



Public Health Briefing Note April 2016

Wiltshire Council
Where everybody matters

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2016's Big Pledge – join us on the Road to Rio!

Wiltshire's Big Pledge is back, and this year's Olympic themed-challenge will see people take a virtual journey to Rio. The campaign was launched in Corsham on 28 April at the Springfield Community Campus where our community engagement managers travelled over 150 miles. Officers ran, walked, cycled, rowed and swam the distance from Trowbridge to London's Olympic Park, using the equipment at the health and wellbeing centre.

'The Big Pledge – Road to Rio' will last for eight weeks from 4 June until 29 July and challenges you to complete a 20 stage virtual journey around the world, including stops at previous Olympic host cities. The journey starts in 'London' and finishes at this year's Olympic host city, 'Rio de Janeiro'.

Sign up now, as an individual or as a team, to this year's Wiltshire's Big Pledge. With seven different challenges to sign up for, it's about getting active, achieving your goal, building team morale, improving your town or parish's health and energy levels and having fun. [More information on the challenges and how to sign up](#)
Contact us at bigpledge@wiltshire.gov.uk



Wiltshire Council Corporate Director and Director of Public Health Maggie Rae, Cabinet Member for Leisure Cllr Jonathan Seed, Cllr Chris Williams and British canoeist Hannah Brown helping community engagement managers to reach their 150 mile goal!

Improving the way we work

Staff health and wellbeing is important to any employer and at Wiltshire Council it's essential to ensure we can deliver the highest quality services to local people. To help us do the best we can for our teams, over the last two years we have been working to achieve accreditation through Public Health England's (PHE) Workplace Wellbeing Charter scheme. We are delighted to announce that Wiltshire Council has been awarded a rating of excellence, the highest rating given.

Led by our public health and occupational health and safety teams, work has been done across our services and hubs and has led to a successful review of the health, safety and wellbeing provision. The rating demonstrates our commitment to the health and wellbeing of our staff and in the months ahead we'll be continuing to build on the work we've done and making further long term improvements. To find out more about how your organisation can improve staff health and wellbeing contact paul.collyer@wiltshire.co.uk

Changing service delivery

On 1 April 2016 responsibility for providing Health Visiting and School Nursing services in Wiltshire passed to Virgin Care. This represents the culmination of a significant procurement exercise which started in May 2014 and has seen the council, Clinical Commissioning Group and NHS England come together to commission 16 children's community services from a single provider. Our aim has been to improve the quality and consistency of services received by Wiltshire families. Our Health Visitors and School Nurses act as our primary frontline public health workforce for children and young people. Leading on the delivery of the Healthy Child Programme 0-19 they provide targeted interventions including screening, immunisation, health and development reviews and health and wellbeing advice to help ensure our residents get the healthiest start in life. Thank you to all of our colleagues and partners who have been involved in this vital work.

NHS Health Checks

Between January and March 7,141 people were invited for their NHS Health Check and 3,537 people took up the offer, giving Wiltshire an uptake rate of 50%. In 2015/16, we have seen over 29,200 people invited for an NHS Health Check, and over 14,000 people attend, which gives us an overall uptake rate of 48%, a 15% increase compared with 2014/15. Thank you to all of those who have worked hard to promote and increase uptake of the programme which will help to identify risks to people's health earlier and improve outcomes for people in our county.

Getting our young people active

In Wiltshire, public health and leisure services are part of one integrated team that works to deliver better outcomes for our young people. Over the Easter holiday we gave children and young people the chance to get more active at our leisure centres and over 1,250 young people got involved in Camp Activate or one of our basketball, cricket athletics and football camps. The camps were run by our sports development staff and the football camp was run in partnership with Swindon Town Football in the Community. Disability sport opportunities were also provided alongside one of the athletics camps, in partnership with Wiltshire Cricket. Free swimming sessions for under 16s again proved popular and were delivered at all of the council's swimming pools.

Older People's Health and Wellbeing Profile

This month PHE launched the [Older People's Health and Wellbeing profile](#) to examine the health and care of older people across local authorities in England. This tool enables identification, comparison and monitoring of trends through interactive maps and charts of over 100 indicators and is particularly important for Wiltshire where there is a higher than average proportion of older people. The profile is designed to support those responsible for delivering strategies for prevention and early intervention to improve the health and wellbeing of older adults, as well as those providing evidence and intelligence to support the development of Joint Strategic Needs Assessments for their local area. The information provided will also be useful to organisations with an interest in the health and care of older people.

Wiltshire Substance Misuse Service - tackling alcohol misuse

Wiltshire Substance Misuse Service has now launched its first resolution clinic in Salisbury. The clinic will support those who are drinking harmfully but are in work or those who would not normally consider accessing Turning Point services. We are running a trial with a GP surgery in Salisbury to help support those people who are drinking harmfully and prevent their problems or health from deteriorating. Offering this kind of innovative preventative treatment, over a 6-8 week period, will help us reduce the numbers of people suffering from alcohol-related harm and make our services more accessible.

Working with care agencies in Wiltshire

A survey on infection control and falls prevention is currently being tested with the help of some of our care home agencies. The survey covers *Clostridium difficile* infection (diarrhoea associated with specific medication, mainly antibiotics), urinary tract infections and falls prevention. Our aim is to establish the knowledge base of each agency and the processes they have in place to avoid incidents and find out how they may be managed if they do occur. The survey will provide an indication of any gaps in service or knowledge that may contribute to potential hospitalisation. Initial discussions have already pointed to knowledge deficits which may be improved with training. To find out more contact isabelle.tucker@wiltshire.gov.uk

Young People Friendly Services

In the last few months we have been talking to services in Wiltshire about becoming Young People Friendly. We are helping organisations to put young people at ease and help them be heard, to create a welcoming environment, to respect confidentiality and to involve young people in the shaping of the service. To help you achieve Young People Friendly status, we have created local guidelines to make the process easier and to help you evidence your work. We would like to encourage all local GP surgeries, school nurse drop ins and sexual health clinics and drop ins, to participate in this nationally recognised quality standard this year. For more information contact wendy.harris@wiltshire.gov.uk

Pertussis vaccination in pregnancy – change to guidance from 1 April 2016

Public Health England guidance on the timing of pertussis immunisation for pregnant women has been updated after a recent study showed that maternal immunisation against pertussis in the second trimester significantly increased neonatal antibodies. Offering maternal immunisation earlier than the current 28 week recommendation should not only improve infant protection, it will also provide more opportunity for pregnant women to be offered the pertussis vaccine during pregnancy. In practice, the most appropriate time to offer pertussis immunisation will be after the 20-week scan but immunisation can be offered at any time from 20 weeks. This extension of the timing should be introduced throughout 2016/17 and fully implemented by April 2017. [Further information can be found here.](#)

Infant dose of meningococcal serogroup C (MenC) conjugate vaccine given at three months

The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation has recommended that infants no longer require vaccination against meningococcal serogroup C (MenC). Therefore, from 1 July 2016, infants should no longer receive the dose of MenC conjugate vaccine currently given at the second primary immunisation visit at around 12 weeks of age. The Hib/MenC vaccine (Menitorix) dose given at 12 months of age and the MenACWY conjugate vaccine dose given at around 14 years of age are unaffected by this change and should still be given. [Further information can be found here.](#)

Antibiotic Resistant Gonorrhoea

Information on enhanced surveillance was issued this month following a rise in high level azithromycin resistant gonorrhoea (HL-AziR) infection. An outbreak emerged in the North of England with 16 cases being reported during November 2014 and October 2015, since then further cases have been reported in the West Midlands, London and the South of England with 34 cases reported up to the end of April 2016. The concern now is that gonorrhoea may become untreatable in the future as more antimicrobials become ineffective against the infection. Clinicians are being asked to monitor all patients being treated for gonorrhoea and report any incidents of Azithromycin resistance, whilst ensuring that index patients have a test-of-cure together with any partners. [Please find more information here.](#)

Public Health Intelligence news

The [Wiltshire Intelligence Network](#) (WIN) provides numerous reports full of local information on a wide range of topics. Visit the site to read the [full analysis of the National Child Measurement Programme](#) data.

Public Health in the news this month:

[Wiltshire Council Volunteer Project wins National Award](#) (27 April)

[Council helps clamp down on rogue traders](#) (15 April)

[The 2016 Public Health Awards](#) (22 April)

[Find the information you need about health and social care in Wiltshire](#) (12 April)

[Significant reduction in Wiltshire teenage pregnancies](#) (12 April)

[New provider for Wiltshire's Children's Services](#) (1 April)

For further information on any of the programmes of work mentioned please contact emily.kavanagh@wiltshire.gov.uk