



Chartered
Institute of
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Health

The value of the Health Challenge Wales Toolkit Volume 1: research findings'

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The Purpose of the Toolkit

- Disseminate good practice
- Encourage local authorities to participate in Health Challenge Wales
- Avoid re-inventing the wheel



Scope of the Toolkit

Addresses all of the 6 key themes of
Health Challenge Wales

Smoking (1)

Alcohol & Substance misuse (2)

Obesity (4)

Infections (2)

Accidents (3)

Mental health & Wellbeing (2)



Scope of the Toolkit

- Not limited – 2 'others' – just as valid
- Beat the Burn
- Cab Safe



Health Challenge Wales Toolkit Volume 1

- 16 Interventions all of which deliver one or more of the key themes of Health Challenge Wales
- Written up to be reproducible by any group
- Flexible interventions, easily adapted to meet local circumstances



The Pattern of Interventions

- **The Case for the Intervention**
- **6 Critical Questions**
 1. What is the target group?
 2. Will the initiative have the desired outcome?
 3. How can the target group be reached?
 4. Who are the key partners in the initiative?
 5. How will the initiative be evaluated?
 6. Will the initiative deliver value for money?
- **How to carry out the Intervention**
- **Essentials for the Intervention**



Launch of Volume 1

- November 2005
- Launched by John Griffiths, AM
- Julie Barratt, Director CIEH Wales “ Do one, do some, do all, just don't do none”
- High level of interest expressed



Research Project

Aim

- To determine if the Health Challenge Wales Toolkit is an effective resource to encourage practitioners in Wales to participate in Health Challenge Wales.



Research Project

Objectives

- To research policies underpinning the Health Challenge Wales Toolkit
- To establish if the interventions contained within the Toolkit were being delivered
- To determine if practitioners in Wales considered the Toolkit to be an effective resource
- To determine how practitioners in Wales perceived the Toolkit



Research Design

- Consisted of two parts
- Questionnaire – to establish if interventions were being delivered
- Interview – to determine how the Toolkit was perceived & if it was an effective resource



Questionnaire

- Distributed via email to a representative of each of the 22 local authorities in Wales
- Information was obtained from Director of CIEH
- 19 local authorities responded



Key Questions

- Have you implemented any of the interventions contained within the Health Challenge Wales Toolkit?
- Do you intend to implement any of the interventions contained within the Toolkit?
- Respondents asked to indicate the interventions they had implemented or intended to implement



Interviews

- 16 semi structured interviews were conducted
- Mixture of face to face and telephone interviews



Key considerations

- Effectiveness of the Health Challenge Wales Toolkit as a tool to aid the implementation of interventions
- The usefulness of the Toolkit as a resource to encourage activity
- The ability of the Toolkit and its interventions to have an impact on public health



Pilot Study

- Tested the application and clarity of the questionnaire and interview
- 2 local authorities with different health priorities were selected



Public Health Policy

- Several policies have lead to the development of the Health Challenge Wales Toolkit
- Better Health Better Wales – 1998
- Well Being in Wales – 2002
- Wales: A better Country - 2003
- Health Challenge Wales - 2004



Awareness of Health Challenge Wales and the Toolkit

- 100% awareness of the Health Challenge Wales initiative
- Significant awareness of the Health Challenge Wales Toolkit
- Research identified a range of media used to raise awareness of the Toolkit



Delivery of Initiatives contained within the Toolkit

- Questionnaire revealed a lot of activity in key intervention areas
- Almost all of the initiatives contained within the Toolkit had been implemented
- High percentage of participants expressed their intention to implement initiatives in the future

Delivery of Initiatives contained within the Toolkit

- Most activity predated the Health Challenge Wales Toolkit
- Significant amount of involvement in Health Challenge Wales
- The importance of partnership working was emphasised by all participants



Perceptions of the Health Challenge Wales Toolkit

- 2/3 of participants felt the Toolkit addressed the causes of ill health
- Others believed it failed to address the wider determinants of health
- 81% of participants suggested further issues that need to be addressed



Effectiveness of the Toolkit to encourage activity

- Unanimous support for the use of the Toolkit
- All respondents believed the Toolkit was an effective tool to aid the implementation of initiatives
- The Toolkit is merely a guideline and should not be relied upon



Effectiveness of the Toolkit to encourage activity

- Participants were in agreement that the Toolkit would bring about a positive impact in public health
- Mutual agreement that the Toolkit would encourage practitioners to implement initiatives
- Some concerns that the use of the Toolkit may result in other issues being ignored



Conclusion

- The Health Challenge Wales Toolkit is valuable
- Confounding issues that influence practitioners' decisions to use the Toolkit
- There is the need for more shared practice and evidence based practice
- Wider dissemination