

16 September 2010

To: Leaders of the Yorkshire and Humber Unitary and County Councils  
Yorkshire and Humber Chairs of Local Authority Health Scrutiny Panels  
Executive Members for Health or Wellbeing in the Yorkshire and  
Humber Unitary and County Councils

Cc: Chief Executives of the Yorkshire and Humber Unitary and County  
Councils and Primary Care Trusts and Directors of Public Health

Dear Colleague

**Leadership Academy – Health and Well-being – for Executive Members  
and Scrutiny Chairs**

Minding the Gap would like to invite you to take part in an excellent personal development opportunity provided by Local Government Improvement and Development for senior elected members who have responsibility for the complex challenge of ensuring better outcomes for Health and Wellbeing.

The Leadership Academy is delivered by expert tutors, Local Government Improvement and Development consultants, supported by guest speakers and presenters. Participants will have an opportunity to discuss the challenges and responsibilities for health and wellbeing in their role. The programme will also explore the role of partner organisations and the vision and leadership they will be expected to give. They will also explore current policy developments and local issues as well as the threats and opportunities ahead.

This Leadership Academy is designed to enable senior elected members to:

- gain an overview of national policy frameworks for improving health and wellbeing and reducing health inequalities;
- develop an understanding of the key drivers and issues in health and wellbeing and the role of local government in these;

- focus on understanding what improved health outcomes may mean in a wide variety of different places;
- build an understanding of the more and less effective ways of achieving improved health outcomes for individuals, families and communities, and in reducing health inequalities;
- learn how to achieve effective organisational change and to develop more productive partnerships.

Similar Local Government Improvement and Development national programmes have already been attended by over 100 elected members over the last three years and the feedback has been consistently high. The programme has also generated National and Regional Lead Member Networks that are well attended and enable members to network with colleagues facing similar challenges and remain up to date on policy and practice developments. This is the first programme to be run within the region and on a regional basis and is an exciting opportunity for elected members in Yorkshire and the Humber.

The Programme is being promoted by Minding the Gap and Local Government Improvement and Development, with support from NHS Yorkshire and Humber and is being offered completely free of charge to senior elected members in the region.

Enclosed is an outline of the programme to give you more idea of the developmental approach of the Leadership Academy and the themes that will be covered. If you would like further information contact Trevor Hopkins at Local Government Improvement and Development on 0191 410 9319 or 0779 502 5312 and he will be pleased to discuss the Academy with you.

We would welcome the names of those senior members who would like to take part in this exciting programme by 10<sup>th</sup> October 2010. If you would like to take part please email [mindingthegap@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:mindingthegap@bradford.gov.uk) to register a place.

We look forward to working with members from your council.

Yours sincerely

Geoff Ainsley  
Programme Manager, Minding the Gap

Trevor Hopkins  
Principal Consultant – Healthy Communities  
Local Government Improvement and Development