

FOOD AND HEALTH WORKING GROUP

Terms of Reference

1. Aim

To develop and co-ordinate food and health programmes in line with a population based approach as outlined in NICE guidance ^{1,2,3} and aligned to the County Durham Sustainable Food Strategy and the CVD prevention and Healthy Weight frameworks for County Durham

2. Objectives

- To develop programmes based on the NICE guidance.
- To identify funding opportunities to support food and health programmes
- To influence local, national and international agendas on the promotion of 'unhealthy' foods.
- To link with other partnerships that have a role to play in addressing CVD and Healthy Weight to ensure effective and complimentary delivery of programmes.

2. Membership

- Durham County Council
 - Area Action Partnerships
 - Public Health
 - Occupational Health
 - Children and Adult Services
 - Environmental Health and Consumer Protection
 - Planning
 - Regulatory Services
 - Procurement
 - Neighbourhood Services eg Civic Pride

¹ NICE,2010,Prevention of cardiovascular disease, PH2525

² NICE,2012,Services for the prevention of cardiovascular disease

³ NICE,2012,Obesity –working with local communities, PH42

- County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust
 - Health Improvement Service
 - Health Visiting and School Nursing
 - Dietetics
- Tees, Esk & Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust
- Voluntary and Community sector eg Durham Community Action
- Private sector eg Taylor Shaw

3. Working arrangements

- The group will meet on a bi-monthly basis
- The group will be chaired by Public Health
- Administrative support to be provided by Public Health
- Decisions will be made on the basis of consensus. If consensus is unachievable on a specific issue, the Chair's decision will prevail.
- Meetings will be quorate when at least one third of the membership is represented.
- The group will develop a delivery plan based on the high level strategic actions outlined in the Health and Well Being section of the Sustainable Food Strategy, together with those in the CVD Prevention and Healthy Weight frameworks.
- Meetings will focus on reporting against the action plan as well as providing an opportunity to learn how others are addressing this particular agenda.

4. Accountability/Governance

The group will report both to the County Durham Food Partnership and the Healthy Weight Alliance.

5. Review

The terms of reference will be reviewed on an annual basis.

May 2014

Holistic model of health

The work of the Food and Health group will be reflected in an approach that has a number of characteristics. These include:

- A recognition that a social model of health underpins practice. The model views the food agenda in its widest sense and is linked/integral to other agendas. Fundamentally it is distinct from a disease approach which works with those who already have an underlying morbidity/condition. Here, secondary prevention would work with individuals to assist them make lifestyle changes to their diet or tertiary prevention where an individual may have a chronic long term health condition and the role is to enable them to maintain their life quality.
- It is population focused although the concept of 'proportionate universalism' (Marmot, 2010) whereby interventions can be targeted on, for example, geographical communities, particular population groups, is also important.
- It is naturally classified as a series of 'upstream' interventions as a measures to prevent disease developing.
- It is multi faceted and utilises the knowledge, skills and experience of individuals and organisations working on different but complimentary agendas.