

Chapter 5

A Stocktake of Deprived Neighbourhoods in South Yorkshire

Background

In order to address health inequalities successfully at a neighbourhood level, there is a need to know what structures, processes and outcomes already exist. To meet this need a stocktake has been undertaken in the neighbourhoods in the most deprived quintile, as reported in Chapter 3, to establish their position in relation to major service interventions and health and socioeconomic characteristics.

Methodology

Based on the structure of the South Yorkshire Health Inequalities Framework¹ a proforma was designed to collect data from the neighbourhoods under the headings of:

- Reviving communities
- Reviving local economies
- Decent services
 - Neighbourhood
 - GP practice
 - Schools
- Improving housing and environment.

A copy of the proforma can be found in Appendix 4. For each of the neighbourhoods involved the GP practices and schools serving them were identified. Details of their characteristics were included in the stocktake together with services provided and key initiatives in which they were involved.

As the data to be collected were from a wide range of sources, a pilot of the data collection process was undertaken in one of the neighbourhoods in Sheffield South West PCT to determine the most effective and efficient way to collect the data. This resulted in a key link person being identified in each PCT, who was responsible for the data collection process. Individuals who provided information for the stocktake included community development workers, locality managers, key area leads eg Healthy Schools co-ordinators, and Local Authority staff.

Results

Analysis of the stocktake data has begun and results from some of the key indicators are reported here.

Sure Start schemes

Sure Start is a Government programme that aims to achieve better outcomes for children, parents and communities by:

- Increasing the availability of childcare for all children

- Improving health and emotional development for young children
- Supporting parents as parents in their aspirations towards employment.

This will be achieved by helping the development of services in disadvantaged areas alongside providing financial help for parents to afford childcare.

There are several such schemes covering South Yorkshire neighbourhoods. Table 5.1 shows how many of the most deprived neighbourhoods have these programmes in them.

Table 5.1

District (no of neighbourhoods)	Neighbourhoods with Sure Start scheme		Additional information
	Number	%	
Barnsley (11)	5	45	2 further neighbourhoods with Children's Centre facilities
Doncaster (11)	3	27	All schemes in Doncaster West PCT
Rotherham (7)	5	71	
Sheffield (20)	14	70	
South Yorkshire (49)	28	57	

The boundaries of the Sure Start schemes are not normally coterminous with neighbourhood boundaries, therefore only parts of some neighbourhoods are covered by the programmes. In the whole of Doncaster there are nine Sure Start schemes but only three of these cover the most deprived areas of the district.

“Young person friendly” information shops

Information shops that provide information and/or services specifically for young people, or more wide ranging services that provide “young people friendly” activities and information are some of the most effective ways of addressing health issues particularly relevant to this age group. A number of these exist across South Yorkshire, with the level of provision in the worst quintile of neighbourhoods shown in Table 5.2.

Table 5.2

District (no of neighbourhoods)	Neighbourhoods with “young people friendly” information shop		Additional information
	Number	%	
Barnsley (11)	9	82	Other 2 neighbourhoods have other young people services available
Doncaster (11)	4	36	
Rotherham (7)	5	71	
Sheffield (20)	11	55	
South Yorkshire (49)	29	59	

Healthy Schools

The National Healthy Schools Programme aims to:

- Support children and young people in developing healthy behaviours
- Help to raise pupil achievement
- Help to reduce health inequalities
- Help promote social inclusion.

National Healthy School status requires schools to meet criteria in four core themes. The criteria relate not only to the taught curriculum but also to the emotional, physical and learning environment that the school provides. Several schools across South Yorkshire are engaged with this programme using a whole-school approach, involving the whole school community.

Table 5.3 shows the schools that are engaged in the Healthy Schools Programme in the most deprived neighbourhoods in South Yorkshire.

Table 5.3

District (no of schools)	Schools engaged in National Healthy Schools Programme		Additional information
	Number	%	
Barnsley (24)	22	92	Other 2 schools targeting for term starting January 2006
Doncaster (37)	14	38	53% of schools achieved and 87% engaged in programme across all Doncaster
Rotherham (50)	50	100	
Sheffield (43)	41	95	1 further school making application
South Yorkshire (154)	127	82	

Almost all schools serving the most deprived parts of Barnsley, Rotherham and Sheffield are engaged in the National Healthy Schools Programme. However, in Doncaster fewer schools in the more deprived parts of the district are engaged in this programme than across Doncaster as a whole.

Smoking cessation services

The availability of smoking cessation services in the most deprived neighbourhoods across South Yorkshire is variable. Table 5.4 shows the proportion of neighbourhoods where such services exist. In Barnsley, Doncaster and Sheffield the services provided are predominantly based in GP practices, whereas in Rotherham they are not. All services were accessible on weekdays between 9.00am and 5.00pm with only a small number being available either in the evening or at weekends.

Table 5.4

District (no of neighbourhoods)	Neighbourhoods with smoking cessation services		Additional information
	Number	%	
Barnsley (11)	8	73	All except 1 are GP practice based services
Doncaster (11)	7	64	All practice based services. Other neighbourhoods have access to services via Sure Start or midwifery services for specific groups
Rotherham (7)	7	100	Only 3 services are GP practice based
Sheffield (20)	11	55	Only 2 services are not practice based
South Yorkshire (49)	33	67	

Substance misuse clinics or drop in centres

Only one third of neighbourhoods containing the most deprived 20% of the population in South Yorkshire had substance misuse clinics or drop in centres in them. Only Rotherham had such services in more than half of their neighbourhoods, but this may be due to the Rotherham neighbourhoods tending to cover larger geographic areas than those in the other districts. Locality based substance misuse clinics do tend to be smaller in number than some other community based services, and hence may cover a larger geographic population. However, as problems linked to substance misuse tend to be linked to deprivation, services to address these problems should be more readily accessible in such areas.

Table 5.5

District (no of neighbourhoods)	Neighbourhoods with substance misuse clinics/drop in centres		Additional information
	Number	%	
Barnsley (11)	3	27	All are GP practice based services
Doncaster (11)	3	27	None are practice based services.
Rotherham (7)	4	57	All are GP practice based services
Sheffield (20)	6	30	Only 4 services are GP practice based
South Yorkshire (49)	16	33	

Developing the NHS as a local employer

To help revive local economies in deprived areas the NHS is being encouraged to set up local schemes to engage the unemployed potential workforce in healthcare issues and NHS business. A number of these schemes exist across South Yorkshire, although some of them are district wide rather than being focussed in the most deprived sections of the population.

Both Barnsley and Rotherham have district wide projects that include employment and training programmes aimed at the long-term unemployed who are trained and supported in gaining skills needed for the NHS. Some of the people trained under these projects can then go on and be involved in further projects where local people are engaged in either the education or promotion of good health in their local communities. Such projects exist in most of the Sheffield deprived neighbourhoods.

Recommendations

- *PCTs should use the full stocktake analysis as available to review with local strategic partners the targeting of resources to input as full a range of evidence based interventions as possible to 'spearhead' neighbourhoods.*
- *Doncaster should consider targeting Sure Start schemes, "young people friendly" information shops and National Healthy Schools Programme more towards the most deprived neighbourhoods.*
- *Substance misuse services may be better targeted towards the most deprived neighbourhoods in South Yorkshire.*
- *Further opportunities should be explored for engaging the local unemployed and local businesses in the provision of services for the NHS.*

Reference

1 South Yorkshire Strategic Health Authority (2003). *A South Yorkshire Framework for NHS Action to Address Health Inequalities.*