20th February 2013

Dear Sir/Madam

Cardiff Partnership Board Response to the Consultation to collect views about whether a Public Health Bill is needed in Wales

The focus on improving and protecting the health of people of Wales is welcomed by the Cardiff Partnership. The Green Paper featured as an agenda item at the February meeting of the Cardiff Partnership Board. There was clear in principle support for a Bill as a means of changing culture and ensuring a sustainable approach to improving health and wellbeing, balanced against a concern that it must not place an unnecessary or unrealistic bureaucratic burden of statutory duties on organisations.

The Bill provides exciting opportunities to embed public health principles into the way all organisations work and thus influence people’s everyday lives. This echoes the integrated approach adopted in Cardiff in the preparation and delivery of our single integrated plan, which recognises the ongoing population health challenges locally and the large gap in life expectancy between the most and least deprived communities, and secures a more collaborative approach to improving the wellbeing of the city and decreasing inequalities in health. A great deal of legislation impacting on population health already exists or is in development, so it will be important for the Public Health Bill to consolidate what is already in place and for the consultation to provide clarity on the added value that a Bill can bring.

We trust that you will find this response useful.

Yours sincerely

Jon House
Chief Executive of Cardiff Council and Chair of Cardiff Partnership Board

Cc Members of CPB