

Inform

Issue 49

October/November 2006

Major conference highlights needs of prison population

Two thirds of new inmates in prisons here have the reading and mathematical ability of an 11 year old or younger, according to Northern Ireland Prison Service (NIPS) statistics. Research also shows that 90% of prisoners have a mental health problem or personality disorder.

These were some of the areas under the spotlight at the Promoting Healthy Prisons conference in Lisburn on 12 September. Around 200 people attended the conference organised by the HPA and the Prison Service to raise awareness of health and personal development issues in prison.

Speaking at the event, Dr Brian Gaffney, Chief Executive of the HPA, said: "The conference focuses on the needs of the whole prison community – not just prisoners. We are looking at the healthy prison approach, which involves all aspects of prison life that have an impact on health, including education and life skills, while addressing prisoners' health needs through education and health promotion."

He said factors that made someone more likely to re-offend, such as lack of education or employment, substance misuse, poor housing, and weak social and family links, were the same that contributed to poor health.

"The healthy prison approach provides a valuable opportunity to improve prisoners' levels of learning and self-esteem, which can increase their capacity to reach their full potential when released, and as a result reduce the likelihood of re-offending."

The conference covered a wide range of topics, including implementing a smokefree prison, exploring opportunities to promote the health and wellbeing of prison staff, resettlement issues for ex-prisoners, substance misuse and mental health.

Robin Masefield, Director, Northern Ireland Prison Service, said the issue of healthcare in prisons was not solely a prison issue but a wider societal issue. This is reflected in the forthcoming transfer of lead responsibility for healthcare in prisons from the Prison Service to Health and Personal Social Services.

More than 6,000 prisoners pass through Northern Ireland prisons each year. Around 1,500 are inmates at any one time.



Pictured at the conference are, from left, Dr Philip McClements, Director of Health and Healthcare, NIPS; Dr Brian Gaffney, Chief Executive, HPA; Michelle Baybutt, Research and Development Coordinator, Healthy Settings Development Unit; Robin Masefield, Director, NIPS; Dr David Stewart, Director of Public Health, EHSSB; and Paul Hayton, Project Lead Officer, Health in Prisons Project, WHO Collaborating Centre.

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

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**Health
Promotion
Agency**

New appointments



Gavin Bell

Gavin has joined the HPA as a Publications Officer on an 18 month contract. With a background in advertising and journalism, he previously worked as a copywriter with MX Advertising and as editor of local entertainment paper *The Big List* and technology magazine

Regional Film & Video. He holds a BA (Hons) in Media Studies with English from the University of Ulster.



Louise Hagan

Louise joins the HPA as Health Development Officer to work on programmes relating to the *Investing for Health* strategy, Healthy Living Centres and the new community planning function. Louise has a BA (Hons) in International Relations from Staffordshire University, an MSc in

Health Care Management from the University of Birmingham and is a graduate of the NHS General Management Training Scheme. Louise joins the HPA from the Eastern Health and Social Services Board where she worked as Health Promotion Project Manager.



Stephen Lagan

Stephen has joined the HPA on a 12 month student placement for web development. His principal tasks will be the maintenance and updating of the agency websites. Stephen is currently studying Interactive Multimedia Design at the University of Ulster at Jordanstown where he

hopes to complete his final year after his placement.

AHSM award for 2006



Pictured at the presentation of the Association of Health Service Managers award are, from left, Dr Brian Gaffney, Chief Executive, HPA; Laura McCann, award winner; Paul Fleming, Associate Dean, Faculty of Life and Health Sciences; and Mary Watkins, Lecturer in Nursing, University of Ulster.

The HPA holds stewardship of this award fund, set up in 1997 to support health promotion education. The annual award goes to the student who achieves the highest mark in the health promotion and programme planning module of the MSc in Health Promotion at the University of Ulster.

HLC support continues into third year

The third year of the Healthy Living Centre (HLC) support and development programme commenced in September 2006. The programme, approved by the HLC advisory panel, sets out a range of support activities to be taken forward over the next 12 months.

The HPA is also currently supporting the development of a HLC regional alliance, which aims to raise the profile of HLCs, demonstrate their positive impact on communities and to lobby key stakeholders.

Along with North and West Belfast HAZ, Community Action Network and Eastern Investing for Health Partnership, the HPA is supporting the 10 HLCs across Belfast to develop a joint sustainability plan to help them secure funding beyond the current lottery-funded period.

Annual report launched

The HPA has published its 15th Annual report, for the financial year 2005–2006, marking the completion of another challenging and successful period for the agency. The publication highlights our achievements during the year, provides an overview of work undertaken in our priority areas to meet our objectives, and demonstrates our commitment to cross-sectoral partnerships and the goals of the *Investing for Health* strategy.



The content reflects the development of the settings approach and continued work in areas such as drugs and alcohol, tobacco, nutrition, breastfeeding, physical activity, sexual health, mental and emotional health, and health protection. Our work in research and evaluation, training and professional development, communications, and international collaboration is also highlighted.

The work area 'Maternal and child health' including CEMACH (Confidential Enquiry into Maternal and Child Health), which was integrated into the HPA organisation earlier this year, is also detailed. The operating and financial review is also incorporated.

Distribution of the report is under way and readers' comments on the document are welcome. Please send any comments to Tony Sheridan, Communications Manager at the HPA, t.sheridan@hpani.org.uk

Copies of the report can be obtained from public libraries and it is also available to download as a PDF file from our corporate website at: www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk

Actively Ageing Well nears completion

Actively Ageing Well (AAW), a five year Big Lottery funded partnership initiative between Age Concern Northern Ireland and the HPA, will complete its work during 2006.

There is overwhelming evidence that regular physical activity has psychological and social benefits for older people, and helps them maintain their independence in later life. AAW provides opportunities for the members of 60 older people's groups to increase their physical activity levels through safe, well-run programmes in their local community.

The initiative has also sought to foster the conditions necessary for community and older people's groups to develop by nurturing these groups through quality standards, skills training for older people to ensure sustainability of action, and training in health and safety and risk assessment. Groups have been invited to taster sessions of all kinds of physical activity, and have been given the opportunity to come together regionally to learn from each other.

In addition to completing the programme of activities with older people's groups, the partnership has also organised two major regional events this autumn:

- a celebratory event took place on 20 September at the Europa Hotel, Belfast, to recognise the important contribution of participating groups to the initiative;
- a conference to highlight the results of the initiative over the five year period and to place these results within a strategic context.

At the conference the first stage report from the UK *Inquiry into mental health and wellbeing in later life* will also be launched. This report highlights the importance of older people's voices in the promotion of positive mental health and wellbeing, and physical activity initiatives such as AAW are among the approaches it advocates.

Investing for Health update under way

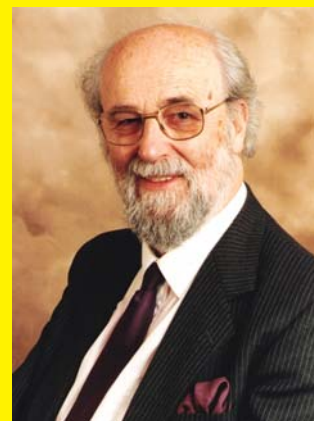
The HPA is currently producing the *Investing for Health update* report for 2006, which will detail the regional and local level work contributing to the *Investing for Health* (IfH) strategy. The report will also assess what progress has been made toward achieving the targets set out within the objectives of the IfH strategy.

In addition, the HPA is finalising a series of three IfH themed workshops to be held between December and March. The seminars will provide an opportunity to reflect on what progress has been made so far and gain agreement on the focus for future work.

Dr James Hawthorne CBE BA LLD FRSA FRTS

It was with great sadness that the Board and staff at the HPA learned of the death of our esteemed former Chairman, Dr James Hawthorne, on 7 September 2006.

Dr Hawthorne was the HPA's first Chairman and successfully led the development of the organisation towards its establishment in 1990 until the end of his term of office in 1997. During his time in office he made an enormous contribution to health improvement in Northern Ireland.



Staff and Board members remember Dr Hawthorne with the greatest respect for his professionalism, his wise guidance, his dedication to the HPA and for his unlimited support to us as colleagues. We especially remember his wonderful sense of humour. Board and staff members extend their deepest sympathy to his family.

Success for passive smoking campaign

The HPA will publish a report on passive smoking later this year that includes evaluation results of the most recent passive smoking campaign (November 2004–February 2005) and a follow-up survey of public attitudes towards smoking in public places.

The campaign evaluation highlighted that 74% of the general public recalled some element of the campaign, with the campaign being equally recognised by smokers and non-smokers alike. Significant increases in knowledge were also seen with more people agreeing post-campaign that inhaling other people's tobacco smoke poses a danger to health.

When asked post-campaign their opinion on the statement "85% of smoke is invisible and odourless", 40% agreed slightly or strongly compared to 30% pre-campaign.

The survey of public attitudes revealed peoples' opinion on what is and what is not a workplace; this strongly influenced their attitude to smokefree environments. Significantly more people were likely to favour environments being completely smokefree if they considered the venue to be a workplace compared to those who did not consider the venue a workplace.

Overall, the survey revealed that support for smokefree environments remained high in Northern Ireland with 68% of the population reporting they would support a law to make all workplaces smokefree in comparison to 61% in 2004. The passive smoking report will be available on the HPA website www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk in November.

Public attitudes to mental health revealed

In March 2006, the Government published Northern Ireland's suicide strategy consultation document *Protect life: A shared vision*. A specific action of the strategy is to develop and implement a suicide awareness information campaign by 2007 which helps to de-stigmatise mental health and encourage help-seeking behaviour.

To help develop a mental health public information campaign, the HPA commissioned a questionnaire survey of 1,013 adults, recruited from 45 randomly selected sampling points throughout Northern Ireland.

The survey assessed perceptions of the prevalence of mental health problems in Northern Ireland, knowledge and beliefs about mental health problems and opinions on how much control participants perceive they have over their own mental health. Attitudes towards those with mental health problems and beliefs about recovery were included.

Preliminary findings showed participants did not perceive mental health problems to be a health problem to the same degree as physical health problems. Participants also underestimated the prevalence of mental health problems within the population of Northern Ireland. There was, however, a greater awareness of some mental health problems such as depression.

When participants were presented with a short case study describing a person with depression or schizophrenia, the majority of participants correctly agreed that the person needed help. When asked who could offer help, a GP and psychiatrist were the most popular answers and 6% of participants said the individual should deal with the problem on their own.

When participants were asked what they would do if they had a mental health problem themselves, the treatments considered to be most helpful were those that could be integrated discreetly into everyday lifestyles. These findings however contradict those from case studies where respondents were more likely to say that the person with schizophrenia or depression should contact a professional for help rather than try to sort the problem out themselves.

Taken collectively, these findings suggest people generally know what they should do once a mental health problem is recognised but are reluctant to do it themselves or disclose to others that they have a mental health problem.

A report outlining the full findings from the survey by gender, age, and social class will be launched during a seminar organised by the HPA taking place on World Mental Health Day, Tuesday 10 October 2006. Further details are available in this issue of **Inform** on page 6.

Campaign urges smokers to seek help to quit

A new HPA smoking cessation campaign featuring television and radio advertising ran from 5 September until 2 October. The campaign aimed to raise awareness of the help and support available to smokers who are trying to quit and focused on local stop smoking services.

The advertising highlighted that smokers are four times more likely to quit smoking if they use these services along with nicotine replacement therapies. The advertisements also promoted the Smokers' Helpline as a source of information.

PR activity supported the advertising campaign and encouraged smokers to try and quit before smoking legislation comes into force in April 2007.



Second stage of binge drinking campaign

The HPA is to build on its work to raise awareness of the impact binge drinking has on health with the launch of the second phase of the campaign 'You don't have to be drunk to be doing real damage'. The campaign includes television advertising which will run from 16 October until 16 November and a new website www.knowyourlimits.info which will go live on 16 October.

Off-sales chains Curley's and Wineflair and many independent off-sales will be supporting the campaign by providing information about alcohol and health on bottle bags and distributing spirit measuring cups to their customers.

The spirit measuring cups, bottle bags, information leaflets and alcohol unit calculator wheels will also be distributed to the central health



promotion resource services in the local Health and Social Services Board areas for individuals and organisations to use to support the campaign.

CEMACH Child Death Review under way

The CEMACH *Child death review* is now well under way, having completed six months of data collection.

The purpose of the review is:

- to obtain an overview of all the deaths of children up to the age of 18 over a one year period (2006) in the five UK regions of Northern Ireland, South West, West Midlands, North East of England and Wales;
- to identify potentially preventable and avoidable factors contributing to child death;
- to inform a feasibility study into setting up a National Confidential Enquiry into Child Health.

This work is being carried out in association with the Department for Education and Skills in England to inform future child death data collection methods of local Safeguarding Children Boards.

Local multidisciplinary case reviews chaired by Dr Moira Stewart are planned with a panel of local assessors to identify any preventable or avoidable factors contributing to child death using a structured pro forma. The reviews are conducted on a randomly selected subset of cases using anonymised case notes from "out of region".

It is hoped that this review will provide detailed, accurate local information on why and where children are dying.

Those working with children can help the review by notifying CEMACH of child deaths, contributing to data collection and by acting as panel assessors.

For further information please contact the CEMACH Regional Office on northern.ireland@cemach.org.uk or visit the CEMACH website at www.cemach.org.uk

HPA support for winter flu immunisation

This year's winter flu immunisation programme was launched by the DHSSPS on 4 October. To support this programme the HPA printed posters and information leaflets and distributed these to GPs, pharmacies, occupational health departments, residential homes and the central health promotion resource services of the local Health and Social Services Board areas. The main campaign leaflet has been translated into Arabic, Cantonese, Irish, Portuguese and Urdu.



Copies of the leaflet and translations are available as PDF files from the DHSSPS website www.dhsspsni.gov.uk and the HPA website, www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk

Updated pregnancy and parenthood books

Antenatal clinics in the Health and Social Services Board areas will soon receive their copies of the latest edition of *The Pregnancy Book*. The publication has been revised by the HPA, with advice from the DHSSPS, to include up-to-date information for 2006.

The Pregnancy Book is a complete guide to pregnancy, childbirth and the first few weeks with a newborn baby and is given to all first-time mothers in Northern Ireland. It is adapted by the HPA from the Department of Health (England) version for use in Northern Ireland.

A 2006 edition of the follow-on publication, *Birth to Five*, is also on its way. This complete guide to parenthood and the first five years of a child's life is available to first-time parents through antenatal clinics, GPs or health visitors.

Both publications are distributed by the central health promotion resource services in the local Health and Social Services Board areas.

Positive findings in breastfeeding report

A report that compares findings between a 2004 survey on public knowledge and perceptions of breastfeeding with that of data collected in 1999 will be available to download as a PDF file from the end of October from www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk

The 2004 survey took place following the first breastfeeding public information campaign in Northern Ireland. The report notes that the proportion of women who had ever breastfed increased slightly but by 2004 the difference between age groups was more significant. In 1999, older women (aged 60+) were more likely to report that they had breastfed; by 2004 those in the 30-44 year old age group were more likely to report that they had breastfed.

While there are fewer changes in knowledge and attitude items for women, there are signs of improvement among men. For example in 1999, 45% of men agreed that breastfeeding was better for babies; this increased to 56% in 2004. In 1999, just over half (52%) of men agreed that breastfeeding even for a short time was beneficial; in 2004 this rose to nearly two thirds (65%).

Another positive finding is the increase in women delaying their infant feeding decision until their baby was born. Of women who had breastfed by 2004, 21% had made their decision when the baby was born compared to 11% in 1999. This shows that new mothers can reverse a decision to bottlefeed made prior to pregnancy or while pregnant.

In both surveys those least likely to receive information on breastfeeding are mothers who intend to bottlefeed or who have previously bottle-fed. These findings have highlighted that mechanisms should be developed within the healthcare system to ensure that all pregnant women are provided with the opportunity to discuss breastfeeding with a health professional.

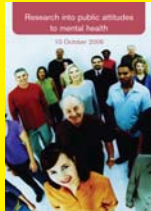
Training and events

Childhood nutrition evening seminars continue October

Evening seminars to distribute the resource *Nutrition matters for the early years: healthy eating for the under fives in childcare* are continuing to be held to during October. The seminars are designed for day nurseries, playgroups, crèches, childminders and parent and toddler groups. For further information, contact Lesley Blackstock on Tel: 028 9031 1611 or Email: l.blackstock@hpani.org.uk

Seminar and launch to support World Mental Health Day - 10 October

To celebrate World Mental Health Day on 10 October the HPA has organised a seminar to launch *Research into public attitudes to mental health*. The seminar will provide an opportunity for the HPA to outline key concepts arising from the research, which will be guiding the development of a public awareness campaign for Northern Ireland to support mental health.



The seminar will be of interest to a wide range of individuals and organisations with a remit to promote mental health and wellbeing. The seminar, which is free of charge, will take place at the Templeton Hotel, Templepatrick, from 9.30am to 1.00pm. A booking form is available under events and training at www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk

Promoting young people's mental health through physical activity - 16 November 2006

This is the second of three seminars on the theme of young people and self-esteem and will focus on promoting young people's mental health through physical activity.

The three seminars are supported by the Design for Living partnership, comprising Action Mental Health, the Youth Council for Northern Ireland and the HPA, and are facilitated by key speakers with expertise in the field of mental health, self-esteem and young people.

Professor Ken Fox, Professor and Research Fellow at the Department of Exercise and Health Sciences, University of Bristol, will facilitate the morning seminar.

The case for physical activity has largely been based on its benefits for physical health and fitness, and its effect on our risk of conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, some cancers and obesity. There is, however, increasing evidence that physical activity and sport can also have a positive effect on mental health and wellbeing.

This seminar will provide some insight into the links between physical activity and mental health, in particular the potential to positively influence mood, self-esteem, identity development, and the behaviour patterns of young people. Guidance on the design of physical activity and sports programmes to enhance wellbeing in young people will be presented.

The seminar flyer and online booking form are available to download under events/training at www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk

Event to launch the research report on the pilot of the MHFA training programme - 29 November

The launch of the findings of a research report on the pilot of the Mental Health First Aid Training programme in the Co-operation And Working Together area in Armagh City Hotel. For further information please contact Donna Beer on Tel: 028 9031 1611 or Email: d.beer@hpani.org.uk

Young people and self-esteem. Self-esteem and relationships - 11 December 2006

The third in the series of young people and self-esteem seminars supported by the Design for Living Partnership will focus on self-esteem and relationships. The full day seminar will be facilitated by Dr Tony Humphreys, a leading consultant clinical psychologist.

For further information, please contact Claire Hind on Tel: 028 9031 1611 or Email: c.hind@hpani.org.uk

Healthy workplace guide available soon

As part of the HPA's Health Promoting Workplace initiative, which supports the *Working for health* and *Investing for Health* strategies, a step-by-step guide is being produced to help organisations develop as a healthy workplace.

The guide is aimed at employers, those responsible for human resources or health and safety, occupational health staff and anybody working in the field of workplace health.

The guide, available soon on the HPA website, will include:

- information and documentation which can help support an organisation to assess how healthy its workplace is and then plan its healthy workplace programme using quality criteria;
- an organisational health assessment tool which helps assess where gaps may be within an organisation relating to healthy workplace practices.

To support the use of the guide, a healthy workplace training course is being piloted and is now fully booked. It aims to

equip participants with the skills and knowledge to either advise and support other organisations in creating healthy workplaces or implement a programme within their own organisation.

All those attending the training will receive a copy of the guide, a CD-ROM with all the documentation an organisation needs to develop a healthy workplace programme and access to an online questionnaire that can be used to support the workplace health needs assessment of employees.

If you are interested in attending another healthy workplace training course or would like further information on the training provided, please contact Claire Hind on Tel: 028 9031 1611 or Email: c.hind@hpani.org.uk



Health professionals back HPA e-learning

During March and April 2006 a survey of primary health care professionals was carried out to inform the development and implementation of an e-learning programme by the HPA.

Telephone interviews were conducted with a total of 578 primary care professionals including GPs, practice nurses, health visitors, dentists and community pharmacists. Interviews were conducted with health professionals in each of the four Health and Social Services Boards.

Approximately one-third of professionals have previous experience with e-learning. GPs were more likely to have participated in an e-learning course compared to the other groups surveyed. Professionals liked the fact that e-learning involved choosing their own time of day to study and learning at their own pace. Eight out of 10 professionals said they would participate in an e-learning course in the future if it was relevant to their needs.

The pilot HPA e-learning training course to be developed will focus on smoking cessation training for health care professionals, specifically brief intervention training.

The survey then looked at professionals' opinions and training needs in relation to smoking cessation with 8 out of 10 professionals agreeing that people in their profession should be trained to assist patients who wish to stop smoking. When asked about current training needs only a quarter of professionals felt that they had none in relation to smoking cessation.

Although this needs assessment focused on smoking cessation, professionals were also asked about training needs in other health areas. Around two-thirds of professionals were interested in more training on obesity, mental health and stress, and sexual health. Over half of GPs were interested in more training on drug abuse and alcohol.

The full results of this training needs assessment will be distributed later in the year.

SHI factsheet on STIs updated for 2006

The sexual health factsheets for 2006, developed by Sexual Health Information, a partnership between the fpa in Northern Ireland and the HPA, have been completed.

The final factsheet, *Sexually transmitted infections*, can be downloaded as a PDF document from the sexual health section of our corporate website at www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk

The remaining titles in the range are listed in the April/May edition of **Inform** and are also available on our website.

New childhood immunisation campaign

As reported in the last issue of **Inform**, changes to the routine childhood immunisation programme were implemented on 4 September 2006.

On behalf of the DHSSPS the HPA has produced a range of information materials on the new programme aimed at parents and health professionals. The HPA also produced new television and radio advertisements, which were broadcast from 4 September until 2 October.

There are five information leaflets aimed at parents, covering the vaccination programmes for:

- babies up to 15 months old;
- pre-school children aged three to five;
- teenagers aged 14 to 18.

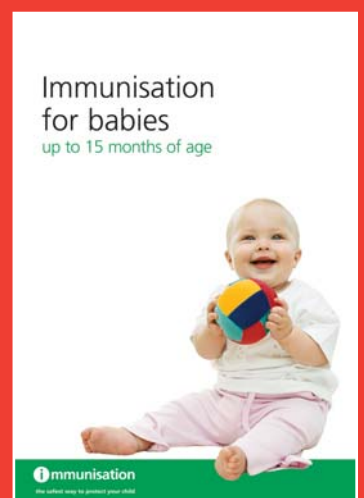
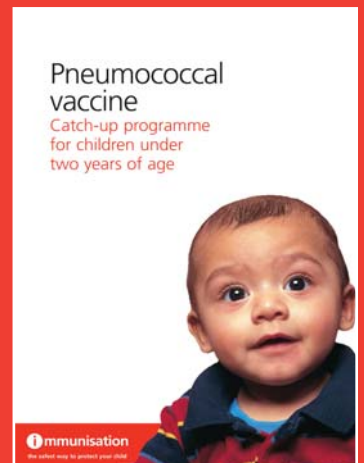
The leaflets also provide the facts about the MMR vaccine and the pneumococcal vaccine catch-up programme for children aged under two.

The leaflets were distributed via health visitors, GP surgeries and school health services. They are also on display in pharmacies and additional supplies are held by the central health promotion resource services in local Health and Social Services Board areas.

A poster has been produced for use in healthcare settings to encourage parents to bring their children for vaccination.

Health professionals are being issued with an information pack containing copies of the materials aimed at parents and several additional publications, including:

- guidance notes for professionals on the immunisation programme;
- a poster outlining the new programme with details of diseases, vaccines and site of administration for each immunisation;
- factsheets on the new pneumococcal vaccine and the new Hib/MenC booster;
- a schedule for the pneumococcal catch up programme;
- an information sheet highlighting the publications being withdrawn and the new materials replacing them.



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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 or contact us in writing at the address below.

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www.drugsalcohol.info
www.getalifegetactive.com
www.smokefreenorthernireland.com
www.thesnackpack.net
www.up-2-you.net

Encouraging results for FFIS

During the 2005–2006 phase of the Fresh Fruit in Schools (FFIS) scheme a number of schools throughout the four Health Action Zones changed their financial and management arrangements. These changes have included schools managing their own fruit budget, organising their own fruit supplies and asking parents for a financial contribution towards fruit. The 2005–2006 evaluation has focused on these changes and investigated the key factors that can result in a sustainable fruit scheme within schools.

Results showed that when schools had control of their own budget they were able to achieve more cost-effective and often obtain better quality fruit than they had previously received. Principals reported that this led to increased fruit consumption by children. The scheme was successfully sustained even when parents were asked to pay for fruit for children who previously received fruit free of charge. Furthermore, a survey of all parents involved in the scheme found that among those who currently receive fruit without charge, 76% of parents would be willing to pay for fruit. This illustrates parents' desire for fruit to continue to be supplied in the school setting.

The research has shown that the main factors for sustainability are the individual school principal's commitment and parental involvement, and that with these, schools can successfully run independent schemes. The FFIS pilot scheme has been a highly successful initiative even in schools which have previously tried unsuccessfully to introduce health promotion schemes.

The financial and practical support the scheme has provided has given many schools the confidence needed to set up fruit schemes or healthy breaks policies and to implement other health initiatives. A summary report detailing the 2005–2006 FFIS evaluation will be available on the HPA website during October.

Board meeting

The next meeting of the Board of the HPA will be on Thursday 9 November 2006. 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.

Web are we now?

The HPA's seven websites (see left hand column for full list) have been under constant revision recently and regular updating has continued on the corporate website www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk on a daily basis. Other updates have included additions to www.getalifegetactive.com and www.drugsalcohol.info

Work is also beginning on a new section of the www.up-2-you.net site and an online questionnaire for our Work Well programme has been completed and is currently being tested.

A number of new projects are on the horizon that will keep the web team busy well into 2007. More details of ongoing developments will be released through future issues of **Inform**.

There has been a new addition to the web team. Stephen Lagan, a placement student from the University of Ulster, will be with us for 12 months. Stephen will primarily be involved in the maintenance of the corporate website.

