

Report of Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Report to Scrutiny Board (Health and Well-Being and Adult Social Care)

Date: 28 October 2011

Subject: Inquiry into Health Inequalities

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. At its meeting in July 2011, the Scrutiny Board identified Health Inequalities as a particular area of review within its work schedule for 2010/11. The purpose of the report is to introduce an outline of proposals for the Boards inquiry into Health Inequalities and to help identify any specific matters to be included within the scope of the inquiry.

Previous inquiry – *Promoting Good Public Health: The Role of the Council and its Partners*

2. During 2009/10, the former Scrutiny Board (Health) undertook an inquiry into *Promoting Good Public Health: The Role of the Council and its Partners* and examined the following public health challenges:
 - Improving sexual health and reducing the level of teenage pregnancies;
 - Reversing the rise in levels of obesity and promoting an increase in the levels of physical activity;
 - Promoting responsible alcohol consumption; and,
 - Reducing the level of smoking.
3. The resultant scrutiny inquiry report is attached at Appendix 1 for information – alongside the latest recommendation tracking report presented in April 2011. This may help the Board identify any specific areas to consider as part of this inquiry.

The Marmot Review – *Fairer Society, Healthy Lives*

4. As previously reported to the Board, in February 2010, Professor Sir Michael Marmot, published the evidence-based review of health inequalities in England – *Fairer Society, Healthy Lives*. This national review identified the following six areas (policy objectives) where work is needed to help reduce health inequalities:
 - Give every child the best start in life;
 - Enable all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives;
 - Create fair employment and good work for all;
 - Ensure healthy standards of living for all;
 - Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities;
 - Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention.
5. Again, these areas may help the Board identify any specific areas to consider as part of this inquiry.

Proposed scope of inquiry – health inequalities

6. As previously reported at the September Board meeting, the current Health and Social Care Bill progressing through Parliament gives the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) a central role in the new health and social care system. It is likely that the JSNA will be at the heart of the role of the new Health and Well Being Boards and will be seen as the primary process for identifying needs and building a robust evidence base for local decision-making and commissioning plans.
7. As such, to help provide more detailed context for the Board's inquiry and to consider some of the potential challenges associated with integrating Public Health into the broader work of the Council, it is proposed to invite the Director of Public Health to provide a report (for the November 2011 meeting cycle) that will address the following matters:

Part 1

- Background to the JSNA and why its important;
- The key messages arising from previous iterations of the JSNA (1st and 2nd editions), including particular areas of identified and unmet needs
- Areas for development for the 3rd iteration of the JSNA.

Part 2

- An overall assessment of the impact of the previous iterations (1st and 2nd editions) of the JSNA across the Council.
 - Issues to address to [further] mainstream the JSNA in the commissioning and planning of services and general work of the Council.
 - Role of the [shadow] Health and Wellbeing Board and its [potential] relationship with the Scrutiny Board.
8. Following consideration of the proposed report (outlined above) the Scrutiny Board may wish to consider additional input from a range of Directorates across the Council to consider how service planning, commissioning and delivery may have changed as a result of the information/ data available through the JSNA. This might include:

- Children's Services;
- City Development (Planning and Leisure Services);
- Environment and Neighbourhoods (possibly including direct input from ALMOs across the City);
- Adult Social Services.

9. It is likely that such an approach will require an additional meeting(s) and/or a working group arrangement during January / February 2012.

Recommendations

10. To consider the information presented in this report and agree / amend the proposed scope of the Board's Health Inequalities inquiry, including any specific matters identified at the meeting.
11. To consider the approach to be taken and identify any additional meeting dates and/or working group arrangements to help ensure the inquiry is completed during the current municipal year.

Background documents

- *Fairer Society, Healthy Lives* – the Marmot Review (February 2010)