

NHS LANARKSHIRE
NORTH COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERSHIP
COATBRIDGE LOCALITY

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Subject: Locality Update Report to the Local Area Partnership

Health Improvement

Early Years

Children's experiences in the earliest years of life strongly influence their physical and emotional health and well-being for the rest of their lives. Work is currently underway across NHS Lanarkshire to develop a universal Child Health Pathway that aims to ensure that all children are supported to have the best possible start in life. This pathway will build on the wide range of interventions that are currently being delivered.

Early Years Programmes include:

UNICEF Breastfeeding Programme

Target: 23.5% of babies exclusively breastfed at 6-8 week assessment.

In Coatbridge Locality most recent figure is 16.2%

In Lanarkshire most recent figure is 16%

Community Midwives, Public Health Nursing (PHN) and Health Improvement Teams are working to maintain Stage 3 of the UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative. The focus of this work is to ensure that mothers within the community are provided with the information, advice and support they require to successfully initiate and maintain breastfeeding. In addition to PHN team support, mothers can access support at home from the Breastfeeding Support Service volunteers and through the local breastfeeding support group.

Weaning Groups

It is important to try and establish healthy eating patterns from an early age. This helps to maintain healthy weight and growth. Research shows that the most appropriate time to introduce solid foods to a baby's diet is around 6 months. Within Coatbridge Locality weaning groups are delivered monthly with input from Health Improvement, CLD and PHNs. The groups provide practical information and tips on weaning and food preparation skills.

Teen Parents' Group

This programme provides intensive support to teenage mothers and their partners, with babies under the age of 6 months. Input is provided by Community Midwives, PHNs, CLD and other partners as required.

Play @Home

Work targeting nutrition and healthier eating in the early years is complemented by programmes that aim to promote physical activity. The Play @ Home programme provides local early year workers with the knowledge and skills required to promote safe play and healthy physical activity with parents.

Young People

Resources for schools and local youth groups

HI staff have been actively promoting the wide range of Health Improvement resources and training available to secondary schools. Resource packs and training programmes cover a wide range of topic areas, including alcohol and addictions, sexual health and relationships and positive mental health.

Youth Diversionary Activities

The **Wasteland DVD** has been produced with the involvement of young people in Kirkshaws and Glenboig and focuses on key issues facing young people in relation to alcohol and mental health. A resource pack has been produced to accompany the DVD and will be available for use in youth settings within the community and schools.

The **Friday Night Project**, is a multi-agency initiative, which is currently running in 5 sites across North Lanarkshire, including Kirkwood Sports Barn and Calder Community Centre.

The key objectives of the service are focused upon the GIRFEC Domains which includes, but are not limited to:

- Developing the Health and Wellbeing of young people by offering attractive physical activity, sport and youth work programmes, which will encourage young people to pursue an active lifestyle.
- Involve and empower the young people and staff to design and develop the FNP activity programmes and associated services.
- Increase the uptake and use of services beneficial to assisting young people to make healthier, positive life choices

The project includes a range of activities for young people between the ages of 9 – 16 years, such as badminton; football skills, youth work, dance, cheerleading and gym sessions. Over 100 young people attend each week at the Kirkwood Sports Barn and around 30 young people attend Calder.

Collaborative Themes Campaign

The Collaborative Themes Campaign is a multi-agency initiative, encompassing a range of themes, including mental health, suicide prevention, alcohol, sexual health and tobacco. Activities include distribution of promotional materials, training and local events. In the last quarter work focussed on Alcohol Awareness and the promotion of Positive Mental Health and Wellbeing, including reducing stigma.

Welfare Reform

The Welfare Reform changes being implemented by the UK Government will impact on many NHS service users, their families and carers. Working closely with colleagues from NLC and other agencies, NHSL has been involved in a range of measures to try and mitigate the impact of the welfare reform changes on service users and also staff who may be affected.

These include the development and delivery of short briefing sessions for NHS staff to ensure that they are aware of the reforms, can raise the issue of financial security with service users

and are able to signpost on to local support services and development of an e-learning module.

NHSL is also involved in supporting a range of communication campaigns and ensuring that messages are promoted through all NHS communication channels within hospital, primary care and community health settings. As part of this NHSL delivered a campaign to raise awareness of local services through the Well Connected programme and that available to service users who are experiencing financial difficulties that are affecting their health.

Support is also available to NHSL staff through internal occupational health programmes and the Healthy Working Lives programme.

GP Practice population ratios

I refer to the meeting of Coatbridge LAP held on the 9th of October 2012 – member of the Local Area Partnership asked if there was a limit in terms of the ratio of patients to each General Practitioner (GP) in the Coatbridge GP medical practices and what the current ratio is.

It is noted at the LAP on the 17th of February 2009 that the ratio of patients to each full time GP in the Coatbridge Area was 1945: 1

The historical data available based simply on GP numbers per practice population provides a figure that is pretty close to the one above. However, the points below have to be taken into account and based on these; there is no way for us to accurately provide a contemporary ratio

There are a few points I would want to highlight regarding this issue.

1. Firstly, GP's do not (will not) provide the health board with their working hours in a practice and this is supported both by the local medical committee in Lanarkshire and by the BMA, this means that we cannot give an accurate ratio of patients to GP, not only in Coatbridge but across Lanarkshire.
2. Secondly, the skill mix of a practice is very important as a number of practices employ highly qualified nurse practitioners who are able to perform an extended role, particularly in terms of chronic disease management, prescribing and see & treat and therefore it is not correct to merely do a comparison with the GP/patient ratio.
3. Thirdly, practices are at liberty to use the funding they receive as they see fit and the degree of retained profit per practice would also need to be factored into this issue as some practices may elect to retain higher profits at the expense of investing in additional GP or other staff..

Practice	List as at 30.09.12
Ooi	2,015
Fife	6,792
Singh	2,491
Bawa	1,348
Waverley Practice	18,329
Coatbank	8,919
Curle	6,743
Kilgour	6,422
	53,059

Conclusions

The LAP members are asked to note the content of this report for information.