity, but who need to be deprived of liberty so they can be given care and treatment in a hospital or care home. If a person’s right to liberty needs to be infringed in other settings, an authorisation must be obtained from the Court of Protection.
6. The DoLS have been criticised since they were introduced for being overly complex and excessively bureaucratic. The draft Bill offers certain changes to current systems which will simplify the processes whilst still providing protection for the most vulnerable

### **Adult Health**

#### **Tobacco penalty**

7. The Trading Standards Service are continuing to tackle the increasing illegal tobacco trade in Middlesbrough. The availability and affordability of illegal tobacco makes smoking attractive to young people, encouraging people to smoke more and it making it harder for them to quit. Illicit tobacco sales undermine all the regulatory tobacco control measures

which are in place to deter smoking such as, strong health warnings, hidden point of sale displays and taxation. Illicit tobacco has strong links with organised crime groups and Trading Standard's multi agency regulatory approach is a priority area to reduce crime in our local communities and to improve public health by reducing smoking.

8. On 27<sup>th</sup> February 2017 Trading Standards Officers struck a considerable blow to the illegal tobacco sellers after seizing their largest haul of illegal tobacco. Following surveillance, raids were carried out against two shops and associated cars and houses in the University ward of Middlesbrough, with officers from the Police, HMRC, Immigration and a tobacco and money detection dog. Over 100 000 illegal cigarettes were seized and taken out of the distribution chain.
9. Further investigation are ongoing into the criminal offences under the Trade Marks Act 1994 and General Product Safety Regulations 2005.
10. Further effective enforcement action is planned and this should act as a deterrent to other retailers who may feel tempted or persuaded to sell such products.

### **Training to make a safer Night Time Economy**

11. The Middlesbrough Alcohol Harm Reduction Partnership has been working with the licensing trade to ensure their premises and their staff, are provided with the skills to ensure a safer night time environment for their customers. Middlesbrough has a vibrant night time economy, with a wide range of entertainment offered across the town centre making it an attractive place to spend a night out.
12. The Partnership has supported their fourth and fifth courses of vulnerability and safeguarding training to door supervisors, bar staff and people managing licensed premises to help them recognise vulnerable customers and to know what to do to help them. The course also raises awareness of the Safe Haven located on Albert Road which provides late night medical support reducing the burden on James Cook Hospital. An additional 47 people have been trained and more courses are planned in the next few months with a focus on the staff from late night takeaways

**Councillor Julia Rostron**  
**Executive Member for Adult Health & Social Care**