

## EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL 1 November 2017

### Adult Social Care

#### CCG Consultation on Proposed Changes to Respite Care

1. NHS South Tees Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and NHS Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees CCG are launching a formal public consultation on proposed changes to respite services for people with learning disability, complex needs and/or autism.
2. The CCGs are proposing changes to the way bed-based respite services are delivered as well as:
  - Changing the assessment and allocations process for services – focusing more on the needs of service users and their carers;
  - Providing community based, flexible respite services such as gardening, doing a sport or another activity;
  - Providing clinically-led support services.
3. The most significant change being proposed is to bed-based services. Currently, patients access services at 2 Bankfields Court in Middlesbrough, or Aysgarth in Stockton-on-Tees for their bed-based respite needs.
4. Currently, £1.5 million per year is spent on providing these services. The CCGs want to spend this money differently and in line with national direction, would like to move bed-based facilities away from a hospital setting as this isn't always the most appropriate place for service users and does not provide the best value for money.
5. The CCGs are consulting on two options for the future of the services.
6. **Option One** Buy a range of Bed Based Respite services to replace existing Bed Based Respite services. Change the assessment and allocations process, making it more needs led. Buy flexible community based respite services. Buy clinically led outreach support services.
7. **Option Two** Continue to buy Bed Based Respite services at 2 Bankfields Court and Aysgarth. (Stockton) Change the assessment and allocations process, making it more needs led. Buy flexible community based respite services. \*maintaining services at 2 Bankfields Court and Aysgarth means there will be flexible community based respite services as in Option 1 but they will be limited due to the funding needed to maintain the existing service.
8. Officers from the Council have been involved in the working group, led by the CCG, and are actively encouraging family Carers to have their say

## **Staying Put Agency**

9. The Staying Put Agency recently received a commendation in two award categories (Adaptations of the Year and Handyperson Service of the Year) at this year's national Home Improvement Agency Awards held at the House of Lords.
10. The Staying Put Agency, supports older people, people with disabilities, and those who are vulnerable, to be independent, warm and safe in their own homes.
11. The annual Home Improvement Agency Awards, organised by Foundations, celebrates the work of 170 social-value driven organisations throughout England that provide adaptations and other services designed to help disabled and older people live independently in their own homes.
12. The Staying Put Agency was commended for its collaboration and partnership working, as well as its innovative approach to minor and major adaptations.
13. Winners and shortlisted organisations were joined by representatives from the Department for Communities and Local Government, Department of Health and leading charities including HACT, National Energy Action, Independent Age and Age UK at a ceremony in the House of Lords to celebrate their achievements.
14. Awards host Lord Best said: "Once again, these awards demonstrate the innovative work being undertaken by home improvement agencies across the country. They are playing a crucial role in enabling people to live safely in their own homes and in the process are helping to relieve the pressure on health and social care services."
15. Jonathan Gouder, Team Leader at the Staying Put Agency, said "It was great honour to be nominated for two awards. The team has worked incredibly hard supporting people to remain independent in their own homes"
16. Paul Smith, director of Foundations, the national body for home improvement agencies, said: "What is particularly inspiring is the way in which HIAs have sought to develop robust and sustainable services to meet local health and care priorities, innovating and collaborating with others to deliver tangible outcomes for their customers."

## **Public Health**

### **Cervical screening available at out of hours GP service**

17. Women from Redcar & Cleveland and Middlesbrough are now able to attend their cervical screening appointments on evenings and weekends if convenient, under new arrangements agreed between the two local authorities and the South Tees Out of Hours GP service. Many women are put off attending due to GP appointments being unavailable at times convenient to them. It is hoped that by allowing women to schedule their appointments on evenings or weekends at one of the 4 Out of Hours practices, this will increase uptake and mean less women are missing appointments.
18. Appointments will be available between 6-9.30pm Mondays to Fridays and 8.00am-9.30pm on weekends in one of the 4 Out of Hours GP Centres which are; Redcar Primary Care Hospital, East Cleveland Hospital, Brotton, One Life Centre, Middlesbrough and North Ormesby Health Village.

19. Appointments can be made through the patient's own GP practice for screenings at one of these centres. The centres are also adopting the "No Fear" approach established via our public health cervical screening campaign, which aims to remove any fear and embarrassment from cervical screenings.

### **World's Largest Coffee Morning at the Live Well Centre**

20. A coffee morning event was held at the Live Well Centre on 29th September and used as an opportunity to promote the range of cancer prevention and awareness campaigns and activities happening across South Tees. People were invited into the centre to take part in a range of fun activities including; a Row the Tees challenge using rowing machines from the community gym, children's activities – decorating cookies and designing new campaign characters for our cancer prevention campaign, a guided walk, a range of information and advice about how to reduce your risk of cancer, signs and symptom recognition, how to self-check and promotion of cancer screening. Healthy Heart Checks, cervical screening

### **Targeted Community Based NHS Healthy Heart Checks**

21. The NHS Health Check is a health check-up for adults in England aged 40-74. It's designed to spot early signs of stroke, kidney disease, heart disease, type 2 diabetes or dementia. As we get older, we have a higher risk of developing one of these conditions. An NHS Health Check helps find ways to lower this risk.
22. As a result of low uptake in some of our local wards, the Public Health team is collaborating with our Community Hubs to bring these checks closer to some of our residents where there has been historic low uptake of the service. Four locations have been identified to pilot the uptake of these health checks starting from November, with the potential for more hubs to come on board: Newport Community Hub, Hemlington Community Hub, Thorntree Community Hub and The Live Well Centre which is located within the Dundas Shopping Arcade. Dates and times for these sessions will be circulated in the next executive member briefing.
23. For anyone else who has not had this check before and fits the criteria aged between 40-74, or would like further information, sessions are also available at your local GP Practice.

### **Launch of Stoptober 2017**

24. Stoptober, the annual Public Health England campaign that encourages and supports smokers to quit the habit was launched at the Live Well Centre on the 21<sup>st</sup> of September. Members of staff from the Public Health and Public Protection Service, NHS Stop Smoking Service, volunteers from other organisations like Community Voice FM, and members of the public promoted the message – **'HOW WILL YOU QUIT?'**
25. A Stoptober Bike Challenge took place where staff and members of the public were challenged to ride 'Coast to Coast' on static bikes. Support for the event meant the 155 mile journey was easily achieved, in fact riders finished on 230 miles. A fun spin class took place with 4 members of staff cycling an estimated total of 70 miles to

show their support for the campaign. The Stoptober launch event also included on site smoking cessation advice for smokers visiting the Dundas Arcade/The Live Well Centre and served as an opportunity to promote the Middlesbrough stop smoking service available range of drop in clinics and pharmacies.

26. The Stoptober campaign has also linked with other events, notably the Albert Park run on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September where runners showed support for the Stoptober campaign by wearing green. Stoptober officially starts on the **1<sup>st</sup> of October** and runs till the **28<sup>th</sup> of October 2017**.



## Heath Development Team

27. The Exercise on Referral scheme that is delivered by the Health Development team has produced some fantastic individual results over the past few months. A lady who has lost over 3 stone and completely reversed her Diabetes after attending the 12 week Exercise Referral Programme now no longer needs medication. She has continued with her lifestyle change and trains independently 3 - 4 times per week.
28. The Stroke Club sessions that are delivered by Health Development at Middlesbrough Sports Village on a Thursday have also had a huge impact on people's lives. A lady that attended was unable to walk when she first arrived at the sessions a year ago and was totally reliant on her husband and her wheelchair. Due to the hard work she put in during the sessions and with her husband's support and her determination she has progressed to using a quad stick and more recently managed to walk across the gym for the first time without her stick, totally unaided.
29. Middlesbrough council staff are now able to attend two lunchtime classes that have been set up through HR and Public Health. The sessions on a Tuesday and Thursday delivered by Health Development staff at the Live Well Centre offer Tai Chi and Pilates during the lunch break. The sessions not only support good physical fitness but also good mental wellbeing through relaxation techniques and so far they have been well attended.

## **Illicit tobacco- “Keep It Out” Campaign**

30. A new regional campaign on illicit tobacco called ‘Keep It Out’ will be launched at the end of October 2017.
31. The campaign aims to highlight the links between illicit tobacco and crime, and the risk of sales to children, which are a concern to the Council.
32. The campaign aims to increase reporting of illicit tobacco sales from shops and private houses, with the message of ‘illicit tobacco - keep it out’ publicised using local and social media, posters, and guidance to other agencies.
33. Illicit tobacco undermines all national tobacco control measures such as price, plain packaging, health warnings and restrictions on point of sale advertising. The cheap price and readily availability of illicit tobacco not only makes it easier for people, including children, to buy them but also to smoke more.
34. It is hoped that the campaign will encourage the public to provide information to Trading Standards to identify and tackle illicit tobacco in our communities. Last year Trading Standards in Middlesbrough seized 109,000 illicit cigarettes and 20 kg of illicit hand rolling tobacco.

## **Johns News – Unsafe and counterfeit lighters**

35. On 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017 Harpreet Singh of John’s News, 125 Linthorpe Road, was fined £1,500 and ordered to pay £3,096 in costs, plus a £30 victim surcharge by Teesside Magistrates for offering unsafe and counterfeit cigarette lighters for sale.
36. Action was taken by Trading Standards to protect public safety in June 2016 when 667 lighters were seized when they were found to be dangerous. They produced excessive and irregular flames and they failed stringent safety standards. Not only could the lighters have caused serious injuries, this was particularly concerning as the shape or designs on some of the lighters - toy guns, swords, watches and binoculars made them appealing to children. This, in itself, made the lighters illegal as such products are banned from sale.
37. Many of the goods were also illegally displaying the trademarks of BMW, Jack Daniels Liverpool, Manchester City Football clubs and Zippo. This would also have enticed people, particularly children, to buy them, putting themselves in danger.
38. Mr Singh admitted that he had not sought any advice nor checked out any of the legal safety requirements for the lighters before putting products on sale in his shop.

## **Emergency closure of three food businesses.**

39. In August and September, three food businesses in Middlesbrough were stopped from trading after Environmental Health Officers discovered conditions which presented an imminent risk to health. Officers used emergency enforcement powers, and served a Hygiene Emergency Prohibition Notice that required the immediate closure of the business.

- In August, A Bite of China in Borough Road, was closed after Environmental Health Officers visited the Chinese restaurant and found rat and mouse droppings, insect infestation and poor standards of cleanliness
- Middlesbrough Halal Cash & Carry, Linthorpe Road was visited on Tuesday, September 19th when evidence was found of a wide-spread mouse infestation, mouse droppings, gnawed foods and poor standards of cleanliness.
- Restaurant Marmaris Shawarma in Parliament Road was closed down by Environmental Health Officers when they found evidence of an active widespread mouse infestation, together with a lack of effective cleaning of the structure of the premises and of food equipment.

40. In all three cases Middlesbrough Council was granted a Court Order at Teesside Magistrates' Court, confirming that the closure of the business was necessary due to the health risks found and to keep the business closed until Environmental Health Officers are satisfied that the premises are pest-free and can be operated hygienically. Investigations are ongoing into the conditions found.

41. Most Middlesbrough food businesses are clean and hygienic and have achieved a 5 – Excellent Food Hygiene Rating. The Public Protection Service will be working with all food business owners to raise their awareness about how to identify and prevent pest problems and how to keep their business in a clean and hygienic condition which will not encourage pests.

### **Illicit tobacco and disorder leads to Court ordered closure of town centre shop**

42. On September 21, Environmental Health Officers visited Braians retail shop in Linthorpe Road to carry out a food hygiene check. During the visit, one of the officers found a bag filled with cigarettes and other tobacco products which they believed to be counterfeit or otherwise illegal. Unfortunately a male at the premises fled with the bag, assaulting the officer in the process. All other persons at the premises then also fled, leaving only the officers in the shop. Police were called and took action to secure the premises and investigate the assault.

43. Further quantities of illegal tobacco products were seized from the premises, which was the second time illicit tobacco had been seized at the shop and had previously resulted in the prosecution of the owner.

44. The sale of illicit tobacco can lead to disorder and nuisance within communities and has links with organised crime. The availability of cheap illegal cigarettes conflicts with the national drive to reduce smoking and the associated ill-health.

45. The Public Protection Service considered the conduct of individuals at the premises to be a flagrant disregard for the law. It undermined the enforcement role of officers and put them at great risk. Therefore, an application was made and was successful in Teesside Magistrates Court for a Closure Order under the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 – requiring the premises to stay shut for 3 months. Anyone caught breaching the Order could, if convicted, be subject to prison sentence, a fine, or both.

## **Shisha smoking conviction**

46. The owner of The Lounge in Linthorpe Road, Middlesbrough has been ordered to pay £886 in fines and costs after allowing serving shisha to customers for them to smoke indoors. Environmental Health Officers visited the premises in March 2017 and found staff preparing shisha pipes and customers smoking in an enclosed area of the premises.
47. Shisha, or water-pipes, are used to smoke a number of substances, mainly flavoured or non-flavoured tobacco or herbal mixtures. The process involves burning charcoal and inhaling the mixture of the coal and tobacco smoke, drawn through a bowl of water and into a hose from which the user inhales through the mouth.
48. Under the Health Act 2006, smoking tobacco or anything which contains tobacco, or smoking any other substance, in an enclosed or substantially enclosed premises is an offence. The owner had previously been warned about serving lit tobacco in his premises.

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