

# **Report to Policy Committee**

**20 December 2017** 

Agenda Item: 5

#### REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

# DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH 2017 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ANNUAL REPORT

# **Purpose of the Report**

- 1. To seek approval for the publication of the independent Director of Public Health's Annual Report for 2017.
- 2. To seek approval to promote the Director of Public Health's annual report to Nottinghamshire residents through the local media.

## **Information and Advice**

- 3. The attached report is the independent Annual Report of the Director of Public Health (DPH) for the year 2017.
- 4. The DPH Annual Report is a statutory requirement. In general the statutory responsibilities of the DPH are designed to match exactly the corporate public health duties of their local authority. The exception is the Annual Report on the health of the local population. The DPH has a duty to write a report whereas the authority's duty is to publish it (section 73B (5) and (6) of the Health Act 2006 inserted by section 31 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012). The content and structure of the report is something to be decided locally.
- 5. The Association of Directors of Public Health together with the Faculty of Public Health has published guidance about the production of the independent Annual Report. In it, they state that the annual report is the DPH's professional statement about the health of local communities, based on sound epidemiological evidence, and interpreted objectively. The report should be useful for both professionals and the public. The annual report is also identified as an important vehicle by which DsPH can identify key issues, flag up problems, report progress and thereby serve their local populations. It will also be a key resource to inform stakeholders of priorities and recommend actions to improve and protect the health of the communities they serve. It will be a tool for advocacy as well as a statement of needs, current priorities and action and continuing progress. It can also be a valuable process for internal reflection and team prioritisation as well as external engagement and awareness raising.
- 6. Last year's report by the Nottinghamshire DPH focused on two of the recommendations in the 2010 Marmot review of health inequalities, and this year's report has focused on another two of those recommendations, covering healthy childhood and economic wellbeing.

- 7. Chapter 1 sets the scene by outlining how health fits in with the Council's new Plan and also introducing the Local Government Association Manual "Health in All Policies", which is intended to help local authorities integrate health within decision-making. The report recommends adoption of this document by all local authorities in Nottinghamshire.
- 8. Chapter 2 looks at how the conditions in which people are born and grow as children can influence their health in later life. The report describes how the Council and its partners contribute to improved health in children, through the universal Healthy Child Programme, the County Council's Family and Parenting Strategy, and targeted initiatives such as the Family Nurse Partnership supporting teenage parents. It identifies areas for improvement related to smoking in pregnancy, breastfeeding rates, and improved school readiness, and recommends actions relating to these.
- 9. Chapter 3 describes recent research showing how adverse experiences in childhood link to poor health outcomes and how this is linked again to the social gradient described in the Marmot report. The report recommends training for healthcare, education and policing staff in how to recognise and appropriately respond to signs of abuse and other types of trauma in children & young people, partnership work to address the consequences and break the cycle of adverse childhood experience, and support for work to improve resilience among young people.
- 10. Chapter 4 moves beyond childhood to look at employment and its influence on health. Marmot objectives are to improve access to work and reduce unemployment, make it easier for people disadvantaged in the labour market to obtain and keep work, and improve the quality of jobs. The chapter outlines some of the activities currently underway to address health in the workforce in Nottinghamshire, including programmes to address pathways to work for people with complex needs and how employee wellness programmes can contribute to addressing sickness absence. The report recommends development or extensions of related activities.
- 11. Chapter 5 returns to the concept of health inequalities and explores the inverse care law: how those who are most in need of medical care are least likely to receive it. The chapter uses the example of cancer incidence, diagnosis and outcomes, to illustrate this. The report recommends action by CCGs and commissioners of screening programmes to ensure that equity of access and outcomes is addressed. The Chapter also references the importance of public expenditure which is fairly distributed in national terms, in ensuring that the wider determinants of health can be equitably addressed, referring back to analysis undertaken by East Midlands Councils and previously reported to Policy Committee.
- 12. Chapter 6 concludes the report, signposts readers to other sources of information, and collates all of the report's recommendations.

#### Media coverage to support 2017 DPH Annual Report

13. The Annual Report is intended to be a public document and to be disseminated widely within the local area. The Faculty of Public Health and the Association of Directors of Public Health guidance states that dissemination through a variety of outlets will ensure the widest possible audience. The Annual Report also presents an opportunity to demonstrate to the wider community how the Council fulfils elements of its statutory responsibilities around Public Health, such as having regard to addressing health inequalities.

- 14. Last year's report was featured in the local press, in both print media and on local radio.
- 15. Approval is therefore sought for media activity, including press releases and participation in media interviews as requested, to highlight the Annual Report within the local area.

#### **Other Options Considered**

16. Publication of the DPH Annual Report is a statutory requirement. Another option would be to publish the report and not agree a supporting programme of publicity, but this would reduce the potential impact of the report.

#### Reason for Recommendations

17. Publication of the DPH Annual Report is a statutory requirement. The publication also presents an opportunity to inform partners and the public of Public Health activities being undertaken, and to secure support from partners for contributions to this agenda.

# **Statutory and Policy Implications**

18. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

#### **Financial Implications**

19. Design and print costs and staff time involved in preparing the report form part of the Public Health divisional running costs, which are met from within the Council's allocation of Public Health grant.

#### Implications in relation to the NHS Constitution

20. In line with the values of the NHS Constitution, the DPH Annual Report highlights work undertaken across organisational boundaries to protect and improve the health and wellbeing of the County's population. The recommendations within the Annual Report are not just for the Council, but for other agencies, including CCGs.

#### **RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1) That Members approve the publication of the independent Director of Public Health's Annual Report for 2017.
- 2) That Members approve the promotion of the Director of Public Health's annual report to Nottinghamshire residents through the local media.

# Barbara Brady Director of Public Health

#### For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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#### **Constitutional Comments (LMC 24.11.2017)**

21. The Policy Committee is the appropriate body to consider the contents of the report.

# Financial Comments (DG 24/11/2017)

22. The financial implications are contained within paragraph 19 of this report.

#### **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- Faculty of Public Health and Association of Directors of Public Health, Guidance on production of DPH Annual Report, October 2016; <a href="http://www.adph.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/DPH-Annual-Report-guidelines.pdf">http://www.adph.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/DPH-Annual-Report-guidelines.pdf</a>
- Report to Policy Committee, 24 November 2017, Update on the work of East Midlands Councils

## Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All