

# Inform

Issue 47

June/July 2006

## HPA highlights health at Hillsborough garden party

The HPA was represented at the Secretary of State's annual garden party in Hillsborough on 15 May. 'The health sector including the complementary health sector' was the theme of this year's gala event.

Along with other organisations associated with the health sector, we had a stand to promote our work. We chose to highlight the areas of healthy eating and physical activity under the theme, 'Getting the right balance for good health'.

Against the eye-catching backdrop of our stand, we reinforced the message with three of our publications to distribute to the guests: *Get a life, get active*; *Small changes big benefits*; and the *New you* magazine.

Their Royal Highnesses The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall both visited the stand individually and chatted to HPA staff about our work. They were keen to learn about our campaigns in the areas of healthy eating and physical activity.

The Rt Hon Peter Hain, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, also visited our stand and was impressed with the quality of information produced for the public.

Many guests from sectors such as health and social services trusts and health estates stopped by our stand in the marquee to shelter from the rain and digest our health messages along with their strawberries and cream!

Among the 2,500 guests who braved the poor weather were Dr Andrew McCormick, Permanent Secretary, Department of Health Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS), Jonathan Phillips, Permanent Secretary, Northern Ireland Office, and Nigel Hamilton, Head of the Northern Ireland Civil Service.

At the Hillsborough garden party, from left, His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales; Linda Giles, Publications Officer, HPA; Angela McComb, Senior Manager Public Health (Physical Activity, Nutrition and Oral Health), HPA; and Tony Sheridan, Communications Manager, HPA.



**MISSION:** To make health a top priority for everyone in Northern Ireland

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**Health  
Promotion  
Agency**

## New appointments



### Martine Mateer

Martine has joined the HPA as Personal Assistant to the Chief Executive. A BA (Hons) graduate in Theatre and Media Studies, she has previously worked in both the public and private sectors in Northern Ireland and in New York. She held positions at the BBC, Soap Opera

Digest, Belfast City Hospital and, most recently, Oaklee Housing Association.



### Stephen McKenna

Stephen joins the HPA as a Publications Officer. His role will be to develop print and electronic publications for the HPA's business areas of public and professional information, research and evaluation and training and professional development. Stephen's background

is in newspapers, having previously worked as sports editor at the *Newry Democrat* and as a sports reporter/sub-editor at the *Irish News* in Belfast. He holds a BA (Hons) in Media Studies and a Postgraduate Diploma in Newspaper Journalism, both from the University of Ulster, and NCTJ certificates in Media Law, Journalism Practice and Public Affairs.



### Dr Claire Willis

Claire has joined the HPA as a Consultant in Public Health on secondment from the DHSSPS. She will be working with Dr Angela Bell and the CEMACH team in the development of confidential enquiries and regional information on the health of mothers and children, and will also

assist the CEO in health protection and the wider work of the agency. Previously Claire was a senior medical officer in the DHSSPS working in the area of health information and maternal and child health. Claire graduated in medicine from The Queens University of Belfast in 1991.

## Coalition comments on Draft Smoking Order

The HPA facilitated a meeting of the Smokefree Northern Ireland Coalition in April to develop a collective response to the Draft Smoking (NI) Order 2006. Twenty six coalition members attended the interactive workshop in Belfast to draft a collaborative response for submission to the DHSSPS as part of its public consultation process.

Group discussion focused on four key areas: exemptions, compliance, integrated impact assessment, and raising the age limit for purchasing tobacco.

For further information please contact Victoria Creasy, Senior Manager Public Health (Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco), at the HPA on Tel: 028 9031 1611.

## CEMACH conference

The CEMACH (Confidential Enquiry into Maternal and Child Health) office for Northern Ireland, based at the HPA, held a conference on diabetes in pregnancy in May in Co Antrim along with CEMACH central office, London. The event was attended by almost 100 people from a wide range of health professions. The CEMACH diabetes cohort report was presented and discussion on how to improve the clinical care and service provision to women with diabetes in Northern Ireland took place.



At the conference, from left, Terry Falconer, Project Manager, CEMACH, NI (HPA); Alison Miller, Programme Director, CEMACH, UK; Richard Congdon, Chief Executive, CEMACH, UK; Kate Fleming, Senior Data Analyst, CEMACH, UK; Dr Claire Willis, Consultant in Public Health, CEMACH, NI (HPA); Dr Angela Bell, Regional Coordinator, CEMACH, NI (HPA).

## New materials promote responsible drinking

A new campaign was launched in March to encourage the drinking public to think about their alcohol consumption and to encourage those drinking above the recommended unit guidelines to try to reduce their intake. A range of materials with information about alcohol and health was produced and distributed through outlets including off-sales, pubs and clubs.

The materials included a new leaflet entitled *You don't have to be drunk to be doing real damage*, beer mats and paper wine bottle bags detailing information on alcohol units. The leaflet was pretested with the target audience using focus groups.

A calculator was also developed that allows users to calculate the units of alcohol in their favourite drinks. Copies of the unit calculator were inserted into regional newspapers.

Supplies of the *You don't have to be drunk to be doing real damage* leaflet and the alcohol unit calculator are available from the central health promotion resource service in your local Health and Social Services Board area.



# Public keep in step with HPA physical activity campaign

The campaign 'Every step is a forward step' was launched in February with women, particularly those with small children, the primary target group. The campaign included a new TV advertisement which recommended 30 minutes of moderate physical activity on five or more days of the week to help protect health. It also showed how to fit physical activity into a busy day.

A magazine called *New you* was also produced. This contained information on physical activity and other topical health issues and was distributed to the public via hairdressers, GP practices and dental practices. It was also inserted into the *Irish News* and *News Letter*.

In addition, a new website [www.getalifegetactive.com](http://www.getalifegetactive.com) was developed to provide information about physical activity.

Step counters branded with the 'Get a life, get active' strapline and website address proved extremely popular, with over 3,500 requests received within weeks of the launch. The full quota of 1,000 step counters, made available to the public on request through the magazine and website, was snapped up within the first week.

Supplies of *New you*, and leaflets on how to be more active, are available from the central health promotion resource service in your local Health and Social Services Board area.



# Showcase for HPA work at Balmoral Show

The HPA again 'took a stand' for health along with colleagues from the DHSSPS at the Balmoral Show, held from 10–13 May. The agency was part of a larger exhibition under the banner of Northern Ireland Government Departments.

Showcasing the work we carry out as a special agency of the DHSSPS, this year we highlighted the areas of physical activity and nutrition. HPA staff members made their presence felt on the stand over the three days by advising visitors about these issues as well as the HPA and its work. On display was an eye-catching banner which advised on getting the right balance for good health. It proved a good way of prompting a discussion on sensible eating and getting active.

Our focus on nutrition and physical activity was reinforced with resources including our *Get a life, get active* and *Small changes, big benefits* leaflets, and our *New you* magazine. Handouts such as pens, fridge magnets, pencils and Cycle Northern Ireland packs were eagerly snapped up by young souvenir hunters whom, we hope, took our message to heart! We also ran a competition and offered our popular step counters as prizes.

Thousands visited our stand over the three day period and it provided a valuable opportunity for the HPA to get out into the community and talk with people directly about issues that affect their health.



**Claire Hind, Events Coordinator with the HPA, measures the weight and height of a visitor to the HPA stand at the Balmoral Show.**

# Top marks for Health Promoting Schools

As we approach the final stages of the four year pilot Health Promoting Schools (HPS) initiative, we can be very proud of our achievements. The regional evaluation demonstrates that the initiative has achieved its aims, objectives and expected outcomes.

Approximately 200 schools – including nursery, special, primary and post-primary – showed their commitment to becoming health promoting schools and received their local recognition certificates at celebration days across Northern Ireland.

In each of the five Education and Library Boards, participating schools were guided by a local Health Promoting Schools coordinator through a process of school improvement planning to establish priorities and an action plan for health development.

Central to the process has been the whole-school approach, with the Board of Governors, staff, parents and relevant agencies working together to promote and protect the health of everyone in the school community. The policies, practices and structures that have been developed will underpin and facilitate a sustainable health promotion programme.

The HPA is currently in the final stages of developing guidance and information resources which will showcase many of the practices and products that have been developed.

Check out the Health Promoting Schools section at: [www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk](http://www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk) for further details and forthcoming events.

# HPA produces 11<sup>th</sup> annual CINDI Highlights

The 11th annual *CINDI Highlights* document to be produced by the HPA will be published in June. The report details work carried out in 2005 by countries participating in the Countrywide Integrated Noncommunicable Diseases Intervention (CINDI) programme which is a World Health Organization (WHO) initiative.



The CINDI mission is to establish cooperative projects to help prevent and control noncommunicable diseases (NCD) and to promote healthier lifestyles. In this issue, CINDI participating countries present their experiences of intervention strategies and work undertaken in the areas of physical activity and healthy eating with a focus on counteracting obesity.

The HPA has coordinated CINDI activities in Northern Ireland as a UK 'demonstration area' for over 16 years. The annual publication of *CINDI Highlights* is one of the ways we fulfil our remit as a WHO Collaborating Centre for Training and Research in Communications and Information Technology in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention.

*CINDI Highlights* is distributed only to members of the programme network but for more information on the CINDI programme or to read the highlights of 2005 please visit [www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk/AboutHPA/cindi.htm](http://www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk/AboutHPA/cindi.htm) or see the WHO/CINDI site at [www.who.dk/CINDI](http://www.who.dk/CINDI)

## Tuberculosis and the BCG vaccine information

The HPA has been part of a regional group to identify action required to take forward the new policy on BCG vaccinations for newborns and others at risk of tuberculosis (TB).

Two new public information leaflets have been produced to support this work – one for parents of young babies at risk of TB and a general leaflet to raise awareness of TB. We have also developed a factsheet for health professionals which will be distributed during May/June along with samples of the leaflets.

Supplies of the leaflet for parents of newborns at risk of TB will mainly be available in maternity units, with small numbers available from GPs, health visitors and the central health promotion resource service in your local Health and Social Services Board areas.

The general TB leaflet will also be available from these places as well as from pharmacies and prisons.



# Retailers support HPA solvent abuse campaign

'Solvent abuse can kill' is the message which local retail outlets are displaying as part of a campaign by the HPA to raise awareness about the dangers of solvent abuse.

In Northern Ireland there have been 82 deaths from volatile substance abuse (VSA) since 1971, with five deaths alone in 2003. While there is no stereotypical solvent abuser, young people are most associated with solvent misuse – with many experimenting as young as 13 years of age.

An information pack *Solvent abuse – a guide for retailers*, produced by the HPA in 2003, was reprinted and distributed for this latest campaign. It included a booklet with information about VSA legislation, and a range of in-store display materials highlighting the law on the sale of solvents. Re-Solv, a charity dedicated to tackling solvent abuse, distributed the pack to local retailers during April.

Victoria Creasy, Senior Manager Public Health (Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco), HPA, said: "During the past two and a half years we have been working closely with retailers and Re-Solv to educate people about the risks of volatile substance abuse and to support retailers in their efforts to refuse to sell volatile substances to anyone under 18 or customers of any age whom they suspect intend to misuse the substance."

According to Angeline McTier, Northern Ireland Project Manager for Re-Solv: "Sniffing is a hidden issue overshadowed by underage drinking, smoking and the misuse of illegal drugs.

"However, when we take into account the availability of products that can be abused and the reported number of deaths from this activity, sniffing is an issue society cannot afford to ignore.

"Parents and young people need to be aware that unlike many other drugs, sniffing has the very real potential of killing on the first experiment and our youngest deaths have been aged seven."

For more information about the campaign, please contact Angeline McTier on Tel: 028 9070 2493 or Email: [angeline@re-solv.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:angeline@re-solv.fsnet.co.uk) or visit the website: [www.re-solv.org](http://www.re-solv.org).

**Highlighting solvent information for retailers, from left, Angeline McTier, Northern Ireland Project Manager for Re-Solv, Jonathan Quinn, Petrol**



**Station Manager, Sainsbury's at Forestside, and Victoria Creasy, Senior Manager Public Health (Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco), HPA.**

## Promoting healthy prisons conference

The HPA and the Northern Ireland Prison Service are organising a conference aimed at raising awareness of prison health issues and how they can be effectively addressed.

Recent statistics indicate that 9 out of 10 prisoners have a diagnosable mental health problem, substance misuse problem or both, and more than 80% of prisoners smoke, compared to around 27% of the general population.

Prison-based health promotion gives access to a population that would normally be hard to reach, offering a unique opportunity to tackle issues of social exclusion and inequalities in health. The health of prisoners is affected by varied and complex factors which require a coordinated response from a variety of resources in prison and in the community, not just health care. Prison is also an important workplace and is a prime setting to promote the health of staff.

How a settings approach can make a significant contribution to the health of the whole prison population, including staff, will be addressed at the conference, 'Promoting healthy prisons', which takes place on 12 September 2006.

Development of the conference programme has been guided by an advisory group comprising the Prison Service and HPA staff, as well as representatives from the DHSSPS, Opportunity Youth, the Probation Board for Northern Ireland, the Eastern Health and Social Services Board, the Western Health and Social Services Board, Down and Lisburn Health and Social Services Trust (HSST), Causeway HSST, and South and East Belfast HSST.

For more information, contact Victoria Creasy on Tel: 028 9031 1611 or Email: [v.creasy@hpani.org.uk](mailto:v.creasy@hpani.org.uk)

## New support for the Baby Friendly Initiative

In the first collaboration of its kind in the UK, the HPA and UNICEF have strengthened their commitment to raising standards of breastfeeding support within the health service in Northern Ireland through the UK Baby Friendly Initiative.

The Baby Friendly Initiative is a global programme of UNICEF and the World Health Organization which works with the health services to improve practice so that parents are enabled and supported to make informed choices about how they feed and care for their babies.

A 'service level agreement' has been developed between the HPA and UNICEF which will enable the Regional Breastfeeding Coordinator, Janet Calvert, to provide support for Trusts, which are seeking and maintaining Baby Friendly accreditation, as part of her role within the HPA.

Janet can be contacted at the HPA on Tel: 028 9031 1611 or Email: [j.calvert@hpani.org.uk](mailto:j.calvert@hpani.org.uk)

## Settings seminar

*Investing for Health* highlights the potential for promoting health in settings where people live, work and interact, eg communities, schools, workplaces and hospitals. It advocates the creation of healthy environments by changing risk conditions rather than focusing on risk factors.

On 4 May the HPA held a seminar for practitioners which focused on the settings approach in organisations. 'The settings approach to health improvement: theory and practice' was the second such event organised by the HPA with support from the DHSSPS.

The seminar explored practice and evidence of effectiveness. Among the speakers were Andrew Elliott, Director of Health Development, DHSSPS, and Mark Dooris and Sharon Doherty, both from the Settings Unit at the University of Central Lancashire. Along with the presentations, table exercises gave participants the opportunity to share experiences and skills. Mariana McKeown from Armoys Primary School, Janet Pywell from Knock Travel and Anne-Marie Doherty from Causeway HSST highlighted first-hand their experiences of becoming a healthy setting.



At the seminar were, back from left, Anne-Marie Doherty, Causeway HSST; Julie Hill, Health Promoting Workplaces Coordinator; Janet Pywell, Knock Travel; Veronica Kiersey, Knock Travel; David Porter, Coordinator Health Promoting Schools. Front from left, Barbara Porter, Coordinator Health Promoting Health Service Programme; and Mariana McKeown, Armoys Primary School.

## Gender sensitive health and safety seminar

The HPA was represented at an event in March on gender sensitive health and safety. The event was held by the Irish Congress of Trade Unions in partnership with the Health and Safety Executive for Northern Ireland.

Linda Barclay from the HPA spoke of the need to raise awareness of the issues mothers may face returning to work when they would like to continue breastfeeding, and how employers can support them to do so.

To view the advice for employers, visit the HPA website at [www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk/Resources/workwell/pdfs/Breastfeeding\\_Workwell.pdf](http://www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk/Resources/workwell/pdfs/Breastfeeding_Workwell.pdf)

# Evaluation of Smokers' Helpline conducted

The DHSSPS has funded a freephone Smokers' Helpline since January 2003. Last year the HPA commissioned an evaluation of the Smokers' Helpline on behalf of the DHSSPS. An element of the evaluation involved a telephone survey of a sample of callers to the helpline which asked about callers' smoking status at several time periods after contacting the helpline. The sample was made up of those who had contacted the helpline between January 2003 and September 2005.

Over this period, over 97,000 calls were made to the Smokers' Helpline of which 81% were answered. More than one quarter of calls (26%) to the helpline were from those aged 16 or under (although the service was not actively promoted to this age group) with slightly more women (53%) compared with men (47%) using the helpline. Of the women contacting the helpline, 3% were pregnant.

The highest levels of caller activity were recorded in periods when the HPA's campaign 'Every cigarette is doing you damage' and the No Smoking Day campaign were active.

On contacting the helpline, respondents reported being referred to a range of local services including: GPs/practice nurses (35%); local smoking cessation services (16%); and pharmacists (15%). Respondents were more likely to have acted on the advice to see their GP (74%), and least likely to have gone to a local smoking cessation service (20%).

Overall, smoking prevalence had fallen from 82% when respondents first made contact with the helpline, to 74% at the six month follow-up point. In real terms, this 8% shift means that of the 13,436 callers who spoke with a helpline

adviser, approximately 1,100 had quit smoking at the six month follow-up point.

Evidence also shows that smokers have moved further towards quitting – with 62% of them managing to quit, even for only one day, since contacting the helpline. In total, approximately 6,800 smokers had made a quit attempt since contacting the helpline and 36% of those who continued to smoke at the time of survey said that they now smoke less.

Among those who managed to quit, family and health reasons were the main factors in their decision to quit, with 11% citing the helpline as the main factor. In 77% of cases, ex-smokers at six-month follow-up cited the Smokers' Helpline as a factor in their decision to quit.



## Up-2-You winners!

The HPA recently ran a competition to encourage young people to log onto [www.up-2-you.net](http://www.up-2-you.net) to get the facts on smoking and a chance to win iPod nanos, camera mobile phones and shopping vouchers.

Entry cards and posters promoting the website were distributed to schools throughout Northern Ireland. The competition could also be entered online with 11 lucky competition winners selected from a staggering 3,300 entries.

A new section was added to the Up-2-You website for the competition that provides up-to-date information for young people on smoking restrictions. It included an opinion poll where they could give their view on whether or not a smoking ban is the right decision for Northern Ireland. Of those who responded, 92% agreed that a complete ban on smoking in workplaces is the right decision for Northern Ireland.



Victoria Creasy, Senior Manager Public Health (Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco), HPA, with six of the Up-2-You competition winners.

# Training and events

- Training needs assessment
- Draft suicide prevention strategy – June 2006
- Young men and self-esteem – 7 June 2006
- Promoting healthy prisons – 12 September 2006
- Changing health behaviour: principles and practice of motivational interviewing 25–26 September and 23–24 October 2006

## Training needs assessment

We are still welcoming comments and feedback on your training needs. Assessment forms are available to submit online under the 'events and training' section at [www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk](http://www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk). The completed forms will be used to help identify future training needs of health promotion professionals.

Forms returned by 2 May were entered into a prize draw for a £50 Waterstone's/HMV voucher. The draw was made by Les McLean, Director of Corporate Services and Organisational Development, and the lucky winner was Marie McFarland, a health visitor with Causeway HSST.



Prize draw winner Marie McFarland, a health visitor with Causeway HSST, receiving her £50 Waterstone's/HMV voucher from Les McLean, Director of Corporate Services and Organisational Development, HPA.

## Draft suicide prevention strategy June 2006

In response to the draft suicide prevention strategy *Protect life: a shared vision*, the HPA has been facilitating the organisation of consultation meetings throughout Northern Ireland during May. Further meetings are scheduled for June in Ballymena, Londonderry and Belfast.

If you wish to attend any of these, a booking form is available under the 'events and training' section at [www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk](http://www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk)

Further information about the consultation process is available at [www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/index/consultations](http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/index/consultations) and copies of the draft strategy are available at [www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/suicide-consultation-main-report.pdf](http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/suicide-consultation-main-report.pdf)

## Young men and self-esteem 7 June 2006

Following the success of previous training events around the theme of young people and self-esteem we have organised a rerun of this series of seminars.

This one day seminar, the last in a series of three, will be delivered with input from the Design for Living partnership, comprising Action Mental Health, Youth Council for Northern Ireland and the HPA.



The seminar takes place at The Mount Business and Conference Centre, Belfast, on Wednesday 7 June. For further information or to book a place, go to the 'events and training' section at [www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk](http://www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk)

## Promoting healthy prisons 12 September 2006

The HPA and the Northern Ireland Prison Service are organising a conference aimed at raising awareness of prison health issues and how they can be effectively addressed.

For more information on this conference, please see the article on the conference in this issue of *Inform* or contact Victoria Creasy on Tel: 028 9031 1611 or Email: [v.creasy@hpani.org.uk](mailto:v.creasy@hpani.org.uk)



## Changing health behaviour: principles and practice of motivational interviewing 25–26 September and 23–24 October 2006

For more information on these seminars, please contact Claire Hind on Tel: 028 9031 1611 or Email: [c.hind@hpani.org.uk](mailto:c.hind@hpani.org.uk)

## Board meeting

The next meeting of the Board of the Health Promotion Agency will be on Thursday 10 August. The meeting will take place at 3.30pm at the HPA offices, 18 Ormeau Avenue, Belfast BT2 8HS. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

## For information on specific areas of the HPA's work contact:

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# Fuel poverty health pilot programme

The HPA is undertaking follow-up work on the fuel poverty pilot programme and the potential role of primary care health professionals in helping to tackle fuel poverty. The pilot programme, including resources and training, has been developed by the HPA in partnership with National Energy Action, the four Health Action Zones, the General Consumer Council, the Department for Social Development, and the DHSSPS.

It aims to support health professionals in identifying the signs of fuel poverty. This will then equip them to signpost their clients to appropriate sources of help. An evaluation of this approach, and the resources and training, is currently being finalised. Follow-up interviews with key senior HSST personnel within each pilot area are also being developed. The aim of this research is to identify how health professionals can best be supported to help identify and address fuel poverty.

This work along with the evaluation will help inform the direction of future work to tackle fuel poverty.



Primary care health professionals attending one of the fuel poverty training sessions facilitated by Paul Wallace, National Energy Action.

Inform is published bimonthly by the Health Promotion Agency for Northern Ireland to provide information on current areas of work involving the HPA.



Health Promotion Agency

We hope that **Inform** is meeting your needs in terms of providing timely and relevant information about the HPA's work. We are always striving to improve our communications so we would welcome any comments you would like to make about **Inform**. Please contact the editorial office by email at [t.sheridan@hpani.org.uk](mailto:t.sheridan@hpani.org.uk) or contact us in writing at the address below.

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[www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk](http://www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk)  
[www.breastfedbabies.org](http://www.breastfedbabies.org)  
[www.drugsalcohol.info](http://www.drugsalcohol.info)  
[www.getalifegetactive.com](http://www.getalifegetactive.com)  
[www.smokefreenorthernireland.com](http://www.smokefreenorthernireland.com)  
[www.thesnackpack.net](http://www.thesnackpack.net)  
[www.up-2-you.net](http://www.up-2-you.net)

## Web are we now?

The Up-2-You competition, held recently on [www.up-2-you.net](http://www.up-2-you.net), was a great success with almost 3,300 entries being received. Some of the lucky winners are featured collecting their prizes in this issue of **Inform**.

The 'Breastfeeding welcome here' scheme is still growing, with 53 members to date. Information about the scheme and a full list of all the members is available at [www.breastfedbabies.org](http://www.breastfedbabies.org).

Still flying high in search engine rankings is the HPA's corporate website ([www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk](http://www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk)). A search for 'health promotion' on [www.google.co.uk](http://www.google.co.uk) currently places the corporate website at number one out of a possible 162 million results.

The website continues to enjoy a large number of visitors, receiving 1,291,834 hits for the period covering 1 February 2006 to 30 April 2006.

The redevelopment of the [www.DrugsAlcohol.info](http://www.DrugsAlcohol.info) website is now entering its final phase. The new look website will launch in early June and coincides with publication of the *New strategic direction for alcohol and drugs, (2006–2011)*, unveiled recently by the DHSSPS.

