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| Health Visitor Programme - Weekly News |

Issue 21

7th March 2013

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**Congratulations – EIS National Conference – London 27th February 2013 - Correction**

Last week we reported that the presentation that included the report on the increase in antenatal contacts was by Maria Richardson from NCH&C.

We apologise it was actually Pamela Agapiou referring to the success in increasing health visitor antenatal contacts in ECCH.



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**Information – Spreading the Word More Widely – Sharing Practice**

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| **Community Engagement – The Travelling Community in South West Essex**  As a skill mix 0-19 team of health visitors, community nursery nurses and school health practitioners we have one of the largest and most controversial traveller sites on our caseload. The community has high mobility and health needs with historical poor access to health services.  Initiatives in the past were short term, delivered in isolation from the health visiting team with caseload responsibility and lacked sustainability.  Following some informal collection of women’s views we have focused on delivering the universal health visiting offer promoting increased visibility and access. We have worked with colleagues through a multi-agency community engagement group to deliver relevant services that address the communities identified needs.  The site was subject to huge media attention due to the evictions in 2011, during this period we continued to maintain our links with the community and the group was successful in ensuring the reinstatement of health professionals visiting the site. During this difficult period we gained the trust of the community through continued multi-agency work which included the local Roman Catholic priest, police, traveller education service, youth service, children’s centre, voluntary services and local council.  As a team we worked together on a mobile clinic (bus) on the site every Wednesday to signpost families to local services. Delivering a Child Health Clinic on the bus for six months raised the health visiting profile resulting in increased attendance at developmental checks and local clinics. We identified needs such as oral health promotion, benefit advice and cultural awareness training for professionals that have been addressed through the group.  We continue to meet monthly and are actively engaging with the community to ensure that we continue to proactively address their health and welfare needs, addressing service delivery issues together.  Gaye Picton  Health Visitor/Team Leader  For further information, please contact Gemma Curtis  01268 244655  [gemma.curtis@nelft.nhs.uk](mailto:gemma.curtis@nelft.nhs.uk) |

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**Information - Practice Education Evaluation**

Some of you will be aware that the DH has funded the East of England to undertake an evaluation into models of practice teaching in health visiting. This follows innovations such as the roving PT model which has been developed and championed in this region.

The evaluation is being led by Anglia Ruskin University and University Campus Suffolk and is due for completion at the end of March 2013. Nationally there is a huge amount of interest in the findings of this evaluation which will be key to helping build the evidence base for practice education.

Key questions that the evaluation asks are:

1. Are the new models of practice education, for example the peripatetic model, safe and effective in relation to NMC standards regarding learning hours, practice teaching hours, assessment and range of practice experience?
2. Is there any difference regarding individuals perception of preparedness to fulfil their health visiting role within 6 months of qualification?

The evaluation has 3 phases. 1) A preparatory information gathering phase, 2) gathering of quantitative information from new graduates, 3) use of focus groups to explore qualitative differences in new and traditional (1 to 1) models of practice education.

Initial findings suggest all models meet NMC standards

New models provide students with a broader range of learning opportunities

New models do not indicate a rise in student attrition or reduction in achievement

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**Information – Programme Implementation Plan 2013/14**

We have refreshed the HV Implementation Plan for the East of England for 2013/14. Please read and feedback any comments to the programme office.

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**Information – Sustainable Development Strategy for the Health, Public Health and Social Care System 2014 – 2020 – Consultation**

The consultation on the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Health, Public Health and Social Care System 2014 - 2020 is now open, seeking input from across the whole healthcare system. This is your opportunity to help shape the future of a truly sustainable health and care system we can all be proud of.

The consultation document, survey response form and background information can be found at [www.sdu.nhs.uk/sds](http://www.sdu.nhs.uk/sds)

**Background information**

The sustainable development strategy will be the sustainable development plan for the health, public health and social care sector from 2014 - 2020. It will build on the NHS Carbon Reduction Strategy (2009), outlining practical steps that need to be taken to move the health system further on the journey towards sustainable healthcare delivery.

The purpose of this consultation and engagement process is to seek the views of the entire health and care system to help determine the future scope and approach of a sustainable development strategy that allows an understanding of how and where to focus health and care sector efforts to deliver more financially, socially and environmentally sustainable care.

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**Reminder – Use of EoE Twitter Account**

Julia has been actively Tweeting about the Programme, including events at yesterday’s ministerial event in London. We would like you to follow our Twitter account, **East of Eng HV Prog@HealthVisitors** and encourage practitioners to set up their own accounts. Please consider this as part of your communications strategies and work with your communications teams as care has to be exercised when considering the content.

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| **Reminder – Spreading the Word More Widely – Sharing Practice**  In order to share the good practice that is underway in all our providers we are seeking an article, each week, from our providers on a rota basis which we will share via the HV Weekly News. This will help to ensure that we accelerate the roll out of the new offer and promote the health outcomes achieved by health visitors.  Attached is a rota, starting with ECCH from the 7th February 2013.  Articles of **up to** 200 words highlighting an innovation or area of good practice (including contact details) are to be sent to Lucy Hall, [HealthVisitorPA@eoe.nhs.uk](mailto:HealthVisitorPA@eoe.nhs.uk) by the Wednesday of each week. |

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