

2 Progress to date

Progress has been made already on the 'next steps' and the aims and actions given in the [2008 JSNA](#) and the [2009 JSNA](#) update.

2.1 Moving resources from acute to preventive or community care

To assess progress towards the movement of expenditure to preventive rather than acute care, two specific areas were considered in 2008/09: heart disease/stroke and mental health. An interim report, [Moving Resources Upstream: Baseline for Mental Health and Cardiovascular Pathways in Gateshead](#), was produced on the issues arising and the findings to date. In 2009/10, a third area, musculoskeletal conditions, was added. Work has continued on all three areas to ensure we have identified all the contributions to the shift towards preventive or community care. The main activities already identified that are contributing to this 'upstream' movement are as follows:

2.1.1 Circulatory disease pathway/service changes

- The secondary care based team going out into the community has already been mentioned. Further discussions are to be held to try to estimate costs around this.
- Blaydon has now a primary care centre where monitoring of rehabilitation can take place.
- Increasingly risk assessment is expanding in primary care. There is likely to be increased investment in primary care on, for example, atrial fibrillation as a risk factor for stroke. It is worth noting that this will not be a direct transfer from secondary care spend.
- Practice-based commissioning plans have been aligned with NHS Health Checks.

2.1.2 Mental health pathway/service changes

- One of the Tranwell unit's three wards closed as an inpatient ward in April 2009 and is intended to be re-opened as an urgent care day service once internal refurbishment is completed. This will lead to a need for more crisis teams in the short term because the infrastructure is not there to cope. However, it will result in a considerable saving in secondary care. Debates are around where the money saved will go.
- A dementia specialist team is being piloted in the (local authority) domiciliary care service. This is a definite move towards the early preventive end of the spectrum, although it is not a transfer from secondary care.
- Currently there is work on the re-provision of some NTW services based in Trust-owned residential villas. Residents will be moving into supported accommodation or supported environment with care packages this financial year.
- South of Tyne and Wear now has a full time senior public health staff member leading on the public mental health promotion agenda. It is not unrealistic to assume that about one third of the cost of this can be attributed to Gateshead.

2.1.3 Generic pathway/service changes, including those relating to musculoskeletal conditions

- Last year there was a move towards more LA community care with an increase in support time recovery workers, funded by a special grant.
- Promoting independence centres were established last year for people discharged from hospital, for the assessment and improvement of independence skills, mainly targeting older people.
- A social work team has been located in QE hospital, carrying out assessment.
- The emphasis of the domiciliary care service has changed: previously it was on shopping/cleaning etc, now it is aimed at promoting independence. The workforce has been reformed and retrained to NVQ level 2, leading to a reduction in the number of people returning to hospital.

2.2 Influencing commissioning processes

- Service delivery is being reshaped, with a coordinated approach to child and family services, housing, planning, adult social care and health issues.
- The Children and Young People's Plan refresh has used the JSNA and is addressing key issues, such as reducing chlamydia and smoking in pregnancy.
- Service improvement plans and key strategies are addressing needs identified in relation to equalities and service modernisation. Examples of strategies influenced in this way include the Housing Strategy and the Local Development Framework. Further examples and details can be found in [section 9 \(related strategies and agreements\)](#).
- Clearer links are being established across Health and Social Care Partnership, Children and Young People Partnership, Community Safety, Housing, Culture and Economy, Development and Enterprise. (See strategy examples in previous bullet point).
- A new strategic lead has been established for COPD, working with practice-based commissioning on an accelerated development programme supported by the Health Inequalities National Support Team.

2.3 Assessing the effects of the recession

The Public Health Partnership undertook [a rapid screening of the health impacts of the recession](#). The work, which focused on four key areas was undertaken as recommended in the 2009 JSNA, in order to support local work to mitigate the effect of the downturn in relation to health.

- Unemployment figures had reached over 6,000. Adverse effects can include mental health problems as well as financial difficulties. Mitigating actions can include measures from the [Financial Exclusion Strategy](#) and employment initiatives.
- Although no trend was apparent in the number of young people not in education or training, serious related problems include increases in teenage pregnancy, youth offending, substance misuse and depression, as well as greater difficulties in finding jobs for those with mental health problems or disabilities. Mitigating actions can include targeting jobs for the future and access to support for mental and behavioural problems.

- House prices were showing a downward trend, which can lead to mental health and well-being problems for people trying to sell (e.g. older people wanting funding for care). Mitigating actions can include mental health first aid and use of credit unions.
- Housing repossessions were reducing at the time of the assessment. However, it is longer term trends that need monitoring, as this can lead to anxiety and depression. Mitigating actions can include housing support, family support and support for people at risk of repossession.

2.4 Community engagement to tackle inequalities in health

In summary, the 2009 JSNA included a profile of 5 neighbourhoods with low Life Expectancy, selected through the 5 Area Forums. A longer discussion of this work is on p52 of the JSNA. The profile included a range of indicators related to driving up life expectancy, choosing healthy lifestyles, and determinants of health alongside social marketing information and maps of local facilities. These profiles informed a design event with the 5 Area Co-ordinators in April 2009, and a review event in November 2009. The full range of activities and interventions developed with local people in each of these 5 neighbourhoods is included in reports from these events, available from the Neighbourhood Management Team. A further review event is planned for April 2010 which will also look at how this work may be evaluated and mainstreamed. The 2010 JSNA includes updated profiles which will contribute to this process.

2.5 Addressing other identified priorities

2.5.1 Children's health and well-being

- A breastfeeding action plan has been developed for Gateshead with the implementation overseen by the Be Healthy Partnership. This action plan will be used to support a developing NHS SOTW Breastfeeding Strategy.
- Gateshead has contributed to both the review of the Newborn Bloodspot pathway to ensure failsafe mechanisms are fully implemented and the development of a pathway to ensure implementation of the new combined test for Down's syndrome screening.
- The National Child Measurement Programme measures the height and weight of children in Reception Year and Year 6. There has been excellent participation in the programme.
- Gateshead is piloting the Family Nurse partnership jointly with South Tyneside which will help identify what interventions work best to improve outcomes and support vulnerable first time parents.
- A multi agency review of services for children with disabilities been carried out. Recommendations have been presented to the children with disabilities transformational group. A key recommendation is the review of therapy services considering the SEN review and ensuring needs are met across the borough.

- The development of a new model for Community Children’s Nursing is underway. This new model will meet the needs of the acutely ill child and children with additional needs in the community.
- A draft *Looked After Children commissioning strategy* went out to consultation in autumn 2009. The Signs of Safety approach is being developed across the service. There is evidence that families have engaged with the safety planning processes and understand more clearly the concerns that agencies have about their parenting. Key agencies have commented on how helpful the process is in terms of joint risk assessment and management.

2.5.2 Mental and emotional health and well-being

- A public mental health promotion strategy and a suicide prevention plan have been developed across South of Tyne and Wear.
- An Emotional Health and Well-being action plan for Gateshead is under development, based on findings from the mental health needs assessments.
- A maternal post natal mental health needs assessment is underway with key findings and recommendations to be presented to the NHS SOTW Maternal and Newborn Strategic Group.
- Three Gateshead schools have now achieved the Anti-Bullying Award with a further 24 developing their portfolios. 60 school staff attended the “No Outsiders” conference in Gateshead which focused on homophobic bullying.

2.5.3 Education

- Good progress has been made with an increase in the number of children meeting the Early Years language and literacy target. This year’s improvement has been a result of targeted support for schools to improve attainment in Communication, Language, Literature Development and Personal, Social and Emotional Development, the introduction of a quality improvement programme for PVI settings and the roll out of “Prepare your child for school”.
- The education welfare service has continued to use sanctions and strategies to support the specific needs of schools and the fast track case management approach involving the setting of targets for individual pupils with persistent absence. Gateshead has a fair access protocol to ensure easier and quicker access to education for individual students within Gateshead, to ensure that all schools in the area take a fair share of children with challenging behaviour. During the academic year 2008/09 to date, there have been 51 young people referred to the Fair Access Panel. 50% have been successfully reintegrated into mainstream education.

2.5.4 Crime and anti-social behaviour

- We have launched a Parenting Procedure to ensure that at least 20% of parents of young offenders receiving a community disposal or final warning receive help with parenting skills.
- Barnardo’s and the council have successfully bid for funding including the Intensive Intervention Project, working with the 50 most prolific young offenders failing to

successfully engage with services. Barnardo's have also led on the Family Intervention Project (FIP) and the Youth Crime Action Plan (YCAP) FIP, around diverting young people from admission to care and custody.

- Engaging young people in positive activities is part of the preventative approach taken by the area based teams. Street based teams will continue to be developed to work with young people to target hot spot areas across Gateshead, particularly on Friday and Saturday nights. Through Youth Crime Action Plan funding (YCAP) over 2300 young people have been involved in positive activities on Friday and Saturday evenings since October 2008. 150 sessions have been held ranging from detached work to issue led work and themed visits.
- The future direction for the Active Kidz programme is to align programmes with the Extended Services Agenda and the new well-being indicators for schools. It will continue to provide opportunities to disadvantaged children and children and young people in care, who through their economic circumstances may otherwise be unable to participate. Inclusive weekend and holiday activities for 14-19 year olds with a disability will be developed further.

2.5.5 Healthy lifestyles

- Improving lifestyle during pregnancy is a key priority and therefore the development of a maternal overweight and obesity pathway has commenced. Key services including Maternity, Dietetics and Sport and Leisure are coming together to develop the role of maternal lifestyle advisors and ensure a robust pathway is in place.
- Funding has been secured to provide three carbon monoxide monitors for Gateshead to improve pregnancy smoking status recording and measure the amount of carbon monoxide entering the foetus. We are also piloting an 'opt out' referral pathway whereby all pregnant women who smoke will be referred to smoking cessation services unless they 'opt out'.
- A comprehensive strategy across SOTW to tackle obesity across all ages has been developed. For children and young people this includes promoting healthy food; building physical activity into children and young people's lives; increasing access to support programmes to help children and young people at risk to alter their lifestyle; promoting structured family interventions and increasing access to effective treatment.
- The Sport and Leisure department is providing free physical activity opportunities to children referred into the Balance It programme. The sports outreach team continue to provide physical activity opportunities in community venues targeting the harder to reach young people and engaging them in positive activities.
- Gateshead Children's Trust is developing a risk and resilience model recognising that risk taking behaviours do not happen in isolation. A risk and resilience strategy is required to ensure clarity in relation to roles and responsibilities. Links with area based working arrangements will support a targeted approach to prevention and early identification of substance misuse issues. Effective links between specialist services and health schools have been established with a core offer of Drug and Alcohol education being developed and rolled out across the borough.

