

**DUDLEY HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD**

**Agenda Item No 15**

**REPORT SUMMARY SHEET**

<b>DATE</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> March 2015
<b>TITLE OF REPORT</b>	#MEFESTIVAL 2014 & Young Health Champions
<b>Organisation and Author</b>	Paul Maubach, Chief Executive Officer – Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)
<b>Purpose of the report</b>	To share information and outcomes about the #MEFESTIVAL 2014 young persons event and advise on the development of a Young Health Champion network
<b>Key points to note</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• #MEFESTIVAL took place November 2014 at Himley Hall</li> <li>• Organised and funded by Dudley CCG on behalf of the HWBB</li> <li>• Collaboration of Public Health, Dudley Council, Healthwatch Dudley and Dudley Council for Voluntary Services</li> <li>• Objective was to help young people develop the skills and confidence to take part and challenge life's issues</li> <li>• Aimed at all secondary schools across Dudley Borough for Year 8 students</li> <li>• 180 students from 16 schools joined us</li> <li>• Festival theme used to make the environment fun</li> <li>• Variety of workshops and activities for young people to take part in</li> <li>• Fantastic feedback from students and teachers</li> <li>• Next steps – developing a network of Young Health Champions in collaboration with Public Health and other partners</li> </ul>
<b>Recommendations for the Board</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That #MEFESTIVAL continues to be an annual event with input from all partners</li> <li>• We continue to work with young people to build on the event and tailor it to their needs</li> <li>• That the HWBB endorses the development of a Young Health Champions network and encourages involvement</li> </ul>

	from key partners within Dudley borough
<b>Item type</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information and discussion</li> </ul>
<b>H&amp;WB strategy priority area</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children and Young People's Strategy</li> </ul>

## **DUDLEY HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD**

25<sup>th</sup> March 2015

### **REPORT OF:**

Paul Maubach, Chief Executive Officer – Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group

### **TITLE OF REPORT**

#MEFESTIVAL 2014 & Young Health Champions

### **HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY PRIORITY**

1. The Health and Wellbeing Board has a key vision which includes that all children in Dudley borough will have the best possible start in life. By continuing with the #MEFESTIVAL and building a network of Young Health Champions (YHCs), we will meet the vision and the priorities that are set out in the strategy. The YHCs will be supported to:
  - Connect with their wider community and realise their assets
  - Build their skills and confidence making them stronger emotionally and be better able to tackle life's challenges – no matter what age they start
  - Build a platform for change and to have a voice to put them at the heart of decision making

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

2. The report and attached newsletter will evidence the success of the #MEFESTIVAL and prove why it is so important for the Health and Wellbeing Board to endorse the development of a network of Young Health Champions.

### **BACKGROUND**

3. In November 2014, Dudley CCG hosted the #MEFESTIVAL on behalf of the Health and Wellbeing Board, in collaboration with key partners including public health, the wider council, Dudley Council for Voluntary Services (DCVS) and Healthwatch Dudley.

We recognise that young people don't always have the opportunity to get their voice heard and feel that they are talked at rather than be engaged with. The

#MEFESTIVAL was an opportunity for young people across the borough to network and take part in a range of exciting and informative activities and share their opinions on the event and within different workshops. We wanted to try something different that was geared towards the needs of our younger population – a place where they felt comfortable and not constrained by authority!

The feedback from the event from students and teachers alike was overwhelmingly positive with comments stating that they had learnt so much from others that they were going to implement some positive changes in their own schools and students' stating the event was 'sick'.

It was so inspiring to see so many young people taking part and enjoying themselves that we decided to make the #MEFESTIVAL an annual event and to build upon it so that students are more involved with the planning and the outcomes become stronger.

### **THE MAIN ITEM/S OF THE REPORT**

4. The #MEFESTIVAL is just one way of engaging with young people and ensuring we hear their voices. In order to build a model of engagement that is sustainable, we propose to develop a network of YHCs based upon the Shropshire CCG model.

Shropshire have worked collaboratively with Altogether Better to secure funding from the Big Lottery. They have a dedicated project officer and admin post for their YHCs and over an 18 month period have built their YHCs from 16 to 160 and they are involved in a number of local projects. The vision for Shropshire YHCs is:

These young health champions will:

- Take forward into the future an understanding of the challenges facing the population's health and happiness
- Have the confidence and self-belief that they can positively influence their local services for health and happiness
- Share their knowledge and learning with others, their peers, family, friends and the wider community

The outcomes of these objectives will be:

- Increased range of health and happiness activities co designed and delivered by children and young people
- Improved health outcomes for children and young people
- Increased community capital and social value
- Better quality health and wellbeing services
- More young people directly involved in the co-production of local services

We can learn from Shropshire's model and have built good relationships with them and with Telford & Wrekin CCG who are also looking at YHCs. Dudley can determine its own localised approach to the model by working with young people, schools and other services.

## **FINANCE**

5. The #MEFESTIVAL was funded by Dudley CCG in 2014 and will be funded in 2015 by Dudley CCG.

The development of the Young Health Champions network will be dependent on funding and the CCG and Public Health will be working closely together to submit a business case to ensure that this taken forward and encourage partners to contribute too.

## **LAW**

6. Safeguarding is of the utmost importance when planning the #MEFESTIVAL and in the development of the Young Health Champions network.

## **EQUALITY IMPACT**

7. For the #MEFESTIVAL every secondary school in the borough is invited to send 10 students regardless of ability, behaviour or background.

Although the proposal for Young Health Champions is still in the development stage, we anticipate that young people from any background will be able to get involved within the specified age range.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

8. The recommendations are:
- That the Board supports the continuation of the annual #MEFESTIVAL
  - The Board supports and actively encourages partners to contribute towards building a network of YHCs to ensure a borough wide approach

**Signature of author/s**



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