

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Written response to a public question asked at the meeting of the Board held on 27 March 2014

1. Extract from the minutes of the meeting held on 27 March 2014

“Public Question Concerning Public Health Grant

Mr Peter Hartley asked that a written response also be provided to his questions, which were as follows:-

1. What was the Public Health Grant for 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15;
2. What were the four activities organised by the Board for 2013-14 and how much did each of these activities cost;
3. What are the four activities, with dates, planned for 2014-15; and
4. How is Healthwatch Sheffield funded and does it come out of the Public Health Grant?

Dr Tim Moorhead (Chair) responded to Mr Hartley, stating that the information which he had requested would be provided to him in writing and the written information would also be published with the minutes and documents for this meeting of the Board.”

2. Response from the Chief Executive, Sheffield City Council, to Mr Hartley dated 9 April 2014

“I am writing further to the questions that you asked at the last Health and Wellbeing Board on 27th March 2014. Those questions related to the size of the Public Health Grant, and also the previous and planned activities of the Health and Wellbeing Board. You also raised a question concerning the funding of Healthwatch Sheffield.

In terms of the Public Health Grant, prior to the 2013/14 financial year, the service was embedded within NHS Sheffield Primary Care Trust (PCT). It transferred to the City Council on 1st April 2013. In the 2013/14 year the Public Health Grant was £29,665,300. In 2014/15, the grant will be £30,747,900.

In terms of the four activities organised by the Board in 2014, I take this to mean the four engagement events organised by the Board. These took place on the following dates:

- Thursday 25th April 2013. The cost of the event was £701.

- Thursday 25th July 2013. The cost of the event was £328.
- Thursday 31st October 2013. The cost of the event was £80.
- Thursday 30th January 2014. The cost of the event was £71.

In terms of the four activities planned for 2014/15 these are as follows:

- Thursday 29th May 2014 with the theme of tackling health inequalities.
- Thursday 31st July 2014 with a theme to be chosen by Healthwatch Sheffield.
- Thursday 1st October 2014 with a theme yet to be confirmed.
- Thursday 29th January 2015 with a theme yet to be confirmed.

In terms of Healthwatch Sheffield, all local authorities have a duty to ensure that there is a Healthwatch established in their area. Funding is received by the local authority from the Department of Health to enable them to do this although local authorities have the freedom to decide exactly how they will ensure there is a Healthwatch within a framework laid down by the Department for Health. In Sheffield a consultation process with citizens during 2012/13 established that the preference was for Sheffield City Council to tender for a contractor to establish and run Healthwatch in Sheffield. This process took place early 2013 and since April 2013 Voluntary Action Sheffield has been under contract to Healthwatch in the city. This contract is monitored for quality as with any other Council contract and will run to 2015.”