One Year On - Borough Public Health Case Study



London Borough of Haringey: Partnership with Tottenham Hotspur Foundation on Men's Health

Haringey's public health directorate has worked closely in partnership with Tottenham Hotspur Foundation (THF). THF is the charitable arm of the Tottenham Hotspur Football club. It is in the heart of the most deprived part of Haringey, a borough with a deprived and diverse population. The partnership supports the strategic work of the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) strategy outcome to reduce the nine year gap in life expectancy in men between east and west Haringey.

Over the last couple of years, the health lead from THF has worked one day per week in the public health directorate as a men's health worker. This was funded by the public health directorate and has been useful in establishing a strong partnership. The outcomes of this have been improved communication and understanding of the facilities, programmes, priorities of the two organisations. It has also provided a development opportunity for THF health lead as an important local community provider. This is supported by biannual meetings between the CEO of THF and Haringey's Assistant Director of Public Health to continue to build relationships between THF and public health.

Another benefit is the ease of access to THF facilities to attract Haringey men to health events, as well as providing football celebrities to support health initative launches. For example, the launch of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy by Haringey's lead member for health was opened by a football celebrity.

A number of joint projects and programmes with public health and THF have taken place. Two key examples are:

- joint working in partnership with the Men's Health Forum, local GPs and pharmacists to implement the Haringey Overview and Scrutiny review on Men's Health
- health checks programme targeting men in east Haringey. The aim is to carry out 3000 checks over three years. This is financed by Haringey with matchfunding from the Premier League Foundation, following a successful bid.

"Benefits include greater communication between Haringey and Tottenham Hotspur Foundation, and the use of football celebrities to launch health initatives"

In April 2013, responsibility for public health was transferred to local authorities. This case study is part of a series highlighting the innovative work London local authorities have done to promote healthier lifestyles and reduce health inequalities since taking on this new role. For more information, email addicus.cort@londoncouncils.gov.uk

