

The North of Scotland Public Health Network (NoSPHN) is a collaboration between NHS Grampian, NHS Highland, NHS Orkney, NHS Shetland and NHS Western Isles. The role of the North of Scotland Public Health Network is to promote improvements in health and contribute to reducing health inequalities across the North of Scotland. To achieve this, those involved work collaboratively, where this adds value, to plan and deliver equitable, high quality and effective Public Health services and activities for the benefit of the population of the North of Scotland.

The NoSPHN Steering Group

The NoSPHN Steering Group oversees the development and delivery of the NoSPHN workplan and ensures appropriate governance arrangements are in place. The Chair (Lead Clinician) of the Steering Group is rotated every 2 years between each of the North NHS Boards.

Sarah Taylor - Lead Clinician and DPH NHS, Shetland
 Lesley Wilkie – DPH, NHS Grampian
 Margaret Somerville – DPH, NHS Highland
 Louise Wilson – DPH, NHS Orkney
 Martin Malcolm – NHS Western Isles
 Phil Mackie and Anne Conacher – Scottish Public Health Network (ScotPHN)
 Partnership Managers NHS Health Scotland (rotating)
 Annie Ingram, Director of Planning NoS Planning Group
 NoSPHN Pip Farman - NoSPHN Co-ordinator
 Alex Medcalf – Secretary to NoSPHN (NHS)

Representatives of the NoSPHN workstreams also sit on/ regularly attend meetings (see details of our work programmes attached):

Well North – Elaine Garman NHS
 Health Intelligence Sub Group- Jillian Evans NHSG and Paddy Luo-Hopkins, NHS
 Health Improvement Collaborative (rotated between members)
 Medicines Management Collaborative – Sharon Pfleger NHS
 NoS Child Health Evaluation Group – Noelle O’Neill, NHS

Other representatives attend meetings in relation to specific pieces of work. The Group meets every 2 months – all meetings are conducted with members joining by videoconference from sites across the North and Scotland.

Who does the NoSPHN report to?

The NoSPHN is accountable to the Chief Executives of each of the North of Scotland Boards through the North of Scotland Planning Group (NoSPG).

How can I get involved in NoSPHN?

- Talk to your manager or one of the NoSPHN Steering Group to determine work in which you might be involved. North DPHs regularly receive requests for staff to come forward for pieces of work / to contribute to discussions.
- Identify work which might be progressed across the North – are you part of a group or progressing work which you think might benefit from a regional Public Health approach? If so please let your manager know or contact Sarah Taylor or Pip Farman (see contacts below).

For more information or to discuss NoSPHN and its work contact:

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 Lerwick Shetland
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sarahtaylor1@nhs.net or

Pip Farman, North of Scotland Public Health Network Co-ordinator
 NHS Highland, Assynt House Beechwood Park
 Inverness, IV2 3HG (01463) 704894
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How can I access more information on NoSPHN?

Please visit our website for further details at <http://www.nosphn.scot.nhs.uk/>

Copies of agendas, minutes and documents of the NoSPHN Steering Group meetings are made available to download. Current Events will also be posted on the site. If you have any suggestions for other information you would like to see on the NoSPHN website, please contact Pip Farman or Alex Medcalf alex.medcalf@nhs.net

Abbreviations:

NoSPG – North of Scotland Planning Group
 NHS – National Health Service: G (Grampian) H (Highland), O (Orkney), S (Shetland), WI (Western Isles)
 DPH – Director of Public Health

North of Scotland Public Health Network (NoSPHN) – annual report to the North of Scotland Public Health Network (NoSPG) 2010/11

The North of Scotland Public Health Network ensures that regional initiatives are informed by the best available evidence and identified population need so that NoSPG can make the best possible decisions within the resources available for the people of the North of Scotland. Dr Sarah Taylor, Director of Public Health for NHS Shetland has this year led NoSPHN supported by the Network Manager, Pip Farman. NoSPHN supports NoSPG in agreed pieces of work and also develops regional approaches to Public Health services, activities and continuing education.

Work over 2010/11 included:

- Ongoing support has been given to the development of a needs and evaluation based approach to the North of Scotland NDP Children's Specialist Service programme. NoSPHN was asked by NoSPG to develop a model to show how added benefit to patients would be demonstrated as a result of investment in Children's Specialist Services at a regional level. Work overall has included liaison with regional and national groups, the development of a logic model approach to the development and evaluation of the work, the development of a toolkit to support local work and supporting two training events. Work during 2010 has focused specifically on the year 1&2 service developments for the following Networks:
 - Specialist Paediatric Neurology/Epilepsy
 - Specialist Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition
 - Specialist Paediatric Respiratory/Cystic Fibrosis
 - General Surgery of Childhood.

Public Health colleagues have supported and advised on indicators and data to use as part of the evaluation and also the development of tools to gather feedback from patients and their families of the impact of service developments. The support of NoSPHN and the logic model approach to work has been well received. The evaluation is due to be reported to NoSPG in June 2011.

- NoSPHN has routinely advised NoSPG and the NoS Board Chief Executives on applications submitted for designation as national services. NoSPHN reviewed the 2010 applications using agreed criteria and further discussed the bids with the NoS Integrated Planning Group and NoSPG before agreeing a NoS response which was submitted to the National Services Advisory Group (NSAG) in June 2010.
- NoSPHN has supported NoSPG / NHS Boards in response to the national Remote and Rural Implementation plan and has conducted a review of the previously conducted Rural General Hospitals Needs Assessment to aid understanding of the use of the needs assessment and local care pathways.
- Public Health support has been given a review of weight management services in the North of Scotland through the NoS Weight Management Sub Group (NoS WMSG). Work has focussed on a literature review to address key questions raised by the NoS WMSG and related workstreams (demand and capacity analysis, non-surgical pathways, criteria for surgery, pre and postoperative care pathways and patient involvement). The focus for the NoS WMSG has been bariatric surgery services and a demand and capacity analysis has been conducted to describe the epidemiology of severe and complex obesity and to analyse the current and future demand for bariatric and obesity services. NoSPHN has sought in the work to ensure that the review has been conducted in the context of wider weight management pathways.

- A CAMHS Needs Assessment has been completed to inform the work of the CAMHS workstream. The needs assessment was commissioned by the North of Scotland Planning Group at the request of the Chief Executives through the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Project Board. The needs assessment is intended to inform the strategic decision making that will be required to secure investment in and development of Tier 4 services for inpatient (specialist adolescent mental health inpatient unit or age appropriate psychiatric care in a paediatric or adult hospital) and community based adolescent mental health services across the North of Scotland Boards.
- Initial support has been given to the development of the Cardiac Services Network Regional Delivery Plan and further work is planned in 2011.
- A professional development event was held in May 2010 focussing on Public Health and Planning issues in conjunction with NoSPG colleagues. The event was found to be useful to understand how best to progress Planning and Public Health activities in the North of Scotland.
- Support has been given to a number of NoSPG programme groups and Public Health staff are nominated to sit on and advise working groups (eg NOSCANA, Oral Health and Dentistry and the Cardiac Network).
- NoSPHN successfully secured funding over 2 years (2008-2010) from the Scottish Government for 6 anticipatory care programmes in the North aligned to the national Keep Well programme. The programmes focus on practices in Dufftown (NHSG), North-West Sutherland (NHSH), NHS Orkney, NHS Shetland, across NHS Western Isles and further remote and rural practices in each of NHS Highland and NHS Grampian focussing on Healthy Weight Pathways. The overall aim is to identify the key issues that are required to make the targeting of anticipatory care working effective in remote and rural settings. Work during 2010 aimed to ensure implementation of the programmes and steady progress has been made and interventions are now being delivered through the programmes. An evaluation of Well North was completed by the end of March 2011. The Scottish Government has recently agreed to continue funding to enable the Well North project to be extended to 2012. Work is ongoing in Boards to develop plans for mainstreaming health checks.
- Collaborative approaches to Area Drug and Therapeutic Committees have been explored over the year and work is being progressed to include horizon scanning and impact analysis work (drug budget forecasting and introduction of new anticoagulants) and policy development (eg in response to CEL (2010) 17 Access to licensed medicines).
- NoSPHN has throughout the year worked to review opportunities for collaborative working in the North on health improvement / health promotion activities. Key areas of focus have been agreeing areas of shared learning from Well North, workforce development opportunities, bringing training and events to the NoS for example on Integrated Health Impact Assessment (March 2011), contributing to national health improvement developments and reviewing and supporting opportunities for developing social marketing approaches on a NoS basis.
- NoSPHN has reviewed and updated the Memorandum of Understanding for Surge Capacity between the NoS Boards and Health Protection Scotland.
- NoSPHN has continued to work with other national organisations to maximise engagement with and links to North of Scotland including NHS Health Scotland, the Scottish Government and Scottish Public Health Network. One of the main foci of work is to ensure that the remote and rural aspects of national developments are recognised and addressed.

Reports are available on many of the pieces of work highlighted above and can be accessed via the NoSPHN website at http://www.nosphn.scot.nhs.uk/?page_id=49

NoSPHN Priorities for 2011/12

NoSPHN will continue to progress with ongoing developments from the 2010/11 workplan and develop new requests for work as appropriate including:

- To detail for NoSPG the key factors which will have the biggest impacts on the provision of Health Services in the North of Scotland in the future and therefore the implications for planning on a North of Scotland basis. This work will be reported at a NoSPG / NoSPHN event in September 2011.
- To support the delivery of the Cardiac Services Regional Delivery Plan and improve understanding of projected need and the impact on service capacity and accessibility.
- Further supporting collaborative approaches to Drug and Therapeutics across the NoS.
- To continue to support the Regional Oral Health and Dentistry workstream.
- Advising and supporting NOSCAN in the development and implementation of agreed objectives.
- To organise appropriate professional development opportunities including supporting the Scottish Faculty of Public Health Conference which is to be hosted in the North of Scotland in November 2011.
- To review the outcomes of the evaluation of the Well North programme for shared learning and support ongoing delivery of the programmes as appropriate.
- To deliver an agreed programme of regional and national Public Health activities.