



Sheffield Health and Wellbeing Board

Engagement Event 29 May 2014

Tackling Health Inequalities

Event Summary

What was the event?

Sheffield's Health and Wellbeing Board is a group of senior councillors, GPs, managers and representatives of Sheffield people who work together to connect health, social care and wellbeing in Sheffield. It has several engagement events a year.

This event's main focus was on looking at what Sheffield's Health and Wellbeing Board could do to tackle health inequalities, a topic that has been a priority for the Board since it was created.

Who came to the event?

A wide variety of people attended – members of the public, service users, providers including NHS hospitals and voluntary, community and faith sector organisations, frontline workers, and statutory organisations – as well as Health and Wellbeing Board members.

What did people say about the event?

People enjoyed the event, with all but one giving it 4/5 or 5/5. They enjoyed meeting others and talking about different themes.

What's next?

The Health Inequalities Action Plan will be discussed at the Health and Wellbeing Board on 26th June 2014. The feedback from this event will be fed into the final version of the plan.

Summary of conversations and views

We have summarised some of the main themes coming out of the event below:

- We need to be sure to promote and communicate good health and wellbeing, and promote the services which'll help and support people to be healthy and well.
- See people as a whole, covering mental *and* physical health; don't just offer medical solutions.
- Work should be done to increase spend in preventative activity.
- Develop the role of the GP (and other frontline workers), ensuring their awareness of key services that support those who are particularly affected by a health inequality.
- People and communities have a range of resources and assets at their disposal – they should be used as partners.
- We need to ensure we involve people, their families and providers in decision-making and use their feedback.
- Access to services is a crucial issue – and there *are* things we can do to improve this.
- Organisations should work together to achieve better outcomes for people. Some professional cultures may need to be challenged.
- Quality and dignity are really important things.
- Pilot projects are good but we need to make sure that projects that work become widespread.
- The Health and Wellbeing Board can add value – and attendees and organisations can add value as well.