

Health and Wellbeing Strategy (Corporate Head of Community Services – Darren Williams)

Synopsis of report:

The Health and Wellbeing Strategy is part of the forthcoming Corporate Business Plan. This report sets the context, highlighting the main section of the Strategy and inviting Members' comments.

Recommendation(s):

Members are asked to comment on the draft Strategy (Appendix A), suggest any additions or revisions for report back to the September meeting of this Committee and approval and sign off by Full Council as part of the Corporate Plan.

1. Context and background of report

- 1.1 The subject of Health and Wellbeing is one that is wide reaching, and which has implications for every resident from the youngest to the oldest. As a borough council, we have a longstanding commitment to supporting the health and wellbeing of residents, from the delivery of prevention services via Community Services to the support provided with access to housing for individuals and families that require it. The council, even in the most challenging financial times, have not stepped back from its commitment to supporting residents.
- 1.2 Given this commitment, shared by officers and members, it is felt that now is the appropriate time for a Health and Wellbeing Strategy to be agreed, so that there is a clear direction and agreed areas of focus that the Council will work towards.

2. Report

Health and Wellbeing Strategy – The Priorities

- 2.1 In writing this strategy it is recognised that the Council cannot “fix” ill health, nor reduce health inequalities on its own. Therefore, the strategy has two areas of focus. These are:
 - Work to address the wider determinants of health locally, to make a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of individuals
 - Work in partnership with others to tackle health inequalities within the borough
 - The first priority is to make a positive impact against the Wider Determinants of Health (WDH), these being the constitutional factors, individual lifestyle factors, environments and conditions which exist in people's daily lives. Such factors are believed to impact individual health by as much as 85%.
 - This is where the breadth of Council activity including Housing, Community Services, Community Safety, Economic Development, Community Development, Parks & Open Spaces, Leisure

Development all can make a positive impact, whilst partnerships with statutory, voluntary, community and faith sector partners can play an equally significant role.

- 2.2 The second focus reflects the role the council now plays within the integrated health and care agenda, and within the North West Surrey Health Alliance. It is recognised that there are health inequalities within the borough, but it would be felt inappropriate to write a strategy that suggests the council alone can resolve this.
- 2.3 Therefore, the priority is to work in partnership to tackle health inequalities, critically working with health and social care partners, together with voluntary, community and faith sector partners to identify the areas of focus and to take a whole systems approach to tackling the identified inequalities.
- 2.4 Within both priorities, whilst collaborating with partners is key, linking to the Councils Empowering Communities Strategy, there is a commitment to engaging residents and understanding the needs within Communities, via a number of potential channels, so that the evidence base/data and the need within communities are both understood when making decisions.

The Evidence Base

- 2.5 Regarding data, the foundation for much of the strategy came from a comprehensive and broad dataset, provided by Public Health via the North West Surrey Alliance, added to using data available from the Surrey Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and the updated Indices of Deprivation. A summary of the evidence base is contained within the strategy, whilst full data sets are available as appendices.
- 2.6 As a result of the evidence gathered, the priorities and action plan (see 2.xx) are underpinned by the data collated, which together with the input of residents and partners, provides clarity of the way forward.

Strategy Objectives

- 2.7 In devising an action plan, four key objectives have been identified, influenced by the evidence base. These are:

Healthy Homes:

Ensure that residents of all ages can live in safe, secure, good quality homes, and are supported when necessary to be able to continue to live independently at home

Healthy Communities:

For all residents to be able to engage and participate in their local community, access services, facilities, amenities, leisure, and recreational opportunities locally

Work in Partnership to Tackle Health Inequality:

To work in partnership with statutory agencies, voluntary, community and faith sector organisations, communities, and individual residents to identify and tackle health inequalities and levels of deprivation within the borough

Organisation and Workforce Development:

Develop our organisation and workforce to further support the wider health and wellbeing needs of residents in the borough

Delivering this Strategy

- 2.8 The strategy contains an overview of the intended approach to ensuring that partnership and collaborative working is at the centre of the delivery of the Council's Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- 2.9 Key to delivery of the strategy has been to ensure it is aligned to the work of the North West Surrey Alliance whilst retaining a focus on the borough as a place.
- 2.10 Therefore, it is proposed that the following will be established to ensure delivery is undertaken in partnership:

Formation of the Runnymede Partnership

Separate to the wider Citizens Panel, it is intended to relaunch the previous Health and Wellbeing Task Group as the Runnymede Partnership, which will have a place-based focus on health and wellbeing related matters in Runnymede. The strategy details the wide range of partners sought to be engaged with

Relaunch of Ward Based Task Groups

It is intended that task groups, focussing on the wards of Chertsey St Anns, Addlestone North, Addlestone South, Egham Hythe and Englefield Green West will be relaunched, to ensure there is local input into parts of the action plan which may support the areas ranked in the lower deciles in the indices of deprivation, and allow for local community and resident ownership of opportunities and priorities.

3. Financial implications

- 3.1 Several elements of the Strategy have financial implications and it is intended that officers will report back on the costs of individual items, but the Strategy's objectives will be aligned with the Medium-Term Financial Plan to ensure that any new initiatives can be fully funded. Individual elements of the Strategy requiring funding will be reported back to this Committee for approval.

4. Equality implications

- 4.1 As each initiative is formulated, an equality impact assessment will be conducted.

(To resolve)

Background papers - none