



HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: NOVEMBER 2ND
2016

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH 2016

OVERVIEW OF HEALTH IN LEICESTERSHIRE & THE ROLE OF
WORKPLACE HEALTH IN IMPROVING HEALTH

Purpose of report

1. The Director of Public Health's (DPH) Annual Report is a statutory independent report on the health of the population of Leicestershire.
2. This year's report gives an overview of the health of the population and focusses on the role of workplace health in improving health.
3. The aim of this report is to raise awareness of the priorities for health improvement at district and county level over the next year, based on analysis of the health profile for 2016. It also highlights the role workplace health initiatives can play in improving the health of the population and the need for all partners concerned with the health and wellbeing of the population to work together to support and develop this role in the future.

Policy Framework and Previous Decisions

4. Last year's report focussed on the role of communities in improving health and this report includes an update on progress against the recommendations made in that report.

Background

5. Leicestershire is, comparatively speaking, a healthy county. However, people in Leicestershire are living ever longer lives, meaning that there are increasing numbers of older people living with long-term conditions and disabilities. It is therefore essential that we redouble our focus on preventing ill health, by focusing on those issues and areas where there are potential causes for concern.
6. The role that work plays in supporting health and wellbeing is important. Conversely, having a healthy population will aid the economic development of Leicestershire. The lead role public health has on 'the wider determinants of health' isn't just good for health, it is also good for the economy.

Consultation

7. The report is the independent report of the Director of Public Health.

Resource Implications

8. Full implementation of the recommendations of the report will need to be addressed through the commissioning cycle

Conclusions

9. The nationally produced Health Profiles are an important snapshot of the health of Leicestershire. Our comparative analysis of the Leicestershire health profiles and district health profiles show a number of topics public health will target, working with partners, in the next year. These include smoking prevalence, recorded diabetes, breastfeeding initiation and levels of obesity in adults.
10. Good health should improve an individual's chances of finding and staying in work and of enjoying the consequent financial and social advantages. Whilst 'good' work is recognised to be good for health, staff health and wellbeing also plays an important role in the overall health and productivity of an organisation. Better health, though, does not have to wait for an improved economy. Measures to reduce the burden of disease, to give children healthy childhoods, to increase life expectancy, themselves contribute to creating richer economies. Across our partners, public health will work to advocate the use of the Workplace Wellbeing Charter in improving staff health and continue our work on the wider determinants of health to maximise the health benefits of economic development.

Officer to Contact

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List of Appendices

Annual Report of the Director of Public Health 2016. Overview of health in Leicestershire & the role of workplace health in improving health.

Relevant Impact Assessments**Equality and Human Rights Implications**

11. Implementation of the report's recommendations would have a positive impact on health inequalities

Partnership Working and associated issues

12. The recommendations within this report focus on actions across local government that will improve the population's health. The recommendations focus not just on the actions that Public Health will need to take as a lead agency, but on the actions that they can support as a partner as well as the actions that they can influence as an advocate. The basis of the report is improving population health in partnership with other key agencies.

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