

**Report of Head of Scrutiny and Member Development**

**Report to Scrutiny Board (Health and Wellbeing and Adult Social Care)**

**Date: 20 February 2013**

**Subject: National Institute for Clinical Excellence guidance**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**1 Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Scrutiny Board with an outline of the role of the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) and recently published guidance aimed at local authorities.

**2 Main issues**

- 2.1 The Health and Social Care Act transfers public health responsibilities to local government from April 2013 and gives NICE new responsibilities to produce guidance for social care. As a result of these changes NICE is now increasingly relevant to those working in local government, whether as an officer, an elected member or councillor, or a member of a Health and Wellbeing Board or Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 2.2 NICE is looking closely at how it can understand and work more closely with local government, and has created a reference group to help improve that relationship and guide it in developing products that are useful and relevant. NICE has created a new section of its website for those working in local government to keep up to date with its work and to provide a single point to access information, NICE guidance and other tailored resources for local government.
- 2.3 NICE has developed public health briefings for a range of different topics. The briefings are meant for local authorities and their partner organisations in the health and voluntary sectors, in particular those involved with health and wellbeing boards. The briefings will be relevant to local authority officers and councillors, directors of public health, and commissioners and directors of adult social care and children's services. Briefings are also likely to be relevant to members of local authority scrutiny committees and may also be used alongside the local joint strategic needs assessment to support the development of joint health and wellbeing strategies.

2.4 The following briefings have been published to date:

Number	Topic	Date Issued
PHB 1	Tobacco	July 2012
PHB 2	Workplace health	July 2012
PHB 3	Physical activity	July 2012
PHB 4	Health inequalities and population health	October 2012
PHB 5	NICE guidance and Public Health Outcomes	October 2012
PHB 6	Alcohol	October 2012
PHB 7	Behaviour change	January 2013
PHB 8	Walking and cycling	January 2013

2.5 Copies of the above guidance/ briefings are available on request and some copies will be made available at the Scrutiny Board meeting for reference purposes. However, the details are likely to be particularly relevant when the Scrutiny Board is undertaking any specific work relevant to the areas identified.

2.6 It should also be noted that there are a number of additional briefings in development, which will be finalised and published in the coming months. These briefings are as follows:

Topic	Expected publication date
Return on investment	TBC
Effective partnerships	TBC
Obesity	March 2013
Contraceptive services	TBC
Health equity audit	TBC
Spatial planning	May 2013

#### Previous Scrutiny Board recommendations

2.7 It is perhaps worthwhile reminding members of the Scrutiny Board that in May 2010, members of the former Scrutiny Board (Health) identified the following recommendation:

*That, by December 2010, in collaboration with the Director of Public Health, the Director of Adult Social Services (as the lead for Health):*

- (a) Makes an assessment of the extent to which all NICE public health guidance and recommendations (as they relate to local authorities) have been disseminated and used to inform the delivery of services, either directly or through appropriate policies, across the Council.*

*(b) Designs and implements a robust assurance process to ensure the appropriate distribution and consideration of any future NICE guidance, appropriate to the Council.*

2.8 The above recommendation formed part of the inquiry report 'Promoting Good Public Health: The Role of the Council and its Partners' published in May 2010. The following response to the recommendation and associated updates were reported during the municipal year 2010/11.

**September 2010:**

*This recommendation is agreed. The Scrutiny Board (Health) has noted the important role of NICE in providing national evidence of effectiveness on the promotion of good health and the prevention and treatment of ill health. As part of the Governments White Paper on the NHS and the subsequent review of arm's length bodies, the future role of NICE has been seen as crucial, and will be put on an even firmer statutory footing by establishing it in primary legislation. Its role will expand scope to include social care standards. A member of the NHS Leeds Public Health Directorate will take forward the recommendation from September 2010, working closely with LCC staff. The intention is to complete this work by December 2010. A Public Health trainee has been identified to take forward this work which will commence in September, with completion by December 2010.*

**December 2010:**

*Options have now been developed and are under discussion, within NHS Leeds and LCC. The preferred option requires additional resources, which have not been identified at this stage.*

- 1. Dissemination of NICE guidance to NHS Leeds, LCC and VCS contacts (i.e. not a full assurance process).*
- 2. Dissemination with a piloted assurance process in one area (possibly alcohol guidance).*
- 3. Full assurance process for implementing and monitoring NICE guidance, supported by a new NICE Public Health Group as dedicated support officer.*

*A report outlining these options in full has been drafted and will be considered by the Health Improvement Board shortly.*

**April 2011:**

*The options presented in the November 2010 report: 'NICE Public Health guidance: An assurance process proposal for NHS Leeds and Leeds City Council' will be discussed at the next meeting of the Health Improvement Board in May 2011.*

2.9 Given the imminent transfer of Public Health responsibilities to the Council (i.e. in April 2013), members of the Scrutiny Board may wish to revisit this recommendation and consider any arrangements likely to be in place from April 2013.

**3 Recommendations**

3.1 Members are asked to consider the details presented in this report and discussed at the meeting and determine any appropriate further scrutiny activity at this time.

#### **4 Background papers<sup>1</sup>**

None used

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<sup>1</sup>The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.