**Background**

The HPA plays a vital role in protecting the UK public health through the provision of support and advice. However, we can do more by working effectively in partnership with other health stakeholders.

The nature of health partnerships is changing rapidly. Current government proposals include the abolition of Primary Care Trusts and Strategic Health Authorities whilst encouraging “New partnerships, new opportunities”.

This poster outlines a case study of how the e-Bug team are working in partnership with Environmental Health Departments to demonstrate how effective health partnerships can operate and how we are evolving to respond to the changing health policy landscape.

**Why Collaborate?**

We share the same ultimate goal, to educate the public (adults and children) about hygiene and spread of infection. Working together on an outreach project will ensure that both organisations fulfill their target objectives without over-stretching resources.

**Objectives**

**Primary Objectives**

- Develop an outreach package for schools
- Pilot and evaluate the developed package in the Forest of Dean
- Identify the key needs of the educators and modify the package accordingly.
- Create a training package that can be disseminated to all UK Environmental Health Departments.

**Secondary Objectives**

- To promote the role of the environmental health department to the next generation
- To promote e-Bug to schools across the UK

**Options explored**

**Phase 1 – Train the Trainers workshop**

- Develop a Train the Trainer workshop with workstations demonstrating e-Bug lesson plans.
- Invite a range of educators (teachers, school nurses, STEM ambassadors) to training session.
- Attendees spend 10 minutes on each stand discussing each lesson and alternative ideas.

**Phase 2 – School Outreach Sessions**

- Develop an E-Bug science show where all main lesson plans are condensed into a fast, fun interactive 2 hour event.
- Host the event in a central location and invite specific schools/year groups to attend at set dates over a three week period during the academic term.
  - Week 1 – Junior schools
  - Week 2 – Senior schools
  - Week 3 – Special needs schools

**Evaluation Measurements**

- Opinion of the day: Online survey
- Opinion of the resources: Workshop Improvements required: Focus groups

**SWOT Analysis of both phases**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Strengths</th>
<th>Weaknesses</th>
<th>Opportunities</th>
<th>Threats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phase 1</td>
<td>Targets a range of educators</td>
<td>Low cost, Direct interaction with students</td>
<td>Forge strong, positive and continuous links with schools and teachers</td>
<td>The educators we train don’t pass on the information to other educators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase 2</td>
<td>We control the key messages</td>
<td>No guarantee of attendance until the day, Inflats cost is high</td>
<td>Staff intensive, More teachers per school, Improved the resources</td>
<td>Schools don’t have the resources to run a central location</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Both options encompass many of the Marmot Review objectives, including:

- giving every child the best start in life
- enabling all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives
- ensuring a healthy standard of living for all
- strengthening the role and impact of ill-health prevention.

**Results for Train the Trainer Sessions**

**Train the Trainer Sessions**

- The event hosted in the Forest of Dean Council Offices on 13th July 2012.
- Attended by 15 educators from different backgrounds
- All attendees found the event useful and would recommend it to their colleagues
- Many would have preferred more information prior to the event
- Many would have preferred the event to last longer stating that they would have liked more time on each of the stands
- All attendees stated that they would use the activities in the future

**Comments by teachers**

- It would be better to hold the event earlier in the school year, and not on a Friday afternoon – Primary teacher
- It will encourage young people to take an interest in the branch of science, and in science more generally. That is good for the UK and good for the children – STEM ambassador
- The day was too short, I would have liked to spend more time on each of the stands – Secondary Teacher
- I would encourage my students to look at the e-Bug website – STEM coordinator
- It was a good opportunity to meet teachers and other health professionals – STEM ambassador

**What next?**

The Forest of Dean Environmental Health Department are hosting Phase 2: school outreach sessions in January 2013.

Sessions will be hosted in senior schools who will invite neighbouring senior schools and feeder primary schools to the event.

Senior school students, under supervision, will act as peer mentors for the junior school attendees.

Once complete the best elements of both phases will be further developed and sent out to all Environmental Health Departments.

The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health have agreed to endorse the final developed package.