

Report on	Making Links to Promote Health and Wellbeing
Date of Meeting	11 th June 2019
Reporting Officer	Fiona McClements, Head of Environmental Health

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of the Mid Ulster Community Pharmacy Partnership event 'Making Links to Promote Health and Wellbeing' that took place on Tuesday 26 th March 2019 in the Terrace Hotel Magherafelt.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Mid Ulster Community Pharmacy Partnership is a multi-agency group with representation from Mid Ulster District Council, the Health and Social Care Trusts, Integrated Care Partnerships, the Public Health Agency and the Northern Healthy Lifestyles Partnership.
2.2	The event was the third annual 'Making Links' information evening and was informed by feedback from previous local 'Making Links' events. This year's event focused on assisting community pharmacists and other healthcare professionals to motivate smokers to quit. It also provided an opportunity to highlight the growing epidemic of obesity in Northern Ireland and the impact this has on health and wellbeing.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The event took place from 6.30pm to 9.00pm in the Terrace Hotel, Magherafelt on Tuesday 26 th March.
3.2	The keynote speaker at the event was Dr Alan Curley, Director of Therapeutic Interventions and Lecturer in Adult Health at the University of West Scotland. As Dr Curley was the key note speaker, it was therefore decided to also send invites to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local Practice Nurses - Local Workplace Health Champions - Health and Wellbeing staff from Council and Trust
3.3	Also speaking at the event was Paula Marshall, Health Promotion Dietitian, Northern Health and Social Care Trust. Paula discussed the growing epidemic of obesity in Northern Ireland and provided key nutritional messages and advice.

3.4	Mid Ulster District Council Leisure Coach also delivered a short physical activity session which demonstrated how physical activity can be built into daily routines.
3.5	29 health professionals attended the evening event, including 18 pharmacists representing 7 different community pharmacies.
3.6	Mid Ulster's Community Plan has health and wellbeing as one of its five key themes. The plan highlights the need to support people to live longer, healthier and more active lives.
3.7	The event was very successful; the feedback has been extremely positive and this has proven to be a great opportunity to share information, provide support and develop connections between sectors.
3.8	Roberta Tasker, Pharmacy Lead – Mid Ulster Integrated Care Partnership said 'It is clear that responsibility for growing healthy communities ranges far beyond the traditional health care services and structures, and that better balances can and must be achieved between prevention and treatment. We need to continue to work together across agencies to focus on early intervention and prevention and to reduce health inequalities.'
3.9	It is hoped that there will be further 'Making links' pharmacy events in the future to build on the learning from this event and shape the next steps. Before closing the event, there was an opportunity for those in attendance to review the signposting directory that was piloted in Cookstown this year, following discussions at the Making Links pharmacy event in 2017/2018 year. Attendees were asked to complete a questionnaire to help shape the way forward in relation to this resource.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: Room hire and catering - £418.00 Costings for additional signposting directories - £165.00 Photographer - £50.00
	Human: Staff coordination time for event planning.
	Risk Management:
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications:
	Rural Needs Implications:
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members to note report and support the work of the Mid Ulster Community Pharmacy Partnership
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 – Making Links event photograph