

Health Scrutiny and Performance Panel

Agenda
Item No.

DATE: 12th March, 2013

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Transforming Health and Wellbeing for all in Walsall The Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Walsall 2013 - 2016

Ward(s): All wards in Borough of Walsall

Portfolios: All portfolio holders

Executive Summary

On the 1st April, 2013 Walsall Council takes on new responsibility for Public Health. This report outlines these responsibilities and affords opportunity for Members to comment on the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The report also allows Members to consider the future role of Scrutiny in relation to issues of health and wellbeing of the people of Walsall.

Reason for Scrutiny

To enable consultation and scrutiny of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (appendix 1) and identify areas for further scrutiny.

Recommendations:

1. That the new Public Health responsibilities of the Local Authority be noted;
2. That Members comment on the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy;
3. That it be noted that a further report on the respective roles of the Health and Wellbeing Board and Scrutiny Panels regarding scrutiny of issues of health and wellbeing of the people of Walsall be brought by each Panel;
4. That Panels use the findings of the JSNA and the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy when selecting issues for the work programme of the Scrutiny Panel in 2013/14.

Background papers:

No private background papers have been used in the preparation of this report.

Resource and legal considerations:

This report fulfils one of the Council's new responsibilities under the Health and Social Care Act 2012, to produce and publish a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. Walsall Council will receive a ring-fenced allocation which will fund the specific new Public Health responsibilities. However, most of the Council's activities and hence most of its funding decisions have an impact, either positive or negative, on the health and wellbeing of the residents of the Borough, hence the inclusion of all scrutiny panels in this consultation and future scrutiny.

Citizen impact:

The explicit ambition of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy is to improve the health and wellbeing of all resident of Walsall, improving the health of the poorest, fastest. This strategy should deliver a measureable improvement in health and wellbeing over the lifetime of the strategy.

Environmental impact:

Adoption of more active lifestyles, including more people using active travel methods: e.g. walking or cycling should have a positive environmental impact.

Performance management:

The strategy recommends new high-level outcomes and performance indicators which will need to be included in existing and new performance monitoring and management arrangements of the Council. Reporting arrangements will need to be agreed.

Equality Implications:

An Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and does not demonstrate any unequal impact of these changes. It is an explicit aim of this strategy to reduce inequalities in Walsall, including inequalities in the social factors which underpin and drive inequalities in health.

Consultation:

Representatives invited from all Council directorates have contributed to the development of this strategy and have consulted more widely in the process. Consultation with Area Partnerships has been undertaken through area based meetings. Wider consultation with consultees listed in appendix 1 of the strategy is now invited.

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1. The new Public Health responsibilities of the Local Authority

- 1.1 The Health and Social Care Act 2013 (the Act) places additional responsibilities on local authorities for the health and wellbeing of the population within the borough and assumes Public Health responsibilities, functions and resources from the NHS from 1 April 2013.
- 1.2 The Marmot Report; *'Fair Society, Healthy Lives'*, set out six policy objectives for reducing inequalities in health and the social determinants of those inequalities. In September 2012, Walsall Council adopted these objectives as corporate objectives for the Council. The objectives are:-
1. Giving every child the best start in life;
 2. Enabling all children, young people and adults to maximize their capabilities and have control over their lives;
 3. Creating fair employment and good work for all;
 4. Ensuring a healthy standard of living for all;
 5. Creating and developing sustainable places and communities;
 6. Strengthening the role and impact of ill-health prevention.

2. Consultation on the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy

- 2.1 The Act also requires the setting up of a Health and Wellbeing Board with the responsibilities of producing and publishing a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The board has been operating in shadow form and approved the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and the approach to the development of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) in June 2012.
- 2.2 The Health and Wellbeing Strategy: ***"Transforming Health and Wellbeing for all in Walsall"*** was approved for consultation by the shadow Health and Wellbeing Board on 25 February 2013. The period of consultation is set out in Section 13 of the Strategy.
- 2.3 The Council's corporate objectives, based on the Marmot objectives, form the basis of the JSNA and for the JHWS .
- 2.4 Whilst there has been significant stakeholder engagement in the process of developing the JHWS , it is now time to engage with, and seek comment from, a much wider range of people and organisations in order to lay the foundations for co-ordinated action, at scale, to achieve the improvements which are the ambition of this strategy. The Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board would like to engage with all scrutiny panels, not just the Health Scrutiny Panel as each has a role in

the Scrutiny of issues of Health and Wellbeing. This consultation therefore includes all scrutiny and performance panels which will play a key role in monitoring and challenging performance and delivery of improved outcomes in future years.

- 2.5 Sections 5 – 12 of the strategy consider specific issues or points on the life course and section 13 collates the recommendations and priorities for action in 13/14 that have been selected from the key priorities described within each section. Each Scrutiny and Performance Panel is invited to comment on the whole strategy with particular attention to the section(s) relevant to the Panel's remit.
- 2.6 Consultation closes on 3 April 2013
- 2.7 Members of the Health (12 March 2013), Children and Young People (26 March 2013) (subject to approval by the Chair) and Community and Environment SPPs (28 March 2013) whose next scheduled meeting falls before the end of the consultation period will be able to discuss and comment on the strategy at their regular meetings.
- 2.8 Members of Corporate, Regeneration and Social Care Scrutiny panels whose routine meeting fall after the close of consultation can feed their comments on the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy either directly to Dr. Isabel Gillis, to members of the above Panels or attend these meetings in person to comment.

3 The future role of the Panel in scrutiny of issues of health and wellbeing of the people of Walsall

- 3.1 Further discussion, supported by Democratic Services, is required to clarify the scope of the scrutiny roles of the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Scrutiny Panels in order to avoid both gaps and duplication of effort.

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