

Exploring local delivery to improve health and reduce inequalities: a sociological study of one local public health system

Project context

- Improving population health and reducing health inequalities and inequality more generally is an area of increasing importance both centrally and locally.
- The wider social determinants of health (such as, education and housing) are known to contribute significantly to population health and health inequalities.
- Through Local Area Agreements and Sustainable Community Strategies the Local Strategic Partnership has a duty to work together on shared priorities, including improving population health and reducing health inequalities.

Project aims

- The research aims to understand *how* the local public health system works in translating public health policy aspirations, such as improving population health and reducing health inequalities, into local delivery plans and activities.

Potential benefits/outcomes

- The project may raise the profile of health inequalities and identify areas of good practice locally, particularly through effective joint working.
- The project may support and provide evidence for the Comprehensive Area Assessment.
- The findings may improve knowledge and understanding of partnership working and policy implementation in the local area.
- Key findings will be provided to the LSP through regular feedback

Key milestones

May 2010:	Beginning of research
November 2010	6 month data collection Interim report
May 2011	12 month data collection End of research Preliminary findings report
November 2011	Further analysis report
May 2012	Completion of project
	Submission of thesis

What is required of the LSP

- Support for the research project
- Facilitate access to partnership meetings