



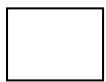
Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Health)

Date: 22 September 2009

Subject: KPMG Health Inequalities Report

Electoral Wards Affected:



Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 During 2008/09, KPMG, the appointed auditors for Leeds City Council and NHS Leeds, conducted a review and concluded an audit report on the Council's and NHS Leeds' efforts to reduce health inequalities across the City.
- 1.2 The audit was carried out from December 2008; an initial feedback report was made available in March 2009 for consultation and the final report was finalised in May 2009.

2.0 Report issues

- 2.1 The audit report was presented to the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee (28 July 2009) and, along with a report from the Director of Adult Social Services, is appended to this report.
- 2.2 In addition, the draft minutes from the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee offer the following summary of the main areas of discussion:
- *The need to be assured that the actions being taken as a result of the audit would improve the City's health inequalities statistics, particularly the gap between the two wards with the highest and lowest life expectancy;*
 - *Their disappointment that the report hadn't addressed mental health issues, which has a link to life expectancy;*
 - *The need for NHS Leeds to work in partnership with the Council in achieving the recommendations of the audit report;*

- *Their concern that health (and other) strategies and policies appear not to be consistently taken account of in decision making and might therefore not be having as great an impact at 'grass roots' level as they could be;*
- *The need to address all factors affecting mortality rates, which are multiple, as well as to focus on areas where a difference can be made, such as infant mortality rates; and*
- *The importance of providing services that meet the needs of all communities.*
- *The need for all Area Committees to be involved in addressing health inequalities, and for a more detailed analysis of the causes of the current position to be undertaken.*

2.3 In considering the reports presented, the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee resolved:

- (a) That the findings of KPMG's audit on health inequalities be noted; and*
- (b) That the preparation of joint action plans for areas where work is not already in hand be noted.*

2.4 Members of the Scrutiny Board are asked to consider the attached reports.

3.0 Recommendation

3.1 Members of the Scrutiny Board (Health) are asked to consider the content of the attached reports and determine any matters that require further scrutiny.

4.0 Background Papers

None