

JOINT HEALTH AND CARE COMMISSIONING GROUP BRIEFING NOTES**Report By: Jean Howard, Programme Manager, IMPACT****PURPOSE**

This paper highlights the issues dealt with by the Health and Care Joint Commissioning Group and gives details about where members of the Partnership can seek additional information on the items discussed and agreed.

The Joint Commissioning Group held on 17th March 2005 addressed the following:

1. Information items

a. Work is continuing on revising Joint Commissioning arrangement following outline agreement of the JCG at the previous meeting in December. Yvonne Clowsley and Jean Howard will present a second draft proposal to the group in June.

b. Simon Hairsnape advised the group the LDP was now available for circulation. Anyone wishing to receive an electronic or paper format should contact Julie Rogers on 01423 363960

c. Madeline Spinks gave a presentation on the State of Herefordshire report which is now available on the Councils web site. The group found the discussion useful and interesting and commended Madeline and her team on the production of this excellent document.

d. Yvonne Clowsley briefly updated the group on the progress of the Joint Health and Care Commissioning Plan. The Partnership Officer who has been working on this has now left to take up a new post and the group agree to the suggestion we should get someone from an agency to take this work forward, as a permanent replacement for the Partnership Officer is unlikely to be in place before the summer. This has now been actioned and the draft Commissioning plan should be available for the June meeting of the JCG.

2. Partnership Fund

Yvonne tabled a paper outlining agreed spend against the main schemes budget. Helen Horton and Jean Howard advised of the arrangements in place this year for the Small Schemes element and advised that five organizations had made application for funding. The JCG agreed them all subject to a further discussion with one particular organisation. This has now taken place and all organisations have been notified. The organisations concerned are Heart Start, Kidz First, Carers Action, Head Way and the Alzheimer's Society.

A copy of the report is available from Yvonne Clowsley on 01432 369389

3. Partnerships for Older People Projects (POPP)

This is a recently announced Government initiative which invites local councils to bid for pump priming money to fund innovative pilot projects designed to:

provide person centred and integrated care for older people and;

to encourage investment in preventative approaches, which promote health, well-being and independence

It is a requirement that Councils work in partnership with local PCTs and Voluntary Sector partners and a local steering group involving senior officers and practitioners has been set up. Jean Howard will coordinate the stage one bid which will be submitted in outline by the 12th May 2005. Successful authorities will be notified on 10th June; they will then need to submit detailed proposals by 2nd September and the go ahead will be given on 30th September, if successful.

There is potentially £500,000 available to Herefordshire in 2006/7 and a further £500,000 in 2007/8 with the option of applying for one or both years. However, this is not recurring money and we need to ensure any projects can be contained within the two years or sustained investment can be achieved through shifts in current types of service provision to those with a greater emphasis on prevention.

Further information on the grant is available on the DOH website.

4. The Alliance

Helen Horton tabled a paper entitled 'Working collaboratively for improved health and care services in Herefordshire' and gave an update of progress made so far by the Alliance. She reported that steady progress had been made but not as speedily as had been anticipated, due to demands made by the PPI forums, which was taking time away from the main work of the organisation. However the Alliance would be relinquishing this work in August which would free up resources.

Overall the Alliance felt the ambition of the service level agreement was not matched with the capacity to deliver and would welcome a discussion with the funders. It was agreed this discussion should take place and should focus on agreeing priorities, and how to work together to lever in additional resources to support the Alliance.

Further information is available from Helen Horton on 01432 265586.