

Herefordshire Oral Health Improvement Action Plan (2023-2026)

Version – Final

Herefordshire Council - Public Health Team

Revised 2/6/23

For discussion Oral Health Improvement Partnership Board June 5th 2023

HEREFORDSHIRE ORAL HEALTH IMPROVEMENT ACTION PLAN (2023-2026)

1) BUILDING HEALTHY PUBLIC POLICY

Key action	Planned activity	By who	Milestone	Progress update
1A. Ensure the OHIP is endorsed by executive committees in Herefordshire Council and Health and Well-being Board partners		HC PHT	Report to Health and Well-being Board Autumn 23.	June 23 Agenda item for Autumn 23 planned.
	Share the plan with partners identified as key stakeholders for achieving the OHIP aim and objectives			
1B. Ensure oral health is included in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)	Engage with HC Intelligence Unit, to ensure updated oral health data is included.	HC PHT	On-going	June 23 Last JSNA Dec 2021. Update data from 2022 survey shared.
1C. Advocate for inclusion of oral health promotion within all health and wellbeing policies, strategies and commissioning	In partnership with public health colleagues and wider professionals to identify opportunities for inclusion of oral health across relevant work streams e.g. smoking, substance use and NHS Health Checks	HC PHT	Determined by commissioning cycles.	June 2023 Oral health being worked into new contracts for 0-19s service. NHS health checks contract now under review.
1D. Influence early years and adult social care settings to adopt healthy food and drink policies	Share latest guidance (NICE/OHID) and online resources with early years and adult social care leads and providers to inform policy development and implementation	HC PHT	OHIG to review quarterly	Oral health champions contacts now established, identified through having received training. Schools food initiative with

				Environmental health is now established.
1E. Support the implementation of smoke-free policies across public, private and voluntary/sector organisations	Provide system-leadership and role modelling for smoke-free policies and ensure proactive communication of messaging around smoke-free settings.	All OHIG members	OHIG to review quarterly	June 2023 National Tobacco Control Strategy still expected, although targets have been set CBP-9655.pdf (parliament.uk) with local Strategy to be developed from that. In March 23 Herefordshire stop smoking group was set up and is now operationally focussed group on hospital in-patient work. A workshop to develop a local system plan to be discussed with new cabinet member for health and well-being.
1.F Support fluoridation of water supply in Herefordshire.	Provide leadership for bringing discussion to the Health and Well-being Board. To draw attention to current evidence base and processes (following legislative change) through annual report to HWB Board.	DPH and consultant in PH.	Report to HWB Board Autumn 23. OHIG to review quarterly	June 23 To be actioned with newly elected Cabinet member.

2) CREATING SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENTS

Key action	Planned activity	By who	Milestone	Progress update
2A. Increase the provision of healthy food and drink in early years, children's and all settings that the local authority reaches wider public sector settings	Influence key settings to reduce availability of sugar sweetened beverages/snacks in high sugar and increase offer of healthy alternatives (including provision of free plain drinking water)	HC PHT HC EYT	OHIG to review quarterly	June 2023 Oral health promotion in selected nurseries and primary schools in progress. There will be an opportunity to input to a new leisure services contract.
	Develop healthy vending guidance for all settings that the local authority reaches			
	Encourage primary and secondary schools to engage with the 'Healthy schools rating scheme' (Department for Education)			
2B. Introduce targeted supervised tooth brushing (STB) in targeted early years and children's settings	Deliver staff and parent training with follow up evaluation.	HC PHT	OHIG to review quarterly	June 2023 Oral health promotion in selected nurseries and primary schools in progress.
	Ensure materials are distributed to support intervention.			
2C. Introduce targeted provision of toothbrushes and toothpaste (eg through health visitors and food banks)	Use any available funding to draw down additional resource to support.	HC PHT	OHIG to review quarterly	June 2023 Additional funding has now been approved on a one off basis from NHS to extend provision of materials to the harder to reach populations
	Link with regional networks to ensure learning is shared and full use is made of any supply opportunity.			
2D. Support adult care settings to improve the oral health of their clients	Increase the number of settings adopting relevant NICE guidelines and complying with CQC standards for improving oral health in adult care settings	HC PHT/ HC QT	OHIG to review quarterly	June 2023 Programme of training sessions now underway and well-received, and
	Audit care settings annually			

				embedded by ASC quality team.
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3) STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY ACTION

Key action	Planned activity	By who	Milestone	Progress update
3A. Engage with individuals/groups to explore oral health needs and barriers and facilitators to good oral health	To coincide with introduction of oral health improvement programmes locally, conduct targeted engagement with the following priority groups (or those who work with or support these groups) – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looked After Children • Children or adults with a physical or learning disability • Children who are home-schooled • Adults in social care settings 	HC PHT HH	OHIG to review quarterly	June 2023 Minimal progress – contacts with groups have now been established, and the offer being shaped. No significant progress in this quarter. New PH practitioner now in post.
3B. Explore opportunities to develop oral health champions to promote oral health in key organisations and community settings.	Engage with multi-sector stakeholders* to identify options for developing oral health champions, who will receive training and support to be able to deliver evidence-based oral health messages to individuals, families and communities. Review on line information and ensure that Talk community hubs are fully engage, including call for Oral health champions in hubs.	HC PHT HH	OHIG to review quarterly	June 2023 Care home and early years in progress. No significant progress in this quarter on rolling out. New PH practitioner now in post.
3C. Explore the feasibility of a ‘Oral Health Community Fund’, to support the third sector to improve oral health and reduce oral health inequalities	To coincide with the introduction of oral health improvement programmes, identify opportunities for developing a grant based funding scheme or oral health resource programme for voluntary and community organisations.	HC PHT HH	OHIG to review quarterly	June 2023 Part of a developing discussion on PH prioritisation for 23/4.

4) DEVELOPING PERSONAL SKILLS

Key action	Planned activity	By who	Milestone	Progress update
4A. Increase the oral health literacy of children and adults across Herefordshire	Undertake social marketing campaigns to promote the importance of oral hygiene, access to dental services and applications of fluoride varnish	HC PHT and Comms	OHIG to review quarterly	June 2023 Social marketing aimed at families continues. No significant progress in this quarter on CPD. New PH practitioner now in post.
	Provide dental practices (both NHS providers and private) with guidance on improving the oral health literacy of patients. Consider CPD for practice staff.	HC PHT NHSE/I LDC		
4B. Increase oral health promotion and signposting to NHS dental services by front line professionals in early years and educational settings	Provide oral health training (according to PHE's 'Delivering better oral health') to wider professionals across early years and schools	HC PHT	OHIG to review quarterly	June 2023 Work in progress through EY work. Embedded in new 0-19s contract. Training programme on going and evaluated.
	Share online resources and latest guidance (NICE/OHID) with key multi-agency partners in early years and schools			
4C. Increase the oral health knowledge and skills of professionals within adult social care settings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide oral health training to (according to PHE's 'Delivering better oral health') professionals working in adult social care settings. Ensure training is evaluated for increase in knowledge and subsequent change in practice. Share resources on oral health with those receiving training and with a contact point in each setting 	HC PHT	OHIG to review quarterly	June 2023 On-going with Council training team (QA team) delivering.

5) REORIENTING HEALTH SERVICES

Key action	Planned activity	By who?	Milestone	Progress update
5A. Engage with NHS England and NHS Improvement to ensure access to good-quality NHS dental services.	Review quarterly NHS Dental Statistics (obtained from NHS Digital and NHS Business Services Authority), to monitor access levels for children and adults in Herefordshire	HC PHT NHSE/I	OHIG to review quarterly	June 2023 Good engagement with NHSE and LDN. Data being reported at each OHIB meeting although most is 6 monthly update.
	Engage with the Local Dental Network (NHS England and NHS Improvement) to gain insight and understand best practice around improving NHS dental access.			
5B. Engage with NHS England and NHS Improvement to increase the use of fluoride varnish in local NHS dental practices across Herefordshire	Expectation to provide fluoride varnish is reiterated to NHS dentists as a core universal offer and monitoring of its delivery is undertaken at end of year review meetings with providers and contract monitoring visits.	HC PHT NHSE/I LDC HH	OHIG to review quarterly	June 2023 No significant progress in this quarter.
	Engage with the Local Dental Network (NHS England and NHS Improvement) to gain insight and understand best practice around increasing use of fluoride in dental practices.			
	Develop proof of concept business case for targeted community based fluoride varnish programme for children and young people at greatest risk of poor health.			
5C. Engage with dentists to increase awareness and support behaviour change related to common risk factors of smoking and substance misuse.	Deliver Making Every Contact Count (MECC) training for dental practices (both NHS providers and private).	HC PHT NHSE LDC	OHIG to review quarterly	June 2023 County smoking cessation pathway now revised. No significant progress this quarter. New PH
	Develop stronger referral pathways between dental practices (both NHS providers and private) and public health services in particular stop smoking and substance misuse services.			

				practitioner now in post.
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KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

To inform the performance management of the OHIP, as part of quarterly meetings the OHIG will routinely monitor, a range of key performance indicators (see table below). Measurable improvements in each of the key performance indicators listed, is deemed to contribute to the OHIP Objectives and longer term to the overall OHIP Aim.

Key performance indicators	OHIP Objectives	OHIP Aim
Rate (%) of fluoride varnish applications in children (3-16 years)	Increase the access of and exposure to fluoride	Improve oral health and reduce oral health inequalities in Herefordshire, particularly in children, older people in residential care settings and those in high risk groups.
Number of targeted settings providing a supervised tooth brushing programme		
Number (%) of targeted oral health packs distributed		
Number (%) of primary/secondary schools engaged with Healthy schools rating scheme	Improve dietary behaviours and reduce consumption of sugar, alcohol and tobacco	Aim measured by –
Number (%) early years settings adopting healthy food/drink policies		
Number settings adopting smoke-free policies		
Number (%) of children (1-18 years) accessing NHS Dental Services	Improve uptake and access to NHS dental care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local results of Public Health England's dental epidemiological programme i.e. % of 5 year olds with decayed, missing or filled teeth
Number (%) Looked After Children receiving NHS dental check		
Number (%) of adults accessing NHS Dental Services		
Number of dental practices who have received 'Making Every Contact Count training'		

Number (%) of NHS Dental practices who show an increase in their fluoride varnish rates each quarter	Ensure prevention is at the core of NHS dental services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local trends in dental extractions under general anaesthetic (aged up to 18 years)
Number of professionals (across children's and adults services) trained in oral health promotion	Ensure oral health is considered in all relevant settings and policies	
Number (%) residential care settings adopting relevant national guidelines/achieving CQC standards		