

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Health and Wellbeing Board
2.	Date:	7th December, 2011
3.	Title:	Diabetes Scrutiny Review
4.	Programme Area:	Chief Executives

5. Summary

As part of its 2010/11 work programme, Adult Services and Health scrutiny panel set up a review group to examine patient experience of care and support in relation to the diagnosis and management of diabetes in Rotherham. The full report is attached which sets out the background to the review and full recommendations for consideration and approval by Cabinet.

6. Recommendations

- **To consider the inclusion of the recommendations in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and relevant commissioning plans**

7. Proposals and Details

Summary of the key findings:

- There are potentially around 4000 undiagnosed people with diabetes in Rotherham, which highlights the need for awareness raising and education in relation to early symptoms in high risk groups
- Obesity and unhealthy lifestyles are prevalent in Rotherham, along with high levels of deprivation; raising awareness of the risk factors and focusing on prevention is needed to reduce the rise in diabetes
- NHS Rotherham have undertaken a project to redesign diabetes services in the borough, addressing a number of issues relating to patient diagnosis and care
- There is a lack of awareness of the condition with health professionals, which has raised questions in relation to the poor management of the condition when patients with diabetes attend hospital for another unrelated issue
- There is poor take-up of structured education for newly diagnosed patients, which may be a result of lack of awareness and understanding of the benefits to attending

The recommendations from the review are detailed in Section 4 of the full review report and include:

- The new statutory Health and Wellbeing Board will provide a way of coordinating all partners to focus on prevention of unhealthy lifestyles, which will subsequently reduce diabetes and inequalities across the borough
- Prevention of obesity and raising awareness of the risk factors in both children and adults needs to be the main focus in reducing the prevalence of diabetes
- Need to maximise take-up of NHS Health Checks and structured education and widely promote the range of information sources available to inform people about risk factors and early symptoms
- Focus on education and early diagnosis of symptoms needs to be targeted at high risk groups
- The work being undertaken to redesign diabetes services in Rotherham needs to be supported and providers responsible for implementing this to be held to account by the Health and Wellbeing Board to ensure continued improvement in outcomes for patients

The indicative timetable for the onward consideration of the review and its recommendations is as follows:

- Following ratification by OSMB, it is proposed to forward the report and recommendations to the Health and Wellbeing Board to comment on and endorse before further action is taken
- It is recommended that progress on the review's recommendations will be monitored by the Health and Wellbeing Board with an update in six months to OSMB, with further exception reporting as necessary to the Health Select Commission should further work be required

8. Finance

A number of the review recommendations may have financial implications, but it is considered that these will remain within existing budgets and resources in NHR and GP commissioning once established. Costs in relation to the prevention and public health agenda are not yet certain and further guidance will be sought from NHR as we move forward to leading on public health within the Council.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

There are approximately 11,600 people diagnosed with diabetes in Rotherham, with around 4,000 undiagnosed cases, which highlights the need for awareness raising and education in relation to early symptoms in high risk groups. Obesity and unhealthy lifestyles are prevalent in Rotherham, along with high levels of deprivation; raising awareness of these risk factors and focusing on prevention is needed to reduce the rise in diabetes.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Diabetes is implicit within the NHS Rotherham five year plan (better health better lives) in relation to reducing morbidity and mortality from diabetes (and its complications) which will help to achieve their strategic outcomes of reducing ambulatory care sensitive hospital admissions and CVD (cardiovascular disease) mortality rate.

Diabetes and the risk factors associated with diabetes, such as obesity, are also strongly featured within the Public Health Annual Report 2011 and will be picked up within the Rotherham Health and Wellbeing Strategy currently in development.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Scrutiny Review of Diabetes Report (2010)

Diabetes Community Health Profile (2010)

NHS Rotherham Redesign of Diabetes Services Report (2010)

12. Contact

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