

Report to Health and Wellbeing Board

3 March 2014

Visit to Walsall by Duncan Selbie, Chief Executive of Public Health England (PHE)

1. Purpose

Duncan Selbie is in the process of visiting all Local Authorities (LAs) across England by the end of 2014. PHE has indicated that each LA should establish the conversation and decide who he meets. It has been suggested that the visit should be treated as an opportunity to showcase good work from the area and raise any challenging questions we might like to discuss.

Duncan Selbie has given notice that he intends to visit Walsall on the morning of Monday 14th July 2014

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the members of the Health and Wellbeing Board take due note of the date of this visit and be prepared to play a role should this be needed.

3. Report detail

Duncan Selbie took up post as Chief Executive Designate of Public Health England in July 2012 and as permanent Chief Executive on 1 April 2013.

Public Health England (PHE) is an Executive Agency of the Department of Health. The mission statement for PHE is:

to protect and improve the nation's health and to address inequalities

PHE is responsible for:

- making the public healthier by encouraging discussions, advising government and supporting action by local government, the NHS and other people and organisations
- supporting the public so they can protect and improve their own health
- protecting the nation's health through the national health protection service, and preparing for public health emergencies
- sharing our information and expertise with local authorities, industry and the NHS, to help them make improvements in the public's health

- researching, collecting and analysing data to improve our understanding of health and come up with answers to public health problems
- reporting on improvements in the public's health so everyone can understand the challenge and the next steps
- helping local authorities and the NHS to develop the public health system and its specialist workforce

In 2013 and 2014, their priorities are:

- helping people to live longer and more healthy lives by reducing preventable deaths and the burden of ill health associated with smoking, high blood pressure, obesity, poor diet, poor mental health, insufficient exercise, and alcohol
- reducing the burden of disease and disability in life by focusing on preventing and recovering from the conditions with the greatest impact, including dementia, anxiety, depression and drug dependency
- protecting the country from infectious diseases and environmental hazards, including the growing problem of infections that resist treatment with antibiotics
- supporting families to give children and young people the best start in life, through working with health visiting and school nursing, family nurse partnerships and the Troubled Families programme
- improving health in the workplace by encouraging employers to support their staff, and those moving into and out of the workforce, to lead healthier lives
- promoting the development of place-based public health systems
- developing our own capacity and capability to provide professional, scientific and delivery expertise to our partners

The visit to Walsall on Monday 14th July 2014:

Discussions are ongoing about the topics and areas to be covered when Duncan Selbie visits.

We are keen that the visit is memorable for positive reasons and are likely to host the discussions in a location(s) other than the usual council buildings or hospitals.

A further report will follow nearer the time of the visit.

Author:

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