

# **Report to Policy Committee**

15 January 2020

Agenda Item: 5

#### REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

#### **DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT 2019**

## **Purpose of the Report**

- 1. To seek approval for the publication of the Director of Public Health's Annual Report for 2019.
- 2. To seek approval to promote the Director of Public Health's Annual Report to Nottinghamshire stakeholders and residents through the local media.

### Information

- 3. The attached report is the independent Annual Report of the Director of Public Health (DPH) for the year 2019.
- 4. 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, for which 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. This identifies the Annual Report as an important vehicle by which Directors of Public Health can identify key issues, flag up problems, report progress and thereby serve their local populations. It is also a key resource to inform stakeholders of priorities and recommend actions to improve and protect the health of the communities they serve.
- 6. The 2019 DPH Annual Report focuses on the topic of health and work. This topic was selected because participation in 'good work' is a dominant factor shaping our health. Aside from securing an income (critically important as it is), the benefits of work to individuals and communities extend much further: 'good work' provides the potential for positive social interaction and connectedness, purpose, and the capacity for developing human potential and creativity. Numerous academic studies provide evidence of the benefits that these bring to health and wellbeing and the adverse impacts of worklessness.

- 7. This year my report focuses on some of what can be done to ensure that more people in Nottinghamshire enjoy these benefits. But the opportunity in this is not only for individuals and their families. The opportunity extends to the organisations which employ them and the wider economy because a workforce which participates in good work and enjoys good health and wellbeing is associated with increased productivity and contributes to growth which can benefit everyone in Nottinghamshire.
- 8. The report emphasises how supporting the best start in life, including tackling adversity in childhood, remains the best investment to positively influence a child's future prospects at school, entering the workforce and throughout life. Additionally, flexible employment practices are an important mechanism to support parents to remain in the workforce and there are opportunities to further develop inclusive routes to employment.
- 9. The report underlines that a healthy workforce is good not only for employees but also for businesses and the local economy. Through Nottinghamshire County Council's Wellbeing at Work programme, organisations of any size can access free support for improving the health and wellbeing of their workforce.
- 10. Long-term health conditions or disability may impact an individual's ability to secure and maintain work. Managing long term conditions at work is therefore an important consideration for employers as is the potential benefits to employers and employees of arrangements which secure the participation and skills of people with disabilities. Nevertheless, employment support in Nottinghamshire is often found to be fragmented, difficult to navigate and may not be targeted to those in most need of support.
- 11. The report closes by setting health and wellbeing, prosperity and economic dynamism in the context of the natural environment, fairness, and the resilience and safety of our communities.

## Media coverage to support 2019 DPH Annual Report

- 12. 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.
- 13. Previous reports have been featured in the local press, in both print media and on local radio.
- 14. 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**

15. The report could be published without a supporting programme of publicity, but this would reduce the potential impact of the report.

#### Reason for Recommendations

16. 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**

17. 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**

18. 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

19. 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 Clinical Commissioning Groups.

#### **RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1) That Members approve the publication of the Director of Public Health's Annual Report for 2019.
- 2) That Members approve the promotion of the Director of Public Health's Annual Report to Nottinghamshire stakeholders and residents through the local media.

Jonathan Gribbin
Director of Public Health

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

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### **Constitutional Comments (AK 23/12/2019)**

20. The recommendation falls within the delegation to Policy Committee under its terms of reference.

### Financial Comments (DG 18/12/19)

21. Cost of publication and promotion will be met from the £40.023m Public Health Grant.

### **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>

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

All