

e-Bug: Working in partnership with our local Environmental Health Department to further our joint public educational reach.

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Background

The HPA plays a vital role in protecting the UK public health through the provision of support and advice. However we can do more by working effectively in partnership with other health stakeholders.

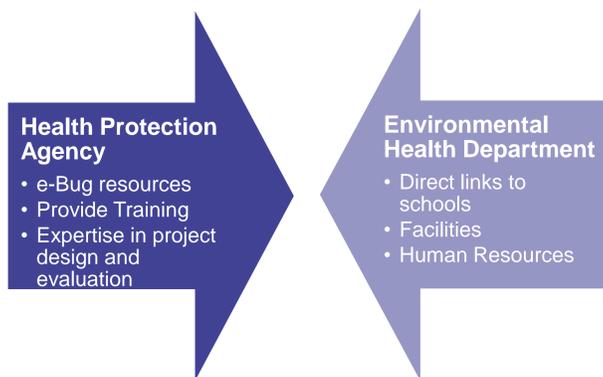
The nature of health partnerships is changing rapidly. Current government proposals include the abolition of Primary Care Trusts and Strategic Health Authorities whilst encouraging “New partnerships, new opportunities”.

This poster outlines a case study of how the e-Bug team are working in partnership with Environmental Health Departments to demonstrate how effective health partnerships can operate and how we are evolving to respond to the changing health policy landscape.

Why Collaborate?

We share the same ultimate goal, to educate the public (adults and children) about hygiene and spread of infection.

Working together on an outreach project will ensure that both organisations fulfil their target objectives without over stretching resources.



Objectives

Primary Objectives

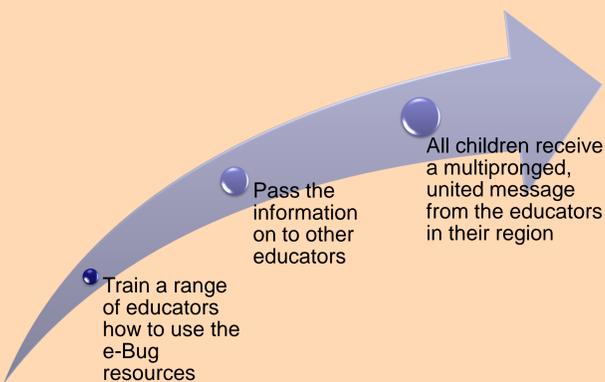
- Develop an outreach package for schools
- Pilot and evaluate the developed package in the Forest of Dean
- Identify the key needs of the educators and modify the package accordingly.
- Create a training package that can be disseminated to all UK Environmental Health Departments.

Secondary Objectives

- To promote the role of the environmental health department to the next generation
- To promote e-Bug to schools across the UK

Options explored

Phase 1 – Train the Trainers workshop



Develop a Train the Trainer workshop with workstations demonstrating e-Bug lesson plans.

Invite a range of educators (teachers, school nurses, STEM ambassadors) to training session.

Attendees spend 10 minutes on each stand discussing each lesson and alternative ideas

Evaluation Measurements

Opinion of the day: Online survey
Opinion of the resources: Workshop
Improvements required: Focus groups

Phase 2 – School Outreach Sessions



Develop an e-Bug science show where all main lesson plans are condensed into a fast, fun interactive 2 hour event.

Host the event in a central location and invite specific schools / year groups to attend at set dates over a three week period during the academic term.

- Week 1 – Junior schools
- Week 2 – Senior schools
- Week 3 – Special needs schools

Evaluations Measurements

Student attitude: before /after questionnaires
Knowledge Improvement: before, after and retention questionnaires
Teacher opinion: focus groups / questionnaires

SWOT Analysis of both phases

	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
Phase 1	Targets a range of educators Low cost	Administration intensive No guarantee of numbers until the day	Forge strong, positive and continuous links with schools and teachers	The educators we train don't pass on the information to other educators
Phase 2	Direct interaction with students We control the key messages	Initial cost is high Staff Intensive	To carry out further research with young people More teachers per school exposed to the resource	Schools don't have the resources to visit a central location

Both options encompass many of the Marmot Review objectives, including:

- giving every child the best start in life
- enabling all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives
- ensuring a healthy standard of living for all
- strengthening the role and impact of ill-health prevention.

Results for Train the Trainer Sessions

Train the Trainer Sessions

The event hosted in the Forest of Dean Council Offices on 13th July 2012.

Attended by 15 educators from different backgrounds

All attendees found the event useful and would recommend it to their colleagues

Many would have preferred more information prior to the event

Many would have preferred the event to last longer stating that they would have liked more time on each of the stands

All attendees stated that they would use the activities in the future

Comments by teachers

It would be better to hold the event earlier in the school year, and not on a Friday afternoon
Primary teacher

We often struggle to find suitable resources for our adults but I would use some of the lessons in the junior e-Bug pack
Special Educational Needs Teacher

It will encourage young people to take an interest in this branch of science, and in science more generally. That is good for the UK and good for the children.
STEM ambassador

This was such a good opportunity to meet teachers and other health professionals
STEM ambassador

The day was too short, I would have liked to spend more time on each of the stands
Secondary Teacher

I only came because I was asked to by the Environmental Health team, I might not have come if I was invited by the HPA as I don't know who they are
Secondary Teacher

What next?

The Forest of Dean Environmental Health Department are hosting Phase 2: school outreach sessions in January 2013

Sessions will be hosted in senior schools who will invite neighbouring senior schools and feeder primary schools to the event

Senior school students, under supervision, will act as peer mentors for the junior school attendees

Once complete the best elements of both phases will be further developed and sent out to all Environmental Health Departments

The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health have agreed to endorse the final developed package