

# HEALTH AND WELL BEING BOARD – 17 NOVEMBER 2016 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**

 The purpose of this report is to present the Director of Public Health's Annual Report and to seek the views of the Health and Wellbeing Board on the recommendations.

# **Link to the Local Health and Care System**

2. The Director of Public's Health Annual Report is a statutory duty for the Director of Public Health and is an independent report on the health and wellbeing of our local population.

### **Recommendation**

- 3. It is recommended that the Health and Wellbeing Board:
  - (a) Note the DPH Annual Report for 2016;
  - (b) Note the recommendations in the report;
  - (c) Receives regular, targeted updates from the LLEP, Housing Services Partnership and Safer Communities Partnership Board to ensure that they are aligned with the work of the Board;
  - (d) Discuss the recommendations included in the report and provide feedback on how the wider health and wellbeing partnership should respond.

# **Policy Framework and Previous Decisions**

4. The report is published annually and is presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board as part of the publication process for the report.

### **Background**

- 5. This year's report gives an overview of the health of the population and focusses on the role of workplace health in improving health.
- 6. 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 profiles 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.
- 7. The nationally produced Health Profiles are an important snapshot of the health of Leicestershire. Our comparative analysis of the Leicestershire health profiles show a number of topics where performance at either district or County level is below the national average. These include smoking prevalence, recorded diabetes, breastfeeding initiation and levels of obesity in adults.
- 8. Key areas from the report show that:
  - a. Leicestershire is among the 20 per cent of least-deprived counties nationally;
  - Life expectancy is 6.2 years lower for men and 5.0 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of Leicestershire compared to the least deprived areas.;
  - c. Obesity rates among children are below the national average, as are levels of smoking in pregnant women;
  - d. Leicestershire is also reporting figures better than the national average in smoking-related deaths and hospital stays for under-18s as a result of alcohol harm.
- 9. 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.
- 10. Better health does not have to wait for an improved economy. Measures to reduce the burden of disease, to give children healthy childhoods and to increase healthy life expectancy 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.

#### **Proposals/Options**

- 11. The report presents recommendations and priorities for public health over the next 12 months. Health and Wellbeing Board partners are asked to comment on the recommendations as part of developing a response to the highlighted areas.
- 12. Priorities for further investigation and action over the next 12 months include working with all Health and Wellbeing partners, particularly district and CCGs on:
  - a. Reducing levels of smoking prevalence
  - b. Excess weight in adults
  - c. Prevalence of recorded diabetes
  - d. Advocating the use of the Workplace Wellbeing Charter
  - e. Continued development of work on Health Impact Assessment and Health in All Policies

# **Consultation/Patient and Public Involvement**

13. N/A

### **Timetable for Decisions**

14. The Annual Report was considered by the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 2 November and will be considered by the County Council's Cabinet on 23 November. It will be submitted to the County Council on 7 December.

# **Resource Implications**

15. The recommendations set out in the report will set the direction for commissioning decisions relating to the priorities for public health.

### **Officer to Contact**

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# **List of Appendices**

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

### **Relevant Impact Assessments**

## **Equality and Human Rights Implications**

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

### Partnership Working and associated issues

17. 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.

