

## **Public Questions: HWBB 11<sup>th</sup> September 2015**

### **Question 1:**

David Sandbach's question:

I was very impressed with the presentation made by several young people at the Shropshire Health and Well Being Board on the 31st of August.

Would it be possible for the H&WB Board to ask these young people if a facility, like the one provided by the Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust and partners, could be of use here in Shropshire?

However I am well past my teenage years (statement of the blindingly obvious) so I think maybe more youthful eyes are needed to evaluate the potential of such a development here in Shropshire.

I am aware that the Shropshire Youth Health Champions have created a series of videos which represents a considerable amount of intellectual capital.

### **My question for the next H&WB is:**

*"How will the H&WB Board help to ensure these videos are made promoted and available to the Shropshire public plus health, education and social service personnel. "*

### **Response from Shropshire Health & Wellbeing Board:**

We have sent the relevant facility provided by the Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust and partners to the young health champions for review and await a response, as per your request.

The HWBB is very impressed by the hard work and dedication of the Shropshire Young Health Champions in tackling health issues. The Board is particularly keen to ensure that their high quality work and findings are shared across Shropshire, both with professionals and the wider public.

The HWBB intends that the Young Health Champion's work, including the videos, will be communicated through local media and our other communication channels, for example via our websites and social media outlets. The HWBB also encourages individual organisations to ensure that the work is promoted through their staff and public communication channels. The HWBB is happy to continue to support the Young Health Champions with their projects.

### **Question 2:**

From George Rook

"The health and wellbeing board includes all major stakeholders in the health and care economy. Please would you say what steps have been taken, and what action will be taken, in Shropshire to welcome and provide support and homes for refugees during the current crisis? We believe that it is morally our duty in Shropshire, and elsewhere, to provide real humanitarian support for these displaced people who are suffering so much."

### **Response from Shropshire Health & Wellbeing Board:**

Please see information below and attached.

### **Press Release from Shropshire Council, September 9**

Cabinet members were unanimous that the UK and Shropshire should do what we can to help. It was recognised that individuals and communities are already organising themselves to provide aid, and we thoroughly endorse and support this.

Refugees are not a new phenomenon, and we anticipate that there will be helpful records and evidence on how to deliver maximum benefits to refugees. The council's Public Health Forum has been asked to record how best to support refugees based on previous experience.

As has previously been stated, an officer within the council now has full-time responsibility to co-ordinate our efforts and communicate with voluntary support and aid. This will also provide a crucial Shropshire link into the Government and regional agencies. Partner agencies such as health, Department for Work and Pensions, police and the fire service have now also nominated staff to support this group. The group will gather information, formulate a plan and identify costs ready for implementation.

The Cabinet are also promoting that a cross political party governance group is established to ensure that in Shropshire we focus on how we might best help rather than make a political issue of refugees. So far Opposition Leaders have added their support for this and we hope to achieve assembling this group by the end of this week. Councillor Karen Calder (Cabinet member for health) will lead for the Conservative Administration. Partner agencies and potentially independent people will be invited to be part of this governing group.

In terms of 'what will Shropshire do', the council are keeping all options open. As we have said, we want to be as certain as possible that early good intentions are likely to have good outcomes. We are considering how we can bring refugees to Shropshire – house and support them and, more than this, how the skills refugees will bring can boost our economy. We are also considering if we could be a point of distribution of refugees for other parts of the UK, but it is too early to say if this is feasible. However, it is important that nothing is ruled out at this stage.

Shropshire Council wants to support refugees, and we support the position of the Local Government Association that the Government must fund the aid and support we provide.

Please see attached paper for more information.

### **Question 3:**

From George Rook  
Chair, Shropshire Dementia Action Alliance

In December Telford will host an international conference on Dementia. This is a fantastic opportunity to learn about latest developments in dementia prevention, diagnosis and care. In view of the current review of the Memory Service, and the forthcoming review of the county Dementia Action Plan, as well as the general lack of post diagnostic support for people in Shropshire with a diagnosis of dementia prior to crisis, I urge very strongly that every member of the Board attend at

least one day of the conference. My question is, how many members of the Board are intending to attend?

**Response from Shropshire Health & Wellbeing Board:**

**Board Members Planning to Attend:**

**Rachel Wintle**

**Cllr Lee Chapman**