

**HS Paper 12/15**

**BOARD MEETING: 27 MARCH 2015**

**PUBLIC HEALTH REVIEW – CONSULTATION RESPONSE**

### Recommendation/action required:

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| The Board is asked to note the response from NHS Health Scotland, and offer advice on next steps |

**Author: Sponsoring Director:**

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| **Andrew Fraser** **Director of Public Health Science** |  |

**20 March 2015**

**Purpose**

1. The Scottish Government established a Public Health Review in 2014, and sent out an engagement paper in January. It explained the context of the review and posed five questions for consideration and discussion. NHS Health Scotland prepared a response to the consultation and the final version is attached. The paper sets out the plan for the Review through to the summer, and asks the Board to consider opportunities to comment and respond as the review progresses.

**Background and Review Programme**

1. The Public Health Review was commissioned by Scottish Health Ministers. They established a review group, which has met on two occasions – December 2014 and February 2015. Following their first meeting, they commissioned an engagement paper that explained the context and sought views from stakeholders. They invited responses over a six week period. Over 100 responses have been received.
2. NHS Health Scotland engaged with the Board and staff through the Corporate Leadership Forum, and prepared a response on behalf of the organisation. The Board discussed and made suggestions on the response, saw a draft and a membership list of the Review Group at its workshop in February. Several members commented further on a later draft. The final version was submitted on the due date of March 12th.
3. In addition, the Scottish Public Health Network (ScotPHN) coordinated and facilitated the preparation of responses on behalf of several networks. Several NHS Health Scotland colleagues also contributed to a response that focussed on workforce development.
4. The Scottish Government has commissioned an analysis of responses, and this will serve as the focus for three regional meetings in May:

6 May 2015 – Dundee (Apex Hotel)

19 May 2015 – Glasgow (Strathclyde University)

21 May 2015 – Inverness (Ironworks)

1. There will be a national meeting later (to be confirmed). Three meetings of the Review Group will work through the responses to questions. Their schedule of meetings completes in the beginning of July. A period of synthesis and preparation of a report will follow through the summer. It is likely that a final report will be in preparation near the end of the calendar year.
2. NHS Health Scotland, through ScotPHN, is supporting the Scottish Government in the organisation of the regional and national meetings. The organisation will have the opportunity to contribute to Review at its meetings, through informal links with the secretariat and Review Group members, and through support that it has offered for future tasks. At the final Review meeting before the summer break when leadership and succession will be the main focus, The Director of PHS will present the work of the Scottish Public Health Workforce Development Group, which he chairs on behalf of the CMO. Group members include Pauline Craig and Wilma Reid. The final format of the Review and its outcome is not yet clear. Representatives of NHS Health Scotland maintain close links with the secretariat and members of the Review Group.
3. Board members will wish to be aware of the schedule of meetings and probability that there will be further opportunity to respond to the work of the Review at a later stage, although the format is not yet clear. The Review Group Chair, Dr Wilson, may be willing to meet with a group from NHS Health Scotland at some point – he is meeting with a range of stakeholders - and this may be an option to consider.

**Finance and Resource Implications**

12. There are no finance and resource implications as such arising from this paper.

**Communications**

13. Steps to communicate the work of the Review and Health Scotland's response to it are central to the discussion and will form part of the actions arising from the item at its conclusion.

**Risk**

14. Any risks associated with this update are incorporated within related project plans.

**Equality and Diversity**

15. There are no specific equality and diversity issues arising from this paper.

**Environment**

16. There are no specific environmental issues arising from this paper.

**Action/Recommendations**

17. The Board is asked to note the response from NHS Health Scotland, and offer advice on next steps