

Health Visitor Service Improvements

“Please set the basic infrastructure so it is solid and co-ordinated countywide, ensuring we have a solid foundation upon which we can implement the Healthy Child Programme effectively”

Building blocks are being put in place along the HCP Pathway. The reference group have worked on updating SOPs, developing pathways to support service delivery, making decisions about implementing evidence based tools such as ASQ. Also, the service leaflet has been updated and redistributed.

“Can we have centile charts in child’s notes?”

These charts were ordered and have now been distributed. Should you need any more or have not got yours please contact your ITM.

“Can we be given dates that actions will be completed by e.g. interface between Midwives and HVs regarding assessment of families A/N and information sharing? We have been talking about this for years”

This pathway is a CQUIN target to be completed by March 2015. All of the work on the pathway that was carried out by Sarah Cooper in a previous reference group has been used to negotiate the way forward with maternity services.

This work is making good progress. Meetings are being put in place to agree an implementation plan with both maternity hospital leads. We are planning a workshop event for midwives and HVs by the end of the year.

“Will moving to Local Authority affect our NHS pensions?”

There will be national changes but we don’t have any details yet.

“Update HV leaflet”

This leaflet has been updated and was circulated in March 2014. If you need an up-to-date leaflet please contact your ITM.

“Tools for age and stage to use with assessments”

ASQSE tool with all teams. ASQ with nursery nurses & training to be organised in autumn for HV workforce.

“We want a useable system to demonstrate to commissioners what we do”

Present CPAS/new EPR will be ready to pilot early 2015.

“Bring back the Tynedale! Will mean journal writing could be shorter”

Antenatal SOP and Tynedale have now been introduced and are available for staff to use. If you need help locating them please contact your ITM. They are also on SharePoint.

“SOP can be useful”

The reference group is systematically updating the SOPs that were developed in 2012.

“GP – HV good practice guidance”

Completed and being piloted in practice. This work has been led by Susan Mein, Named Nurse for Safeguarding. There is a “Good Practice Guidance” and a named link HV for each GP Practice.

“Detailed SOPs”

Antenatal SOP, primary visit, 4-6 week contact SOP and transition from HV to SN SOPs now available in draft. ASQSE packs distributed. ASQ purchased – dates for training and implementation to follow.

“We would welcome regular emails to inform us about progress being made towards being ready for 2015. Would possibly enable wider dialogue and prompt HVs to further engage with processes”

There will be a workshop focussing on the transition of Health Visiting to the Local Authority on 7th Oct 2014. Please add this date to your diary. This will facilitate the preparation for the transfer of universal services to the Local Authority and will be a chance for you to showcase the good work in Health Visiting.

“A tick list questionnaire to put in notes of leaflets and given to parents at each contact”

As leaflets are always changing and being updated we are looking at having a small working group to look at paperwork and the best way to make sure clients are given the most up to date information.

“Please can we have a centile chart in every set of child records for pre-school children!”

Centile charts have been ordered and are available. Please discuss with your ITM about which records are most appropriate to have these charts.

“Concern about quality versus quantity. Glad to hear commissioners not just looking at how many contacts we do. Enables us to be autonomous and look at needs of children and families”

Quality of service provision is very important to the leadership team and the management team. Please contact the leadership team at any time if you have concerns.

“We want to deliver a quality life-enhancing service for children: we need to keep our momentum”

We have a reference group – this is a good forum to propose suggestions & ideas for service development & meets monthly. Please join in. Contact Helen Condran for more information:
helen.condran@cumbria.nhs.uk

“6-8 week holistic assessment – do-able with the necessary resources, e.g. smoking sessions business card, consistent supply of ‘baby zone’ leaflets”

The Baby zone leaflets have now been ordered.

“Clarification re: vitamins”

We are still waiting for new national guidance on Healthy Start Vitamins. Public Health will keep us informed when this is available.

“Increase staff to caseload ratio”

We are “growing the workforce” and the future is looking very positive. There will be 12 students to recruit by January 2015 & 7 school nurses are converting to the Health Visitor team by March 2015. This will increase the Health Visitor workforce & reduce pressure of large caseloads in existing teams.

“Children’s centre contact form and guidance”

This information has now been circulated. A contact list of link HVs & children centres is available from your Integrated Team Managers.

“We want to be involved and we want to know that we are proactively developing our service so that it remains essential to the delivery of HCP”

Staff have been very proactive, supportive and committed to informing changes and developments within the service. The more people get involved the quicker we can develop the service. Also by joining the HV reference group your ideas and suggestions can be acted on formally for the whole service.