

**An update of the work of the Health Improvement Board
Report to the Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board
March 2016**

The Health Improvement Board has met twice since the last report to the Health and Wellbeing Board. There are also plans to run a workshop on the Oxfordshire Healthy Weight Strategy in March / April 2016.

1. Health Improvement Board workshop on Housing Related Support.

A workshop was held on January 14th 2016. This meeting was not held in public. The workshop was attended by members of the Health Improvement Board and the Executive / Cabinet members for Housing from each of the District Councils, with their supporting officers.

The workshop gave an opportunity for discussion about the future need for commissioning housing related support services. A further workshop will be arranged so that discussion can continue in April / May.

2. Health Improvement Board meeting, February 23rd, 2016

A meeting of the Board in February covered the following items on the agenda

- Performance reporting, with in-depth analysis of the immunisation figures for the county. There was also a report on the changing attitudes to smoking and the increased use of e-cigarettes which may be affecting how Stop Smoking services report smoking quit rates. There is a growing differentiation between people who are “tobacco-free” and those who are “nicotine-free”.
- The work of the Affordable Warmth Network who have recently won a bid to British Gas and were awarded over £410,000 for work across Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire to improve fuel poverty. A feature of the work is a reduction in the health harms of cold homes, so referrals from health services and social care are being encouraged.
- The extensive role of District Councils in delivering Health Improvement was outlined and discussed. This role, in providing housing and leisure services and in enabling planning, community development and economic development is very pertinent to ongoing discussions on devolution.
- An overview of Air Quality issues and the role of partners was also presented and led to discussion on the role of the Board in this work.

3. Healthy Weight Strategy Workshop – March / April 2016

A workshop is being set up to further the discussion on how all partners can work to prevent and reduce obesity in Oxfordshire. A national Childhood Obesity Strategy is awaited which should inform local work.

Jackie Wilderspin, February 2016