

1. Cabinet decisions since the last Executive Report to the County Council

1.1 There will have been 4 Cabinet meetings (14 December 2015, 18 January 2016, 22 February 2016 and 14 March 2016) since the last Executive Report to County Council. The items of business specifically attributed to this portfolio were:-

- Cabinet approved:-
 - the strategies for achieving the in-year public health budget savings 2015/16 and those required in subsequent years set out in the report and its appendices.
 - the Voluntary Sector Commissioning Strategy for Hertfordshire 2015-19.

2. Consequences of Cabinet decisions before the last meeting of the County Council on 22 February 2016

2.1 There were no consequences of Cabinet decisions made before the last meeting of the County Council.

3. Anticipated/ future decisions to be made by Cabinet

3.1 A report on Fire and Libraries Co-Location was considered by Panel on 9 March 2016 and will be considered by Cabinet on 14 March 2016.

4. Key Partnerships

4.1 Hertfordshire Lifestyle and Legacy Partnership

The Lifestyle and Legacy Partnership met on 10 December 2015 and 21 March 2016. Amongst the items considered at this meeting were: the collation of inspirational stories and case studies to promote the legacy of the London Olympics and Paralympics in Hertfordshire in advance of this year's Rio Games, which would be featured on the Partnership's web page and shared as good practice around the country showing the benefits to physical and mental wellbeing of partnership working across the public and voluntary sector; the promotion of the benefits of Arts and Culture for wellbeing; and the use of social prescribing including the Arts.

4.2 Hertfordshire Armed Forces Community Covenant Board

The Covenant Board met on 16 December 2015 and 2 March 2016. A new Corporate Covenant Task group has been established to encourage Hertfordshire-based businesses to support reservists and encourage employment of ex-service personnel and their families. Support is also being given to a project at the Mount Prison in Bovingdon to encourage veterans who are serving as prisoners, to access appropriate support relating to their military service.

I was also pleased to support Cabinet's decision to amend the Hertfordshire's care charging policy in regards to War Disablement Pensions.

5. Other comments

5.1 Public Health

Public Health continues to progress across its workstream with most recently the Tobacco Control conference focusing on mental health and tobacco. 64% of tobacco use in England is by people with mental health problems, and we are working closely with mental health services to reduce this.

The Public Health work on the Health and Wellbeing Strategy continues and we are working on the roll out of the £2m Sport England funding to local partnerships for health improvement and physical activity across Hertfordshire.

Our review of drug and alcohol services for children and young people has concluded and the implementation process of improving services has begun.

Hertfordshire created two social enterprises which help get people out of drug and alcohol dependency and back into employment. I'm pleased to say we have won a further capital grant from Public Health England to help buy catering equipment for one of these social enterprises to help take on more people wanting to get back into employment.

Progress with implementing the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) review led by Public Health continues and Childrens Services and Public Health are now working with the NHS on a joint CAMHS Board. The NHS has now appointed staff to deliver £2m of new investment secured from Government by the joint CAMHS Board. Hertfordshire has also been successful in obtaining £130,000 for a twenty school programme from the Department for Education, with an additional £3000 for each school represented.

The inaugural Excellence in Hertfordshire Public Health Awards were presented at the 3rd Hertfordshire Public Health Conference on 2 December 2015. The 200 conference attendees chose Hertfordshire Health Walks as the overall winner of the Dr Joan Crawley Award.

5.2 Localism

Consultation on the draft Hertfordshire Compact has now ended and minor amendments are being made in line with comments and suggestions. The final version will go through the governance process in Hertfordshire County Council with a formal launch of the document due to take place in early summer.

As part of the wider review of all the contracts Health and Social Care hold with the voluntary and community sector two new services to provide infrastructure, representation and volunteering support to charities and community based organisations across Hertfordshire have been tendered and awarded. The new services, to be launched in April 2016, will be called the Herts Community Hub and #HertsTeam.

I was honoured to attend the Herts Service to Sport Awards 2015 on 16 December 2015 and present the award for 'Volunteer of the Year – Over 21' which was sponsored by the County Council.

I was also very pleased to be asked to open the recent Hertfordshire Primary Schools PE Conference which attracted head teachers, school governors and Physical Education leads from 128 of Hertfordshire primary schools.

5.3 Libraries and Heritage Services

- In November, I attended a Business Information event at Welwyn Garden City Library, which highlighted the role Hertfordshire Libraries play in supporting the local economy through the provision of business information resources and access to advice services.
- At Welwyn Garden City, I was also able to see a demonstration of the new LibraryLink facility, which provides a video link enabling customers and volunteers in the newly established Community Libraries at Chorleywood and Redbourn to call up assistance from library staff.
- In January, I attended a 'slipper swap' event at Stevenage Library. The aim of these events is to give information and advice to help vulnerable people avoid serious falls. New anti-slip slippers were provided through County Council Healthy Homes Campaign. Simple falls prevention exercises and tips were offered by Occupational Therapists, and library staff and partner organisations provided information stalls. The event formed part of Hertfordshire Libraries contribution to the provision of information and advice to support The Care Act.
- On 6 February 2016 I was interviewed on BBC Three Counties Radio to mark National Libraries Day and promote the events and activities going on in libraries around the County.

5.4 Customer Services

- I am pleased to report the beta (test) website is now live at beta.hertsdirect.org, with content for Blue Badge, adult social care and Libraries live and being used. Feedback from residents, staff and the Customer Service Centre has been positive on these changes. Further services including highways and admissions are being developed now.

6. **Cabinet Panels**

- 6.1 Since the last Executive Report to Council, the Public Health, Localism and Libraries Cabinet Panel has met on 18 November 2015, 29 January 2016 and 9 March 2016. The matters discussed can be found at the following locations:

[18 November 2015](#)

[29 January 2016](#)

[9 March 2016](#)

Teresa Heritage
Executive Member for Public Health, Localism & Libraries
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