

Health briefing

Area Panel Four

May/June 2007

Welcome to our Health Briefing

Derby City Primary Care Trust works to improve the health of people across the city and make sure the health services they need are available. Our job is to:

- work out what is needed to improve local people's health
- provide some services ourselves – such as community services including clinics, district nurses, children's services and health visitors
- buy some services from others – such as larger hospitals and specialist treatments.

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Strategy for Health in Derby

Derby City Primary Care Trust has started to develop a long term strategy, setting out our vision for improving health in Derby over the next ten years.

We have already talked to our staff, Board members and members of our Health Panel, and looked at the public health facts and figures we have about our population. This has helped us to identify three key aims for

the ten year strategy:

1. to improve health and achieve equality of outcomes for the population of Derby
2. to actively involve the people of Derby in determining the best ways to improve health and deliver services, and give them confidence in their public sector organisations
3. to continuously improve the services which the PCT buys for the people of Derby.

Our ambitious but realistic goal to improve the health of the people of Derby is to prevent 2000 premature deaths by 2017.

We also want to involve the different communities in Derby in achieving this and related goals over the coming years. Keep a look out on our website and in the local papers for more details – or join our Health Panel so we can keep you informed directly (details at the end of this briefing).

Tackling Alcohol Misuse

Derby has recently developed an Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy. This is a multi agency approach to reduce the harm caused by alcohol misuse in Derby.

As a partner organisation, Derby City Primary Care Trust will have a key role in developing and delivering the strategy, which sets out priorities for tackling alcohol dependency and the harm that it can inflict on individuals and communities.

There are a number of existing and new services locally which help people with alcohol use disorders, but the strategy will ensure that community-based services are available covering education, screening and signposting, open access specialist services, referred specialist treatment and specialist inpatient treatment.

Parenting Project for Derby

Derby has been chosen as a demonstration site for a new national parenting project which aims to improve the health and wellbeing of our most disadvantaged families and children.

The city's Integrated Children's Services team will work in partnership to develop the project. First time mothers under the age of 24 who are also on a low income will be offered this intensive home visiting programme.

As well as helping parents to recognise their own strengths and encourage them to make things better for themselves and their families, the programme aims to improve pregnancy outcomes, improve child health and development and future school achievement and improve parents' economic self-sufficiency.

Reducing Waiting Times

Work taking place in Derby to reduce waiting times is featured in a new national report 'Local Spending for Local Needs' launched in this month by Secretary of State for Health, Patricia Hewitt.

The report catalogues schemes being taken forward across the country due to a record injection of investment in health this year.

Derby City Primary Care Trust and Derby Hospitals Foundation Trust have been nominated as one of 13 early achiever sites across England to reduce waiting times. This means that, by the end of December 2007, 90% of patients will wait a maximum of 18 weeks for any treatment that is consultant led and requires admission to hospital.

To achieve this people referred to hospital will be seen and treated in around half the time it takes currently.

Getting Children Active

The b-active partnership, which aims to get Derby's children doing more exercise, is planning a huge event in June in Derby's Market Place.

With the backing of teacher, youth workers, nurses, health visitors and other practitioners, the b-active partnership is gearing up to deliver healthy initiatives and activities to children and parents.

Radio, press, bus and billboard advertising will spring up across Derby over the next few months promoting healthy lifestyle messages, events, activities and other ways that parents can encourage children to get moving.

To find out more about b-active, visit www.derby.gov.uk/b-active

Join our Health Panel

Derby City PCT's Health Panel is made up of people who are registered with GPs in Derby city and have an interest in health and healthcare issues.

The Health Panel will provide you with regular opportunities to get involved. All members receive informative newsletters, opinion questionnaires and invitations to local health events. You can also decide if you would like to be invited to:

- take part in issue-based meetings or focus groups
- comment on PCT publications before they are printed
- join a committee or steering group around a specific issue.

To find out more of to join the Health Panel please contact S Robey on 01332 224000 ext 6484 or visit www.derbycitypct.nhs.uk and click on 'Having Your Say'

Area Panels are welcome to contact the PCT with questions, or to invite a representative from the PCT to speak at an Area Panel meeting if there is a particular subject of interest to the Panel.

If you have any questions you can either direct them through the Area Panel Manager – Richard Smail on 01332 258505 or contact us direct:

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