

**Wiltshire Council**

**Health Select Committee**

**11 September 2018**

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**Executive Response to the Final Report of the  
NHS Health Checks Rapid Scrutiny**

**Purpose of the report**

1. To present the response of the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Public Protection to the Final Report of the NHS Health Checks Rapid Scrutiny (RS).

**Background**

2. On 11 July 2018, the Health Select Committee endorsed the Final Report of the NHS Health Checks RS.
3. The Committee resolved to refer the following RS's recommendations to the relevant Cabinet member for response at the Committee's next meeting on 11 September 2018.

**Executive response to the Rapid Scrutiny's recommendations**

4. It should be noted that the first three recommendations in the RS's report were made to the Health Select Committee, for ease of cross referencing the recommendation numbers below match the numbers on the RS's report.

<b>Recommendation No.4</b>	To review the questions to be answered by GP surgeries to enable payment of the NHS Health Check, the RS would suggest that the following, at least, be included (the first two are already being asked):  <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. How many "qualifying" patients have been invited</li><li>2. How many invitees have attended</li><li>3. Postcode (probably only first 4 characters to avoid risk of identification, e.g. BA14)</li><li>4. Male / female</li><li>5. Age</li><li>6. Health issues identified and suggestions / recommendations made to address these.</li></ol>
<b>Reason for recommendation</b>	This could enable the council to build a demographic picture of residents taking up the NHS Health Checks, this in turn could inform advertising campaign and also the council's

	potential future decision to focus the provision of NHS Health Checks for “harder to reach” residents. This could also enable the council to build up data to evidence the effectiveness of the NHS Health Checks, although it may require work to keep addressing coding issues.		
<b>Cabinet member</b>	Cllr Jerry Wickham	<b>Lead Officer</b>	Steve Maddern
<b>Executive response</b>	08.08.18	ACCEPTED	Data 1 and 2 are already collected as part of the current service specification.  We will discuss data requests 3-6 with our primary care colleagues as we revise the specification for the new control due to start April 2019.
<b>Action</b>		<b>Success criteria</b>	
We will discuss data requests 3-6 with our primary care colleagues as we revise the specification for the new control due to start April 2019.		Service specification in place with amended data request	
<b>Target date</b>		<b>Implementation date</b>	
01 April 2019		01 April 2019	

<b>Recommendation No.5</b>	To keep offering development sessions for GP practices, with a focus on data recording (coding).		
<b>Reason for recommendation</b>	To ensure that the council builds up intelligence to enable it to have a county wide picture of health and to undertake “like for like – 5 years on” comparison for the NHS Health Check cohorts, starting from 2019.		
<b>Cabinet member</b>	Cllr Jerry Wickham	<b>Lead Officer</b>	Steve Maddern
<b>Executive response</b>	08.08.2018	ACCEPTED	We run training for practices twice a year and will include data recording elements into future training events. The next events will be September 2018 and February 2019.
<b>Action</b>		<b>Success criteria</b>	
Public Health to include data collection to training programme		data collection to training programme	
<b>Target date</b>			
February 2019 (to link with new service specification)			

<b>Recommendation No.6</b>	To explore if data could be gathered to determine whether the implementation of the NHS Health Checks in Wiltshire had
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	<p>matched the estimations based on the Public Health England modelling tool for NHS Health Checks, for example by establishing if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the monitoring of the increase of diagnosis and prescriptions (statins, diabetes, anti-hypertensive drugs, compliant with an Impaired Glucose Regulation lifestyle, chronic kidney disease) can be achieved through the recording undertaken by GP surgeries as part of the NHS Health Checks?</li> <li>the monitoring of actions taken by patients to achieve healthier lifestyles (weight loss programme, increase physical activity and quitting smoking) can be achieved through the questionnaire that patients complete after they attend NHS Health Checks?</li> <li>This would require the outcome(s) of the preceding NHS Health Check(s) to be listed for the current NHS Health Check and checked against (for example: “at your last health check you were advised to xxxx, what actions were you able to take?”)</li> </ul>		
<b>Reason for recommendation</b>	To enable the council to monitor the effectiveness of the NHS Health Check programme it commissions.		
<b>Cabinet member</b>	Cllr Jerry Wickham	<b>Lead Officer</b>	Steve Maddern
<b>Executive response</b>	08.08.2018	AMENDED	<p>Regarding the three bullet points, monitoring the increase of diagnosis and prescriptions would be too difficult and data obtained is unlikely to be meaningful due to the multi-factorial nature of cardiovascular disease.</p> <p>Bullet point 2 is achievable and data can be collected from practices who agree to share their data with us.</p> <p>Bullet point 3 can be achieved by including a question in the patient satisfaction survey around whether they took up recommendations or referral into services.</p>
<b>Action</b>			<b>Success criteria</b>
Monitor action of patients as result of an NHS Health Check into health improvement programmes via GP clinical system.			Data obtained from GP systems to determine if

<p>Add new questions to patient satisfaction survey to determine if they followed the advice given at the NHS Health check.</p>	<p>patients were referred into health improvement services</p> <p>Questions added to patient satisfaction survey and data collected on patient outcomes</p>
<p><b>Target date</b></p>	
<p>01 April 2019</p>	

<p><b>Recommendation No.7</b></p>	<p>To explore whether coroners' reports could be analysed to provide evidence that NHS Health Checks would have been likely to identify the cardiovascular disease risks that led to premature deaths.</p>		
<p><b>Reason for recommendation</b></p>	<p>To enable the council to identify specific benefits of the NHS Health Check programme which could be used to inform residents of the value of the programme.</p>		
<p><b>Cabinet member</b></p>	<p>Cllr Jerry Wickham</p>	<p><b>Lead Officer</b></p>	<p>Steve Maddern</p>
<p><b>Executive response</b></p>	<p>08.08.2018</p>	<p>REFUSED</p>	<p>Coroner's reports are published as statistics within the guidance issued by the Ministry of Justice, meaning that the subset of total deaths that form 'deaths reported to coroners' are initially split into (a) those resulting in an inquest, and (b) those which do not require an inquest, with the assumption that (b) are all deaths by 'natural causes'. Then, with (a), the published data on results of coroner's inquests are simply divided again into either 'natural causes' or into the multiple criminal/suspicious death categories required by the MoJ, so CVD is not identified specifically within this broad 'natural causes' category.</p> <p>In short, therefore, we simply can't identify CVD-specific deaths from the coroner statistics, as all these</p>

			provide are 'deaths by natural causes'.
			This also misses a large number of deaths, where a death certificate is signed by a GP or other Doctor where the cause of death is natural causes but could be related to CVD but often is not listed as the primary cause.
<b>Action</b>			<b>Success criteria</b>
None			N/A
<b>Target date</b>			
N/A			

<b>Recommendation No.8</b>	To consider the best way to inform the Health Select Committee on the national gathering of data on / benchmarking of NHS Health Checks, on development of the new contract with GP surgeries to deliver the NHS Health Check programme in Wiltshire and update on progress at milestones; either as stand-alone reports or as part of a yearly update on progress of the NHS Health Checks programme.		
<b>Reason for recommendation</b>	To enable the Health Select Committee to carry on monitoring of the effectiveness of the NHS Health Check programme.		
<b>Cabinet member</b>	Cllr Jerry Wickham	<b>Lead Officer</b>	Steve Maddern
<b>Executive response</b>	08.08.2018	ACCEPTED	Annual update will be provided to the HSC
<b>Action</b>			<b>Success criteria</b>
Annual Update will be provided to the HSC			Annual update will be provided to the HSC
<b>Target date</b>			
May 2019 (to allow to provide 2018-19 data)			

<b>Recommendation No.9</b>	To explore the feasibility of a pilot scheme with a GP surgery (with a track-record of positive engagement with the council in terms of data sharing) to focus the invitations to the NHS Health Check on its known deprivation area		
<b>Reason for recommendation</b>	This could provide data for the council to use as evidence should it consider amending the eligibility criteria for the NHS Health Check programme.		

<b>Cabinet member</b>	Cllr Jerry Wickham		<b>Lead Officer</b>	Steve Maddern
<b>Executive response</b>	08.08.2018	ACCEPTED	This will be done as part of the development work by public health	
<b>Action</b>				<b>Success criteria</b>
Pilot project will be undertaken with one practice to focus invitation and engagement with those in more deprived areas				Completed pilot
<b>Target date</b>				
April 2019				

<b>Recommendation No.10</b>	To ascertain if a targeted financial incentive to encourage attendance from people least likely to attend the NHS Health Check programme would be appropriate, ethical and feasible, and whether it would be likely to increase the take up of the NHS Health Checks.			
<b>Reason for recommendation</b>	To increase the take up of the offered NHS Health Checks.			
<b>Cabinet member</b>	Cllr Jerry Wickham		<b>Lead Officer</b>	Steve Maddern
<b>Executive response</b>	08.08.2018	ACCEPTED	Public health will undertake literature review on the use of incentives in the NHS Health Check programme to determine feasibility and ethical implications of using incentives to increase uptake. Accordingly, this recommendation is partially accepted but officers will undertake no further activity beyond this literature review.	
<b>Action</b>				<b>Success criteria</b>
Public health will undertake literature review on the use of incentives in the NHS Health Check programme to determine feasibility and ethical implications of using incentives to increase uptake.				Completed literature review
<b>Target date</b>				
April 2019				

<b>Recommendation No.11</b>	To ascertain the feasibility of extending the offer of the NHS Health Checks outside of normal working hours to increase uptake.			
<b>Reason for recommendation</b>	To increase the take up of the offered NHS Health Checks.			
<b>Cabinet member</b>	Cllr Jerry Wickham		<b>Lead Officer</b>	Steve Maddern
<b>Executive response</b>	08.08.2018	ACCEPTED	N/a	

<b>Action</b>	<b>Success criteria</b>
Ascertain the feasibility of extending the offer of the NHS Health Checks outside of normal working hours to increase uptake.	Feasibility of extending the offer of the NHS Health Checks outside of normal working hours to increase uptake is understood.
<b>Target date</b>	
April 2019	

<b>Recommendation No.12</b>	To consider including information in the documentation supporting the invitation to attend the NHS Health Check programme to demonstrate the benefits for employers to release staff to attend.		
<b>Reason for recommendation</b>	To increase uptake by employees who may feel more confident in asking for time off work to attend.		
<b>Cabinet member</b>	Cllr Jerry Wickham	<b>Lead Officer</b>	Steve Maddern
<b>Executive response</b>	08.08.2018	ACCEPTED	Public health will support this in conjunction with a wider piece of work to encourage employers to support individuals to be able to access screening and immunisation opportunities in work time.
<b>Action</b>	<b>Success criteria</b>		
Develop a promotional resource for employers on the benefits of allowing employees to attend for screening and immunisation programmes (including NHS Health Checks)	Promotional resource developed and distributed		
<b>Target date</b>			
April 2019			

<b>Recommendation No.13</b>	To consider using the data available to include statistics of both positive impact of attending NHS Health Checks and negative impact of not attending (this could be done in a “personal format” such as “Although she was feeling absolutely fine, Dorothy attended her NHS Health Check and ....”) in the promotional information produced by the council.		
<b>Reason for recommendation</b>	To increase the take up of the offered NHS Health Checks.		
<b>Cabinet member</b>	Cllr Jerry Wickham	<b>Lead Officer</b>	Steve Maddern
<b>Executive response</b>	08.08.2018	ACCEPTED	Will update promotional resources to use case studies to support uptake.

<b>Action</b>	<b>Success criteria</b>
Will update promotional resources to use case studies to support uptake.	promotional resources updated and cascaded.
<b>Target date</b>	
April 2019	

<b>Recommendation No.14</b>	To consider promoting through Facebook and schools the benefits of the NHS Health Check and encouraging people to attend, with a clear message that people will receive an invitation once they are eligible.		
<b>Reason for recommendation</b>	To increase the take up of the offered NHS Health Checks.		
<b>Cabinet member</b>	Cllr Jerry Wickham	<b>Lead Officer</b>	Steve Maddern
<b>Executive response</b>	08.08.2018	REFUSED	Public health will use social media to promote the programme but will not target schools. Due to the nature of how the programme is delivered (every 5 years, from 40-74) we feel the mass promotion may promote a demand for the service by those that are not eligible.
<b>Action</b>			<b>Success criteria</b>
None			N/a
<b>Target date</b>			
n/a			

<b>Recommendation No.15</b>	To consider promoting attendance of the NHS Health Check programme through all available service of the council likely to engage with residents eligible for the NHS Health Check programme (for example Adult Care Social Worker, Occupational Therapists, Housing Officers, etc).		
<b>Reason for recommendation</b>	To increase the take up of the offered NHS Health Checks.		
<b>Cabinet member</b>	Cllr Jerry Wickham	<b>Lead Officer</b>	Steve Maddern
<b>Executive response</b>	08.08.2018	ACCEPTED	This will be done as a part of a wider health improvement service promotion programme with key council departments.
<b>Action</b>			<b>Success criteria</b>
Communication plan in place to promote wider health improvement service opportunities (including the NHS Health Checks programme) to key council departments			Communication plan in place to promote wider health



	improvement service opportunities (including the NHS Health Checks programme) to key council departments
<b>Target date</b>	
April 2019	

<b>Recommendation No.16</b>	To consider informing all Area Boards of the work undertaken by the Health Trainers and to ask Area Boards to maintain good communication with their local Health Trainer(s) to enable Health Trainer(s) to be aware of all the options available in the area to support residents in making healthy changes to their lifestyle.		
<b>Reason for recommendation</b>	To best support residents in making healthy changes to their lifestyle.		
<b>Cabinet member</b>	Cllr Jerry Wickham	<b>Lead Officer</b>	Steve Maddern
<b>Executive response</b>	08.08.2018	AMENDED	Request for removal from report as this action is not linked to the NHS Health Check programme directly.
<b>Action</b>		<b>Success criteria</b>	
Counsellor session on awareness of health improvement services is booked for 27/9/18  Health trainers are fully engaged with their area boards and have been asked to make direct contact with AB chairs if they have not done so already.		Counsellor awareness session delivered  All health trainers have made themselves known to their area boards	
<b>Target date</b>			
October 2018			

## Proposal

- The Health Select Committee is asked to note the executive response to the Final Report of the NHS Health Check Rapid Scrutiny.

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### Cllr Jerry Wickham, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Public Protection

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