

# Inform

Issue 56

December 2007 / January 2008

## Season's greetings

As 2007 draws to an end we take this opportunity to thank everyone who has worked with us and supported us in our mission to protect and promote the public's health during the year.

We hope that together, through collaboration and partnership in 2008, we can continue to promote and protect the health and wellbeing of our community.

The Board and staff of the Health Promotion Agency wish you a very happy, healthy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

## Belfast hosts prestigious breastfeeding conference

The tenth UNICEF UK Baby Friendly Initiative conference was held in Belfast for the first time on 11 and 12 October – attracting some 675 delegates from the UK, Ireland and around the world.

Among the speakers were Professor Peter Hartman and Senior Research Fellow Donna Geddes from the University of Western Australia, Karin Cadwell and Cindy Turner-Maffei from Baby Friendly USA and Professor Mary Renfrew of the NICE (National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence) Public Health Collaborating Centre for Maternal and Child Nutrition.

HPA Chief Executive Dr Brian Gaffney chaired part of the proceedings. Dr Liz Mitchell, Deputy CMO, addressed the conference in place of Health Minister Michael McGimpsey.

Almost 300 voluntary breastfeeding support workers and health professionals from Northern Ireland attended the conference and funding was made available by the DHSSPS Investing for Health team to ensure many delegates were supported to attend the conference, which is the most important and prestigious event on the breastfeeding calendar.



At the tenth UNICEF UK Baby Friendly Initiative conference held in Belfast are front from left, Dr Liz Reaney, Senior Medical Officer, DHSSPS and chair of the Breastfeeding Strategy Implementation Group; Dr Liz Mitchell, Deputy Chief Medical Officer, DHSSPS; and Janet Calvert, Regional Breastfeeding Coordinator, HPA; along with some of the delegates from Northern Ireland.

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

**INSIDE:**

- Breastfeeding skills DVD
- HPA network report published
- Online learning tool unveiled
- Training and events: December 2007–March 2008



**Health  
Promotion  
Agency**

# New appointments



## Laura McGowan

Laura has joined the HPA as a Research Officer on a fixed-term contract. She will be assisting in the design of qualitative and quantitative research projects, data analysis and report writing in the areas of mental health, drugs and nutrition. Laura has a BSc (Hons) in Psychology from Queen's University Belfast and recently submitted her PhD thesis in the field of Health Psychology.

# Depression awareness in primary care

Phase two of the GP depression awareness training began in September and will run until December 2007. Nine training events are being planned across the five Health and Social Care trust areas.



A booklet entitled *Depression: the facts*, produced by the voluntary organisation Aware Defeat Depression, has been reprinted and copies distributed to all GP practices across Northern Ireland.

The evaluation of phase one of the training has now been completed. The findings have been presented to the Steering Group which plans to meet again on December 12 to agree the way forward for the long-term sustainability of the training programme.

# CEMACH newsletter hot off the press

The latest issue of the Confidential Enquiry into Maternal and Child Health (CEMACH) newsletter has rolled off the presses.

Through the newsletter CEMACH, based at the HPA, disseminates important information about current and future projects to the health professionals who contribute to work in the field of maternal and child health. The newsletter also targets all those committed to improving mothers' and babies' health through planning and delivering health services.

This is the third time the newsletter has been produced. To obtain a copy, contact the CEMACH office at [northern.ireland@cemach.org.uk](mailto:northern.ireland@cemach.org.uk)



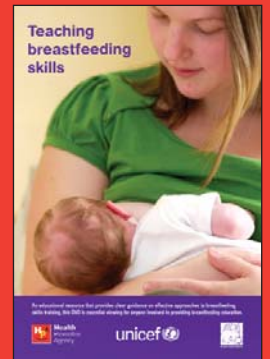
# First UK breastfeeding skills DVD launched

The HPA and the UNICEF UK Baby Friendly Initiative have joined forces to develop the first breastfeeding teaching resource in the UK to be available on DVD. Regional Breastfeeding Coordinator Janet Calvert launched the innovative new resource at the UNICEF UK Baby Friendly Initiative annual conference, held in Belfast at the Waterfront Hall in October.

The unique *Teaching breastfeeding skills* DVD assists health professionals in the implementation of best practice standards for breastfeeding and is an invaluable tool for anyone involved in providing breastfeeding skills training. The DVD provides clear guidance on effective approaches to positioning and attachment, hand expression of breastmilk and supervised clinical practices.

The skills section describes how learners can be assisted to improve their practical skills in supporting mothers with breastfeeding.

Healthcare staff from the Royal Jubilee Maternity Hospital, the Northern Health and Social Care Trust and the South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust provided input and support in the making of the DVD.



It will be widely used throughout the UK and beyond and will become an important aid to improving breastfeeding outcomes and can be obtained from the HPA free of charge to anyone providing breastfeeding training in Northern Ireland. If you would like more details about the DVD please contact Janet Calvert on 028 9031 1611.

# Up-2-You competition

A new section on cannabis has been added to Up-2-You, the HPA website for young people. To highlight this, the HPA has launched a competition aimed at 11 to 14 year olds through [www.up-2-you.net](http://www.up-2-you.net)

Competition entry cards and posters will be distributed to all post-primary schools and youth organisations throughout Northern Ireland in December. The competition closing date is 14 March 2008. Further details are available at [www.up-2-you.net](http://www.up-2-you.net)



Year 10 pupils from Belfast Boys' Model School help Julie Neill and Danny Gill from the HPA launch the new competition.

# World Mental Health Day events

The HPA-facilitated Mental Health Promotion Network organised a series of seminars across the five Health and Social Care trusts to celebrate World Mental Health Day in October.

The chosen theme was 'resilience' and the HPA supported the events through enlisting Dr Dorothy Rowe, a Clinical Psychologist and renowned author, as a keynote speaker.

Dr Rowe spoke on the theme of 'Resilience across the lifespan' at each event. In her addresses she focused on two key qualities that make up resilience: courage and perseverance.

She outlined that to be courageous we have to feel that we are, in ourselves, valuable and acceptable. To persevere, we have to be able to have hope for the future and these qualities are acquired in our childhood depending on what we learn from the adults around us. If we do acquire these qualities they become a resource which we can draw from across our lifespan.

The events were attended by approximately 600 people from a wide range of organisations and backgrounds.

# Dentists' tooth brushing plan 'cleans up' award

The Association of Health Service Managers Award, of which the HPA holds stewardship, has been won by Omagh dental surgeon Oonagh Allan.

The award is associated with the 'Health promotion programme planning and management' module that forms part of the MSc in Health Promotion and Population Health at the University of Ulster.

Oonagh's winning paper was entitled 'The Busbrush Plan' and describes a community-based tooth brushing programme targeted at the pre-school child in a playschool/nursery setting.

Commenting at the prize presentation Oonagh said: "Coming from a background of clinical dentistry, the MSc course at the University of Ulster has helped me to address gaps in my knowledge regarding the field of health promotion and population health. Needless to say, I am delighted to receive the AHSM Award and I look forward to using my new-found skills and knowledge."



**Presenting the AHSM award to Omagh dental surgeon Oonagh Allan, centre, is Linda Barclay, Director of Programme Development, HPA. Looking on is Programme Director for the PGDip/MSc in Health Promotion courses, Ann Moore, Faculty of Life and Health Sciences, University of Ulster.**

# Online learning tool 'pod' unveiled

Professional Online Development (pod) is the HPA's new online learning environment, developed in response to a need for access to flexible online training.

This new tool further expands the HPA's programme of training and development.

'Brief interventions in smoking cessation' is the first course to be delivered using pod and was developed in consultation with representatives from other health professions and voluntary organisations.

The course was officially launched on 28 November at the HPA.

'Brief interventions in smoking cessation' will provide healthcare professionals and those who come into contact with smokers through their work with the skills and knowledge to deliver smoking cessation advice during routine consultations.

The course is also suitable for undergraduate healthcare students.

Brief interventions from health professionals, lasting no longer than three minutes, can help 2% of smokers to stop for at least six months.

It is estimated that routine brief interventions from all health professionals could result in an additional 6,700 smokers each year quitting and make a real contribution to reducing the burden of ill health and premature death caused by smoking.

The course takes around four hours to complete, is free and consists of seven modules:

- health effects of smoking;
- understanding the smoker;
- effects of quitting;
- brief interventions;
- Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT);
- Non-NRT products;
- smoking and medicines.

Successful completion contributes four hours of continuing professional development time.

To use pod to undertake the 'Brief interventions in smoking cessation' course, register free at [www.hpa-pod.org](http://www.hpa-pod.org)



# The settings approach – developments

## Armagh plays host to all Ireland HPH conference

The 4<sup>th</sup> All Ireland Health Promoting Hospitals (HPH) conference came north to the Armagh City Hotel on 23 and 24 October to explore the concept and theme of 'A hospital without walls - a community asset'.

Over 100 participants were welcomed to Armagh by Colm Donaghy, Chief Executive, Southern Health and Social Care Trust. He also welcomed and introduced the two Chief Medical Officers Dr Jim Kiely, Department of Health and Children and Dr Michael McBride, Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety.

Both Chief Medical Officers have been very supportive of the HPH concept and applaud what has been achieved to date north and south whilst recognising the potential for the initiative to develop further across the health services.

The keynote speaker, internationally renowned Professor Blake Poland from the Department of Public Health Sciences in the University of Toronto, began with two different visions of what a 'hospital without walls' actually is and drew on Canadian research to establish the prevalence and nature of hospital–community collaboration.

Other keynote speakers shared their experiences of working in partnership between community and hospital, while the facilitated networking sessions proved very successful in engaging participants, identifying areas of common interest and on suggesting the way forward for north–south collaboration.

Feedback from the conference included comments such as: "Excellent and motivational speakers," and, "the standard improves every year".

Extracts from the keynote presentation will be available soon on the conference website [www.hphconference2007.com](http://www.hphconference2007.com)



**At the recent HPH conference are, from left, Ann O'Riordan, Director, HSE Irish Health Promoting Hospitals Network; Professor Blake Poland, University of Toronto; Dr Jane Wilde, Director, Institute of Public Health in Ireland; Dr Brian Gaffney, Chief Executive, HPA; Barbara Porter, HPH Coordinator, HPA; and Denise Comerford, Health Promotion Coordinator, St Vincent's University Hospital, Dublin.**

## Further healthy schools funding available

As part of the ongoing support for Healthy Schools the DHSSPS has made available further funding to support existing healthy schools and to encourage new schools to become healthy schools.

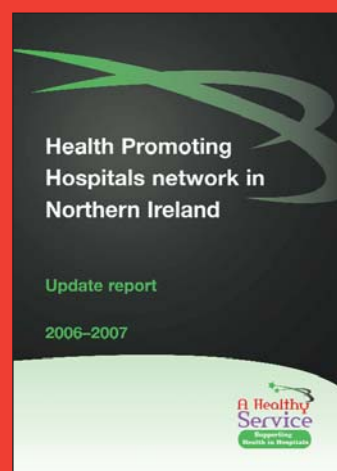
In accessing funds, each Education and Library Board, in conjunction with their local health promotion department, will submit a pro forma outlining their proposed actions to support existing healthy schools and proposed actions to supporting new healthy schools.

## HPH network report published

The HPA has published a report on the development of the World Health Organization's (WHO) Health Promoting Hospitals (HPH) network in Northern Ireland.

Entitled *Health Promoting Hospitals network in Northern Ireland – Update report 2006–2007*, it describes the range of work and initiatives ongoing in each of the 13 hospitals participating in the HPH network here.

In recent years much progress has been made in addressing health improvement in the hospital setting by looking at the broader cultural, social and environmental issues that can support health and wellbeing.



The report gave the 13 member hospitals the opportunity to highlight this work, while fulfilling the WHO requirement to provide an annual report of activity in Northern Ireland.

Among the wide-ranging initiatives covered in the report are:

- a 'Six senses' project exploring patient and carer experiences while in the Mater Hospital, Belfast;
- hands on health MOTs for staff at Muckamore Abbey Hospital;
- smoking cessation support, an exercise scheme and alcohol and nutrition screening at Ulster Community and Hospitals Health and Social Services Trust;
- the development of a comprehensive human resource strategy at Armagh and Dungannon Health and Social Services Trust.

The report is now available online on the HPA website at [www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk](http://www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk)

## Healthy Living Centres update distributed

The HPA continues to work with Healthy Living Centres (HLCs) to provide support on issues such as sustainability, raising their profile and increasing recognition of services they provide within local communities.

The latest issue of the *HLC Update* has been distributed to the local HLCs and they are encouraged to submit news items and updates for the next issue. For further information please contact Dr Andrew Gamble at the HPA, Email: [a.gamble@hpani.org.uk](mailto:a.gamble@hpani.org.uk)

## Schools conference

The HPA and the Regional Training Unit are co-hosting a one-day conference on 5 February 2008 on healthy schools and extended schools.

This conference, entitled 'Improving health: the contribution of extended schools and healthy schools', will look at the links between healthy schools and extended schools.

The conference is open to all extended schools and application forms and further information can be accessed through the Regional Training Unit or by sending an email to [ckarayiannis@rtuni.org](mailto:ckarayiannis@rtuni.org)

Further information on healthy schools can be accessed through the HPA website or by Email: [j.murphy@hpani.org.uk](mailto:j.murphy@hpani.org.uk)

## Healthy workplaces training course

The HPA has developed a four day training course designed to look at creating healthy workplace programmes.

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

This course will be beneficial to anyone involved in supporting organisations or in working within their own organisation to develop healthy workplace programmes or address workplace health issues.

The next training event will take place in March 2008.

Please check the HPA website for updates regarding dates and venue at [www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk](http://www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk)

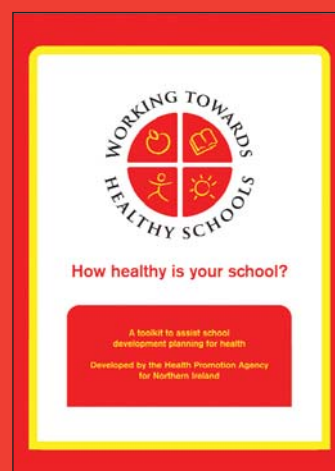
For further details contact Sarah Reid, Healthy Settings Coordinator: Workplaces, on 028 9031 1611 or Email: [s.reid@hpani.org.uk](mailto:s.reid@hpani.org.uk)

## Healthy Schools toolkit available online

The *How healthy is your school?* toolkit is now available for download from the HPA website.

This toolkit was designed to assist school development planning for health and outlines the process involved in becoming a healthy school. A limited number of toolkit folders will be made available to schools participating in regional training to become a healthy school. This training will be organised in early 2008.

For further information contact Joan Murphy at the HPA on 028 9031 1611 or Email: [j.murphy@hpani.org.uk](mailto:j.murphy@hpani.org.uk)



## International author delivers master class

Internationally renowned author and researcher Dr Blake Poland recently delivered a settings master class during the 4<sup>th</sup> All Ireland Health Promoting Hospitals conference held in Armagh in October.

The master class, initiated jointly by the HPA and the Health Promotion Department of Health Service Executive West in the Republic of Ireland, was presented to key individuals in the fields of planning, commissioning, management, hospitals and community development.



During his master class, Dr Poland gave a presentation focusing on the connections between the determinants of health and settings; the population health approach, looking at the state as a setting; and theoretical perspectives and new directions, eg the 'greening' of settings. Feedback was very positive and participants took the opportunity to debate issues related to the session and to discuss their own areas of work.

Dr Poland, from the University of Toronto, has published numerous papers on theory and method in health promotion research. He was also the keynote speaker at the Health Promoting Hospitals Conference.

## HPA Board meeting

The next meeting of the HPA Board will be held on Thursday 14 February 2008. It will take place at 3.00pm in the HPA headquarters at 18 Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, BT2 8HS. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

# Training and events: December 2007–March 2008

The events/training section on the HPA website [www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk](http://www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk) will be kept updated with further information. There will be an online booking facility for most events unless otherwise stated.

## Mental Health First Aid training courses

4 and 5 December 2007  
17 and 18 January 2008

Fully Booked

- **Part one:** Tuesday 15 January 2008 9.30am–4.30pm  
Wednesday 16 January 2008 9.30am–4.30pm
- **Part two:** Tuesday 26 February 2008, 9.30am–4.30pm  
Wednesday 27 February 2008, 9.30am–4.30pm

Further information is available on the HPA website

## Depression awareness training for GPs

4 December 2007

12.30pm–5.15pm, Clarion Hotel, Carrickfergus

5 December 2007

12.30pm–5.15pm, Bushtown Hotel, Coleraine

Further information and an online booking facility are on the HPA website.

## IFH conference

5 December 2007

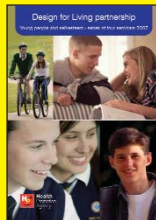
For up-to-date details visit the conference website at [www.ifhconference2007.net](http://www.ifhconference2007.net)



## Self-esteem and relationships – Design for Living seminar

10 December 2007

This seminar will be held in Antrim and facilitated by Dr Tony Humphreys. Please check the HPA website for availability.



## Healthy settings: theory, policy and practice

15 and 16 January; and 26 and 27 February 2008

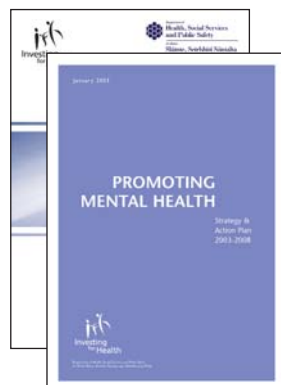
This training will be taking place at the Millennium Community Outreach Centre, Belfast, on the following dates.

# Mental health/suicide awareness training

The HPA has been engaged in an initial consultation process across Northern Ireland in relation to all training needs identified within *Promoting mental health strategy and action plan 2003–2008* and *Protect life – a shared vision: The Northern Ireland suicide prevention strategy and action plan 2006–2011*.

A formal mapping exercise is under way to establish what training provision currently exists and a follow-up questionnaire will help identify gaps and inform future training developments relating to both strategies.

A regional consultation seminar was held on 23 November 2007 which has also informed developments and a training advisory forum is also being established with representatives from all sectors who can advise and help agree strategic priorities.



The HPA is also taking forward the development of the Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training programme.

MHFA materials will be adapted specifically for use in Northern Ireland and a specialist reference group is being established to help ensure relevant areas of expertise are represented.

For further information, or if you would like to make any comments about these training issues, please contact Michelle McMaster, Mental Health Promotion Coordinator: Training and Development, HPA, on 028 9031 1611 or Email: [m.mcmaster@hpani.org.uk](mailto:m.mcmaster@hpani.org.uk)

# Walking for health seminar planned

The HPA is planning to organise a seminar on the subject of walking for health in April 2008.

This seminar will examine the health benefits of walking and look at models of good practice from across Northern Ireland.

For further details contact Nicola Browne at the HPA on 028 9031 1611 or Email: [n.browne@hpani.org.uk](mailto:n.browne@hpani.org.uk)

## Schools conference

5 February 2008

The HPA and the Regional Training Unit are co-hosting a one-day conference on 5 February 2008 entitled 'Improving health: the contribution of extended schools and healthy schools'.

For further information see the article in this issue of **Inform** or contact the Regional Training Unit, Email: [ckarayannis@rtuni.org](mailto:ckarayannis@rtuni.org)

## CEMACH

6 March 2008

Saving Mothers Lives – Conference

Further information will be made available on the HPA website and in upcoming issues of **Inform**.

## Creating healthy workplaces programmes

March 2008

The HPA has developed a four-day training course designed to look at creating healthy workplace programmes.

Please check our website for updates regarding dates and venue. For further details see the more detailed article in this issue or contact Sarah Reid, Healthy Settings Coordinator – Workplaces, on 9031 1611 or Email: [s.reid@hpani.org.uk](mailto:s.reid@hpani.org.uk)

## NICMA event focuses on the mind and body

The HPA worked in partnership with the Northern Ireland Child Minders Association to organise its AGM and annual conference, which was held in Grosvenor House, Belfast in October.

The event, entitled 'Mind and body', focused on the importance of the mental and emotional health and wellbeing of child minders and how they in turn can help promote the mental health and wellbeing of the children and young people they care for.

In the keynote address Dr Tony Humphreys, the Cork-based consultant clinical psychologist and national and international speaker and author, explored what is necessary for the holistic development of children and young people.

The event was attended by approximately 80 childminders from across Northern Ireland and the informal feedback from the event was very positive.

Dr Humphreys said: "How children view themselves strongly influences how they are in this world. Parents, childminders and teachers act as a mirror for young people and their response to them will determine the image young people form of themselves. Each child needs to be affirmed for their individuality, uniqueness, vast potential and giftedness by the significant adults in their lives."



Attending the NICMA annual conference, back row, from left, Bridget Nodder, Director of NICMA; Deirdre McNamee, Senior Manager: Public Health, HPA; Angela McComb, Senior Manager: Public Health, HPA; and front row from left, Patricia Lewsley, Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People and keynote speaker, Dr Tony Humphreys, Consultant Clinical Psychologist.

## Support for World Aids Day on 1 December

The HPA is supporting an event being organised by Belfast-based HIV Support Centre to highlight World Aids Day on 1 December.

To be held in The Long Gallery, Stormont, on 1 December, the purpose of the event is to raise awareness of HIV and AIDS, focusing particularly on the stigma and discrimination often experienced by people living with and affected by the illness.

## Sound mind resources much in demand

In response to demand for its mental and emotional wellbeing resources the Design for Living partnership has reprinted and distributed 10,000 practitioner guides and 26,500 credit card-sized leaflets to post-primary schools.



The partnership, which involves the HPA, Action Mental Health and the Youth Council for Northern Ireland, was formed to raise awareness of young people's mental and emotional wellbeing.

The partnership launched two resources in 2003. The first, entitled *Sound mind*, was developed for young people. The second, entitled *Sound mind support guide*, targeted practitioners in the field of mental and emotional wellbeing such as parents, teachers, youth workers and peer educators. The resources provide information on issues that can impact on the mental and emotional health of young people aged 13 to 18 years.

The HPA plans to carry out a review of the resources with teachers and young people. This will help address the mental and emotional health needs of young people in a range of settings and inform future developments.

## Intro days for Ageing Well REACH project

Introductory days for the Ageing Well Reach project, which involves 40 older people's groups from throughout Northern Ireland, took place during November 2007.

The innovative project, developed by the HPA and Age Concern Northern Ireland, is being funded by the Big Lottery and specifically targets groups that find it difficult to participate in health and wellbeing programmes. These include groups from isolated rural areas, groups based in areas that experience deprivation and groups targeting older men.

The first year of the project will involve promoting increased participation in physical activity and groups are developing a six week programme to take place in June 2008. Year two will focus on promoting good mental health and year three on promoting a healthy diet and good nutrition.

One of the most challenging aspects of this initiative will be engaging older men in the programme and also in wider community development and health activities.

Further updates will be detailed in future issues of **Inform** about the activities and learning arising from the project.

For further information on the above contact the Ageing Well Reach team on 028 9024 5729 or Email: [egreer@ageconcernni.org](mailto:egreer@ageconcernni.org)

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**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.breastfedbabies.org](http://www.breastfedbabies.org)  
[www.drugsalcohol.info](http://www.drugsalcohol.info)  
[www.getalifegetactive.com](http://www.getalifegetactive.com)  
[www.hpa-pod.org](http://www.hpa-pod.org)  
[www.iffconference2007.net](http://www.iffconference2007.net)  
[www.knowyourlimits.info](http://www.knowyourlimits.info)  
[www.mindingyourhead.info](http://www.mindingyourhead.info)  
[www.spacetobreathe.org.uk](http://www.spacetobreathe.org.uk)  
[www.thesnackpack.net](http://www.thesnackpack.net)  
[www.up-2-you.net](http://www.up-2-you.net)

## 'His 'n' Hers' sexual health initiative

A report examining the impact of a play that dealt with a wide range of sexual health issues in schools is now available.

*'His 'n' Hers' – An evaluation of a theatre in education production for post-primary schools* examines an initiative that toured around 60 Northern Ireland post-primary schools in autumn 2005.

The play, devised by educational theatre company Replay Productions, was supported by the HPA with resources for teachers and pupils and funding for post-production workshops. The report presents feedback from teachers and pupils and examines how the production fitted in with participant schools' Relationship and Sexuality Education guidelines and other areas of the curriculum.

It examines changes in pupils' awareness of sexual health issues and their ability to communicate regarding these with parents, adults at school, boyfriends, girlfriends and friends.

His 'n' Hers was considered appropriate by both teachers and pupils. Most teachers said the play was suitably mature and met with expectations. The main impacts of the play appear to have been:

- it opened up discussion;
- it provided the opportunity and encouragement for pupils to stop and think about sexual health issues;
- it acted as a motivator and prompt towards other sources of information.

The report is now available from the HPA website.

## 'Get Active' cash grant scheme

Application forms for the Get Active in the Community Cash Grant Awards scheme will be widely distributed in January 2008. The awards scheme provides financial support to community and voluntary groups to enable them to develop physical activity initiatives targeted at the sedentary population.

The application forms will also be available for download from the publications section of the HPA website under the area of work for physical activity. The closing date for applications to the scheme is early April 2008. The scheme has been developed by the HPA in support of the Northern Ireland physical activity strategy and is funded by the DHSSPS.

## Increasing fuel poverty awareness report available

The HPA, in partnership with National Energy Action (Northern Ireland), has recently produced a report entitled *Increasing fuel poverty awareness*.

This report, now available on the HPA website, details the approach taken in developing a pilot initiative to help primary health professionals to identify clients at risk from fuel poverty and signpost those clients to appropriate services. The initiative also sought to develop and test a resource that would enable professionals to identify individuals experiencing fuel poverty and to point them towards appropriate services.

### Increasing fuel poverty awareness

among primary care health professionals and exploring their role in signposting clients to existing support to alleviate fuel poverty

